

Madam Chair Peggy Clayton
20356 Wendigo Park Road
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Phone 218-259-1551

Supervisor/VC Mike Schack 340-8852
Supervisor vacancy
Supervisor Dan Gilbert 259-4967
Supervisor Jim Kelley 327-0317
Treasurer Nancy Kopacek 398-3497
Clerk vacancy 244-1811

harristownshipclerk@gmail.com

Harris Township

SINCE 1909



NEIGHBORS, SHORES & MORE

Mission Statement:
The Harris Town Board strives to enhance the quality of life, protect the environment, and maintain economic stability for the residents of their community.

www.harristownshipmn.org

REGULAR BOARD MEETING March 10, 2021 Minutes

Present: Madam Chair Clayton, Vice Chair Schack, Supervisors Gilbert and Kelley; Treasurer Kopacek

Pledge to the Flag was conducted, followed by the reading of the township mission statement.

Approve the Minutes

Minutes of February 10, 2021 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2021 Regular Meeting with the following corrections: Roads-6B Birch Street "Supervisor Kelley received an email from *Itasca County* about a street sign placement; Recreation-7A Northland Portables "*Portable Johns Contract ends March 31, 2021.*" Motion carried.

Minutes of February 22, 2021 Closed Work Session Re: Performance of Treasurer and Maintenance Employee

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2021 Closed Work Session Re: Performance of Treasurer and Maintenance Employee. Motion carried.

Minutes of March 5, 2021 Work Session Re: Appraisals of Maintenance Employee, Treasurer, and Boat Landings

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Chair Clayton to pull the minutes of the March 5, 2021 Work Session Re: Appraisals of Maintenance Employee, Treasurer, and Boat Landings, due to numerous errors and inaccuracies within the minutes. Motion carried.

Additions and Corrections

Supervisor Kelley requested adding dust control, and road grading to the agenda.

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Schack to add dust control under Roads as 6A, and road grading as 6B. Motion carried.

1. Business from the Floor

Ken Haubrich, approached the podium and urged the board to consider appointing Katie Marcotte Pierce to the vacant Supervisor position on the town board. Ken read the M.S. language regarding a supervisory resignation, and that the board can make an appointment to fill the vacancy.

The constituent appointed would fill the term until said position is up for election, which in this instance, would be November 2022. Ken stated Katie had been the Township Sexton, and Deputy Clerk for a over a year, therefore, she has township experience.

Katie Marcotte Pierce, Sunny Beach Road, approached the podium and requested the board appoint her to the vacant Supervisor position on the board because (even though she lost the election) there was not a large margin of votes received between her and the elected supervisor.

Consent Agenda

There were no items on the Consent Agenda.

Roads

Dust Control

Supervisor Kelley requested board authorization to obtain a quote from Dust B Gone, for dust control for 2021.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gilbert, and seconded by Schack to allow Supervisor Kelley to obtain a quote from Dust B Gone for dust control. Motion carried.

Road Grading

Supervisor Kelley requested board authorization to obtain a quote from Casper Construction, for road Grading for 2021.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gilbert, and seconded by Schack to allow Supervisor Kelley to obtain a quote from Casper Construction for road grading. Motion carried.

Recreation

There were no items to be discussed under Recreation.

Correspondence

Network Opportunities Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2021

Network Opportunities Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2021

Madam Chair Clayton stated that minutes from both the January 27th and February 24th meetings are Informational only.

Old Business

There were no items to discuss under Old Business.

New Business

Schedule Work Session Re: Vacant Supervisor, and Clerk Position

Supervisor Kelley made a motion to appoint Katie Marcotte Pierce to the vacant Supervisor position. Chair Clayton called for a second to the motion. Hearing none, the motion died due to lack of a second.

Chair Clayton heard discussion from Supervisor Gilbert and Supervisor Schack regarding interests from constituents on the vacant position. Their shared concern was to allow any and all interested constituents to interview which would follow interviews/appointments made for supervisor vacancies in past years.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to schedule a work session to discuss moving forward on the vacant Supervisor and Clerk positions, for Monday, March 15, 2021 at 5:00 pm at the Town Hall. Motion carried.

Annual Snowplow Contract

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to table the annual snowplow contract to the March 24, 2021 P and D Meeting, until Supervisor Kelley receives a quote from Dust B Gone (for dust control) as the County Contract estimated rate for 2021 dust control is \$2100/mile (18 ft. width, single application). Motion carried.

Contract for Fire Fighting Service

Chair Clayton reviewed the Contract for Fire Fighting Service, which would be effective January 1, 2021. There were no changes from the old contract to the current one.

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve and sign the Contract for Fire Fighting Services. Motion carried.

Cemetery Sites Buy Back

Chair Clayton received a Cemetery Buy Back request from an owner who is currently living out-of-state, regarding three sites. The cemetery deed (included) showed the three sites were purchased in 2003 for \$750.00. In 2003, site purchases were categorized by resident and non-resident. The owner of the sites purchased at a rate of \$250/site for (non-resident). The filing fees are paid for by the township, as the recording fees were paid for by the owner (when they purchased the sites).

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Gilbert to approve the Cemetery Buy Back Deed in the amount of \$750.00 for three grave sites. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report – dated February 1, 2021

Approve Treasurers Report

A motion was made by Supervisor Kelley and seconded by Supervisor Schack to approve the Treasurer's Report for February 2021 in the amount of \$1,497,747.32. Motion carried.

Approve the Payment of Bills

A motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to approve claims #20001 through #20023, and EFTs #03102101 through #03102106, #02242112 and #02242113 in the amount of \$13,122.40. Motion carried.

Public Input

Chair Clayton thanked the constituents who attended the annual township meeting on Tuesday. She also stated that if there any constituents that did not receive a report and would like one, they can reach out to any of the board members as the township does have extra copies.

Ken Haubrich approached the podium to share his disappointment in the township board not acknowledging his resignation as a supervisor after being on the board since 2015, and not acknowledging the clerk who resigned. He further stated that the appointment of Katie Marcotte Pierce to the supervisor vacancy should have been a "slam dunk" for the board, and encouraged constituents watching to reach out to board members regarding the appointment!

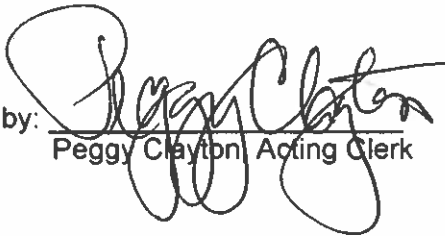
Katie Marcotte Pierce approached the podium and stated that she did not feel the township should be paying for the filing fees for the cemetery buy back, and told Madam Chair to double check her information. Madame Chair Clayton stated that she did check with a past clerk from 2003 and filing fees are paid for by the township, because when a purchaser does buy cemetery sites they pay for the recording fee at that time.

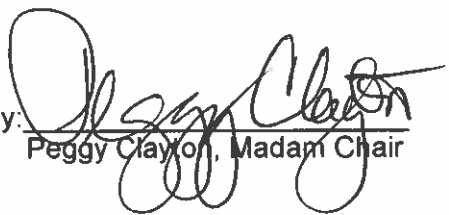
UPCOMING Events/Meetings

March 15, 2021	Work Session Re: Supervisor and Clerk Vacancy	5:00 pm Town Hall
March 24, 2021	P & D Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
April 14, 2021	Regular Board Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
April 28, 2021	P & D Meeting	7:30 pm Town Hall
April 29, 2021	Local Board of Appeal	9:00 am Town Hall

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Supervisor Schack and seconded by Supervisor Kelley to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM.

Prepared by: 
Peggy Clayton, Acting Clerk

Signed by: 
Peggy Clayton, Madam Chair