

# Work Session January 5, 2016 Minutes

Present are Ken Haubrich, Peggy Clayton, Jim Kelley, Dennis Kortekaas, Cari Alleman

## 1. Pledge to the flag, followed by the reading of the Harris Township mission statement

Snowplowing-Supervisors Kelley/Haubrich has meet with the County representatives three times and meet with the foremen in district 4 to see what the plan is for plowing and salting. We are under the understanding to see what needed to be sanding and salting of the township roads. It is under the discretion of the drivers to use the salt/sand on the roads. They were discussing the Sunny Beach Road and looking at possibly classifying it as a secondary county road. They were going to be more aggressive on keeping the road clear. Tuesday morning the board received complaints that the intersection of Harris Town Road and Wendigo Park Road was an ice rink. We had a lot of complaints about the road being icy. The plow was out in the area and going to wait to Wednesday to put the salt sand combo on the roads. When you do just the salt it makes it worse, as it gets slushy and freezes if they can't get back to it. They County made sure the supervisors knew they were free to call and use their discretion to what needs to be done. They County will keep us updated for the tonnage and where we are thus far...they are looking in to the GPS for the county trucks. In the long run it would save money with the GSP. We talked to Karen from the County they are going to have meeting on the emergency end of it, the driver gets called, comes to the shop and then has to go out. Sometimes the drivers have to go far and the county has plans in place if they need another grader. The County has been calling about leasing a grader for the winter or be able to get one first thing and how much can you have sitting around and making payments on and not using it.

If they go to straight salt lasts all day long in one truck... if they do salt/sand the trucks would have to come and be filled up 6-7 times in one day. It might cost more to purchase the salt in the beginning, but it is better to put down. 300 lb of salt will do one lane mile at 30 degrees, it will do a lot per pound. A bunch of trucks have side shoots and have the salt going down the middle of the roads to help both lanes of high way and the County is trying to be more cost effective.

They have been on Sunny Beach Road fast this last time because of all the traffic on the road. They don't mind if the Township calls. District 4 we have all the numbers... they don't want every supervisor from each township calling in. EX: two supervisors call from one township as they can have a point person on the roads. Makes sense to have two from our township who would be the Chairman and the supervisor of the employees. They like to start plowing at 4 am before the traffic starts on the main county roads. Foreman had to make a call and look at the forecast to make the call if we need to be plowed. It was historically the districts who made the decisions and when they have a snow event like this, instead of making the individual districts make that choice on their own. They are going to start communicating better between districts.

Contingency plan and a few dollars in the budget to make sure we have the resources to make sure that in case of something happens we have the resources to pay someone to help come and plow. In regular events we have one road to plow and sometimes we don't get out there until Monday afternoon. Is that the way we want to handle this...if its 3 inches or under don't call in, but anything more than that they have to come in and go plow. The maintenance crew needs to be plowing first thing. DO we want to pay them to come in and we have to compensate if they're on call.

On option for exploring is to have a contractor on standby to help if needed. We can set money up to have them come and plow so we can get roads plowed. Graders go a lot slower and if we have a contract with someone we need to have them on standby. We have a couple of options, but are we willing to paying for the same job twice.... For the season if we hire someone else to plow and if we can we plow this storm; we hired someone else and then we would have to the County board to be reimbursed and they would have a contract with us... if we have policy we have we would have to coordinate with the County. If the plows have not plowed the roads yet, you set a time frame and the County has not been there you can call the contractor. If we are talking about a foot of snow, then call and ask when the County will be going out to plowing our roads. One idea is get the guy for Spang

Township to be on standby for plowing our roads. We are looking to put a policy in place for after hours or deep snow. This all hinges on how the County communicates with us; also with the employee changes with the County it was hard with this last storm because there was some new people in place. Hope would be to have everything open in one day, at least a pass. (Only if we had another huge storm.) Schwartz has a grader and a front end loader that could do the gravel roads; focus on the black top roads and mainly populated roads. It would help them out and then they could get the gravel roads done faster. Supervisor Kelley will talk to Schwartz and Rob Bunes about what they would need to do in able to help; and put in our policy and what they would need from the Township. Supervisor Kelley will talk to Casper too about their ideas and they would give us something to work with and then we are kind of at the mercy of our guys and the County. Just check to see what we can do.

Newsletter- Intent... quarterly and come up with an email list to communicate to our residents. Facebook and emails would be huge. People would be informed; upcoming what is discussed at the meeting and thoughts of what is going on in the township and interesting tidbits about current events. Article on something different... two articles from the supervisors for the newsletter. What do we want to see in the newsletter and make sure we are reimbursing the volunteers for their supplies. Annual meeting recognize all the volunteers... Judy and Cindy are going to start at the end of January... Mines and Pines you can post anything for free in one section. Supervisor Haubrich will talk to Cindy and Judy to see what they want to see in the newsletter.

Volunteers... if they have expenses they should be paid by the Township. Nobody should be paying for anything out of their pocket. If we need arises and we need help with something we had others who said they would help and then they didn't do anything to help. Almost have to have a committee and group and have names, phone number, and email that you can use this group for just about anything. Put one member of the supervisors on the committee and one point person from the community.

The work sessions and nothing is said to summarize what was said at the work session... it should be said at the next meeting. Then we can put this on the agenda and then put on there that they are on the work session.

What kind of service and phone service and we could set it up. Emergency preparedness and asking to see if we can the on the county system. For all emergency's in the township.

Motion to adjourn made by Clayton and seconded by Haubrich passed by all 8:30 pm

