

**ELLSBURG TOWNSHIP  
P. O. BOX 308  
1767 MELRUDE ROAD  
MELRUDE, MN 55766**

**ELLSBURG TOWNSHIP MEETING**

**October 25 , 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM in the Ellsburg Town hall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Supervisor Arrlette Krog, Supervisor Joe Caple, Supervisor Brandon Cavanaugh, Clerk Barbara Cavanaugh , Deputy Clerk McKenzie Clinton, and Treasurer Elaine Wick.

Guests present were Ray Privett, Heidi Yokel, Bob Larson, Lee Voigt, and Debbie Feth. Clerks minutes were read, Arrlette Krog made a motion to approve minutes with a few corrections, Joe Caple second, motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report For September, 2016**

	<b>Totals</b>	General	Road & Bridge	Fire	Cemetery
Beginning Balance September 1 , 2016	<b>75,746.24</b>	34,060.08	33,454.72	0.00	8,231.44
Receipts	<b>1,289.06</b>	1,289.06	0.00	0.00	0.00
Disbursements	<b>4,388.61</b>	2,222.61	<b>2,166.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Ending Balance September 30 , 2016	<b>72,646.69</b>	33,126.53	31,288.72	0.00	8,231.44

Arrlette Krog made a motion to accept treasurers report, Joe Caple second, motion carries.

**Bills submitted for payment:**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Claim #</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Aardvark	Portable Toilet	6983	\$95.00
Anytime Excavating and Landscaping	Install Culvert	6984	\$2,000.00
ARVIG	Telephone	6985	\$138.55
Lake Country Power	Electricity	6986	\$119.05
Overhead Door Company	Bass Lake Hall Door Repair	6987	\$330.00
Rodda Grading and Excavating	Township Road Grading	6988	\$990.00
St. Louis County Auditor	Snow Plowing	6989	\$1,531.25
Lee Voigt	Lawn Mowing Contract	6990	\$2,450.00
Joe Caple	Mileage	6991	\$26.45
Joe Caple	Wages	6992	\$151.47
Barb Cavanaugh	Wages	6993	\$525.75
Barb Cavanaugh	Mileage	6994	\$34.50
Brandon Cavanaugh	Wages	6995	\$129.10
Brandon Cavanaugh	Mileage	6996	\$40.25
Jennifer Carlson	Town Hall Cleaning	6997	\$50.00
McKenzie Clinton	Wages	6998	\$285.90

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McKenzie Clinton	Mileage	6999	\$34.50
Stan Johnston	Web Development	7000	\$65.00
Arrlette Krog	Wages	7001	\$149.62
Arrlette Krog	Mileage	7002	\$19.11
Elaine Wick	Wages	7003	\$394.31
Elaine Wick	Mileage	7004	\$174.84
PERA	Board Retirement	7005	\$258.64
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>\$9,993.33</b>

Brandon Cavanaugh made a motion to accept the bills for payment, Arrlette Krog second, motion approved.

**Correspondence:** Brandon Cavanaugh read a letter from Darrel Miller expressing concerns over being able to get Blackburn Drive up to township road standards.

**Road and Bridge:** Brandon Cavanaugh reported that the roads are in good shape and are set for winter.

**Cemetery:** Arrlette Krog said that she had called Grace Flood to register the Riverview Cemetery, and the only information they needed was names, cemetery placement, and which plots were already purchased.

**Buildings:** Joe Caple reported that there are lights out in the Bass Lake Fire Hall that need to be fixed and that a light is needed for the flag pole. Arrlette Krog stated that there also needs to be a light added on the Melrude Fire Hall by the garage doors. Joe Caple stated that he had spoken to Hometown Electric, they will be coming out next week, and he will have them look at everything.

**Website:** Nothing new to report.

**New Business:**

Ray Privett gave a report on the Fire Department, stating that they had one call for a fire in a bog that had been smoldering for about two weeks. He also spoke about fire prevention week, and said that the Fire Department had distributed books and brochures in local restaurants and bars. Ray Privett then stated that the key lock box code was changed, to help with security issues the Fire Department was having. He also spoke about the fire truck that was damaged during a storm this summer, stating that it was placed for bid, and after receiving one bid, it was sold for \$900. Heidi Yokel spoke about a Minnesota state grant the Fire Department applied for to help with the cost of replacing the SCBA packs. The Fire Department needs 12 new ones and each individual one costs about \$6,000, the total cost to replace all of them is around \$80,000. Unfortunately, they were denied a MN Grant but they have applied for a FEMA grant.

Ray Privett stated that a dumpster that was placed at the Bass Lake Fire hall this past June was still there and the Fire Department was wanting it removed. Arrlette Krog stated that she will call and have it removed.

Bob Larson stated that he and other residents had been working on Blackburn Drive, and have had a few issues with getting gravel, but will continue to work on the road until it meets

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township standards. Joe Caple suggested contacting Ulland Brothers for gravel, because they had very reasonable prices.

The Township received two applications for snow removal, the first from Terry Giernett for an hourly wage, and the second from Lee Voigt for \$95 per time he does snow plowing. Arrlette Krog made a motion to accept Terry Giernett's application at \$18 per hour, Joe Caple second, motion approved.

A list of election judges for the upcoming Primary election was submitted to the board for approval. Arrlette Krog made a motion to approve the judges, Joe Caple second, motion approved.

Arrlette Krog spoke about the landscaping work that was done around the basketball court, stating that it had created some hard feelings with a resident within the township. Joe Caple stated that there had been a significant dollar discrepancy with the two bids, and that that the less expensive bid was chosen. Arrlette Krog inquired if Rick McRae was given a chance to submit a second estimate with a more reasonable bid. She stated that when she spoke to Rick McRae, he had said that if he had been able to submit another estimate, it would have been lower because he would have been able to use some of the material that he had saved when he had done the Flag Pole Project. Arrlette Krog then stated that when the township had received bids for lawn mowing, the township had chosen the more expensive bid, and even though there was a significant dollar difference, the township had stayed loyal to the person who had done it in the past. Joe Caple stated that on a few of the projects they had hired Rick McRae for the bill was higher than the estimate. Arrlette Krog stated that when she spoke to Rick McRae about this, he said that it was because, he was often asked to do additional work that was not included in the estimate when he was working on a project. She then stated that when hiring someone for a project, we need to try not to deviate from the original estimate and project. Arrlette Krog also stated that Rick McRae said that he would no longer like to serve on the Cemetery Committee, and he is unsure if he is still willing to do the digging at the cemetery. She also stated that if a bid is less than \$25,000.00, the township is able to select the higher bid if the person has done good work in the past. Arrlette Krog then stated that going forward, the township should try to stay loyal, whenever possible, to any local residents who submit bids.

Arrlette Krog made a motion to move the December meeting from December 27th to December 20th, so it doesn't interfere with holiday plans. Brandon Cavanaugh second, motion carried.

As there was no further business, Brandon Cavanaugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Joe Caple second.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 P.M.

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Barbara Cavanaugh, Clerk

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Arrlette Krog, Supervisor

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Date