

**MINUTES from the P&D Meeting
Harris Township Board
Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at 7:30pm**

The P&D Meeting of the Harris Town Board was held on Wednesday, November 18, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm, at the Harris Town Hall, with the following officers present: Supervisors Gary Rosato, Dennis Kortekaas and Larry Key, Clerk Michele Smith and Treasurer John Jokela. Absent: none.

Also in attendance: Julie Kennedy – SEH Township Engineer, and Britta Arendt (and family) – for the history book

1. Pledge to the flag

2. Centennial History Book – Britta Arendt

Britta shared a draft of the Harris Township centennial history book with the Board. In addition to a pictorial history, some narrative was added as well. She has a few more pictures to add from the centennial celebration, and a little bit of editing left to do. She got information for the book from Peggy Bishop, residents, and the Itasca County Historical Society, and is based on how life has progressed through the century.

Rapid Printing was recommended by Lilah Crowe as they have done several other history books of this type. The books will be black and white, 2 sided printing, and spiral bound with a soft cover in color. They said printing could be completed in a couple days, and that they would be able to have them done by Nov 30th. The Board decided to order 200 books initially, as Rapid Printing said they could also print additional copies at a later date, if needed. Britta will contact them for a price.

A dedication page will be done, and a photo of the current board (taken tonight) will be added.

3. Business from the Floor

None

4. Roads

- Updates by Julie Kennedy - SEH
 - Culvert policy:
Julie will work on revising our culvert policy to require that only contractors can install PVC culverts; metal ones can be installed by residents. It will also be noted that the township require aprons.
 - Mishawaka road
Drainage repair quotes were received from Hammerlund & Casper Construction. Quote amounts were very close, but Hammerlund was awarded the project, with the lower bid of \$12,884. Time and materials quote comparison given to the board. The project of 1800 feet of roadway ditching will start next week, and be done by Dec. 4th. A pay request will probably come in for the Dec 9th Regular meeting check run.

***A motion was made by Supervisor Rosato, seconded by Supervisor Kortekaas, to approve the signing of contracts with Hammerlund Construction for the Mishawaka drainage project.
Upon roll call, motion carried.***

- Breakaway posts and signs
Supervisor Key found that a breakaway post is only needed if the speed limit on the road is 55 mph. Posts are \$40 each.

The maintenance guys discussed options with Anderson Signs for signs that meet the new reflectivity requirements. They were told that the more signs we order from them, the better the price we'll get. We have 157 signs in the township, that will eventually need to be replaced to meet the new standards.

Anderson Signs shared that there is grant money available for replacing signs to meet the new reflectivity guidelines. Julie will call to verify if Harris Township would qualify.

- County's road concerns
Bill Matzdorf from the County called, and he has concerns about the following roads:
 - **Harbor Heights** – There is a sink hole in middle of the cul de sac.
This is something our guys can fix.
 - **Woodbine** – Gravel was hauled in for the turnaround, but now one person is putting up a block fence making the turnaround too small for the county's equipment.

This is something our guys can take care of.

- **Bear Creek** – Bill Marshall's driveway was not built up when gravel was added to the road (it was not tapered). Julie will check to see who did that job, and see if they will fix it. Another option would be to have Hammerlund fix when they do the Mishawaka road project.
- **Tolerick Road** – There is a sink hole near the turn around. The county is afraid it will damage the plow equipment again. It's at the end of a dead end road. It was suggested that to fix, the pavement would need to be taken out, and the organics dug out that are causing the sinking. Julie suggested that the board may want to consider ordering a boring by Braun to determine what is really under the pavement besides stumps that were plowed over before the road was paved.

A temporary solution, given the lateness of the year, is to fill in the sink hole with class V - right over the pavement.

5. Recreation

Crystal:

The new, larger, heater was installed at the Crystal Park warming house, and is working well.

Wendigo:

Lights were repaired at Wendigo

The overhead power lines that run over the playground are still there. The Board thought it had been changed, but recently found out that the approval never got back to Lake County Power, and their price quote of \$3,650. LCP agreed to do the change for the same price, if it was approved tonight. They have proposed to run the power line underground, along the fence.

Supervisor Kortekaas made a motion to have LCP reroute the power line at Wendigo Park underground for \$3, 650, which currently runs over the playground. Supervisor Rosato seconded the motion, and upon roll call, motion carried.

Rink attendant hours

Clerk Smith asked by what date rinks are usually open, so she could advise Express Pros (who is hiring the rink attendants this year.) Supervisor Key stated that they try to have rinks open by Christmas break, weather permitting.

Rink attendant hours were discussed. Currently, they are open Mon – Fri, 3:30pm – 9:00pm / Sat: 12-8 / and Sun: 1-5. During School vacations, they are open Mon – Fri noon – 8pm. On Holidays, they are open 1- 5pm.

After some discussion, **the Board agreed to change the Mon – Fri hours to 4pm -8pm**, as Key noted it's tough for college kids to get there by 3:30pm, and that most skaters are gone before 9:00pm. The 8:00pm closing time will now be consistent with most other days. Clerk Smith will notify Express Pros of this change. New signs will be made, and posted at the rinks.

6. Town Hall Report

There was no town hall report, but Supervisor Key discussed that the DFL party is reserving the town hall for a caucus in February 2010. Key was asked if we would charge for that type of rental, given the meeting is for Harris Township residents.

The current town hall policy was reviewed, and it states that "There is no rental charge for funeral activities of a Harris Township resident or for Elections (Federal, State, County, Township or School Board). Nothing is stated about caucus meeting being free of charge.

Supervisor Rosato made a motion to stick with the current town hall policy and charge a rental fee for the DFL caucus. Supervisor Kortekaas seconded the motion, and upon roll call, motion passed.

Key will relay this to the DFL party via the town hall caretaker.

7. Maintenance Report

The maintenance report for November 2009 was reviewed without any questions.

8. Old Business

- Roof of town hall

The poor condition of the Town Hall roof has been discussed over the past year. However, there is now a leak, just outside the door, under the canopy. The shingles are old and should be replaced. There may be

other problems with the roof boards as well. The board discussed trying to fix this fall, or waiting until spring. The board agreed to wait until spring.

- Map from Census Bureau

Maps from Census bureau were received, asking if our township boundaries had changed. After reviewing the maps, the board agreed that it does not appear that any changes to the map were necessary. Supervisor Rosato will handle, and send in the card as requested by the Census bureau.

9. New Business

- Ad for the "Source" book was reviewed (see packet); adjustments are due Nov 30th. Changes were noted by Clerk Smith, who agreed to notify Steve Lynch at the Herald Review with those items.

10. Adjourn

A motion was made by Supervisor Rosato, seconded by Supervisor Kortekaas to adjourn the meeting at 9:06pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Smith Clerk