

TOWN OF BRULE

BRULE, WISCONSIN

54820

www.brule-wi.org

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

July 14, 2009 (Unapproved)

Chairman Dennis Smet opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also present was Myron Olson, Supervisor. Roger Luthens, Treasurer, arrived late, and Kevin Mackie, Supervisor, was out of town. Guests were Doug Copp, Janet Follis and Hope Larson. The agenda and minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted noting that the agenda had been amended to include Janet Follis regarding the memorial garden and a decision on having a circus at the park next week. Treasurer's report was handed out: \$5,871.66 in checking, \$80,576.40 in money market, \$41,422.21 in equipment fund, \$1,004.54 in real estate tax account, and \$13.42 in personal property tax account. Roger noted TRIP grant money for blacktop work was received as well as State Fire Dues and the quarterly State Transportation Aids. Bills were presented and paid.

Doug reported on maintenance work. They are cutting roadsides, but not doing much blading because of the dryness. They are breaking up grass and sod on roads. The dust control isn't working well where the reground blacktop was laid so this should be discussed again next spring. Some of the roads could use blacktop patching where the crack sealant is opened. After Hours Road is ready for work.

Keith Kesler submitted a written report on the Fire Dept. that was distributed to those in attendance. The dept. has responded to medical, fire and river rescues; they took part in the Lake Nebagamon 4th of July parade, fire inspections have been completed, two members have completed First Responder training, two members completed their entry level firefighter training, 6 members attended air bag and hybrid vehicle training, Mary Nevins has joined the dept., they hosted a Vacationland Fire & Emergency Assoc. meeting, and there have been no significant equipment problems.

The Comprehensive Plan Commission has not had a meeting.

The Town Hall Remodel Committee has not met.

Janet Follis and Hope Larson thanked the town for clearing out the dead and dying trees where a memorial garden is being planned. Roots still need to be taken out, and they are hoping some topsoil can be purchased and placed where the raised beds will be. Costs for topsoil were discussed as well as the need for some soil to raise the beds. Dennis explained there is some ditching material that could be used under the topsoil. The group had a plant swap/sale to raise money and would like to have an annual fundraiser sale. People have shown an interest in the garden and are willing to donate funds for trees or shrubs. The board requested that all funds be given to the treasurer and any bills be brought to the clerk to be paid by the town. The plan this year is to put up corner posts, make two raised beds, order trees and shrubs, and put up orange fencing in the fall so snowmobilers will avoid the area.

Dennis reported he received a call about a family circus from Orlando, Florida, that would like to perform at the town park or at some other town property near the highway. They would arrive Thursday, July 23rd, have an evening performance at 7 p.m., do a clean up after, and leave the next morning. Dennis noted he received good reports from other towns that have had the circus. They will need a large area with access to water for the elephant, monkeys and ponies. Elephant rides will be available for \$5. Admission will be \$5 for children and \$10-12 for others. Advertisement will be provided. Myron moved to allow the circus if an area could be set up, seconded by Dennis, motion carried. Dennis will call them to discuss further details.

Doug submitted a brochure for a hot water pressure washer to steam culverts and clean vehicles. A discussion was held on needs, cost, service, and availability of repair parts. Myron moved to authorize Doug to purchase a hot water pressure washer for approximately \$7,000, seconded by Dennis, motion carried.

Troy Lupa did not attend the meeting to discuss the possibility of electricity at the ball fields or to give a report on fees he has collected from ball teams. No fees have yet to be given to the town.

The Tire, Appliance & Clean-up Day was a great success with three dumpsters filled and another rented to take care of all the household items. The dumpster for the electronics was two-thirds full. All appliances and scrap metal has been hauled away. Dennis received letters from two businesses in Hayward that will take scrap metal, appliances and electronics; some for a \$10 fee and some free. He will forward information to the County Recycling Dept. The board hopes to have some ongoing collections if possible.

The propane purchase for the town garage furnace was discussed. Myron moved to stay with Cenex, Dennis seconded, motion carried.

A citizen letter was read regarding vandalism in the town that has been ongoing for about four years, consisting of broken windows in vehicles and businesses, and eggs thrown at vehicles and buildings. The County Sheriff has been contacted, and increased patrols have been set up.

Dennis submitted a letter from NW Region Local Program Management regarding the town's application for Local Economic Recovery Funding that states the town's project is not eligible.

Correspondence included: Midland Services offer of propane on a pre-pay contract, copy of statement of assessment for 2009, final statement of taxes for 2008, WI Towns Assoc. newsletter, certificate of liability insurance from Olson Bros. Contractors and from Trusty Trucking, copy of gas appliance check by Midland Services for town garage, County Forestry Dept. information regarding forest products cut from town road right of way, notice of payment on lands entered under Managed Forest Law, Forest Crop Law and County Forest Law; length of service benefit itemization for Fire Dept., statement of fire dues payment, notice of criminal record check fee increase, County Clerk information on county-wide election results transfer via modem on election night, fire inspection reports for town hall and garage, and County Zoning permits for telecommunications facility equipment building for Todd & Amy Zinmer and information about an address sign, seasonal dwelling for Paul Gauerke, garage for Brian Witt, home business for Daniel Bethards, and a copy of a County Zoning letter to Michael Warn regarding storage of a camper.

The clerk noted new accounting software purchased recently couldn't be supported by the computer. A new computer can wait until the end of the year or the beginning of 2010 when new office software will be installed on all computers sold at that time. This purchase can be budgeted for next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Caven, Clerk