

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

**ELLSBURG TOWNSHIP MEETING**

June 7, 2022  
Rescheduled from May 31, 2022

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 Chairperson Beth Caple, Vice Chair Kevin Davidson, Supervisor John Upton, Treasurer Elaine Wick and Clerk Cindy Brown.

Guests present were: Dale Wick, Bill McKechnie, Lee Voigt, Ron Saukko, Heidi Yokel, Arrlette Krog, Rita Giernett, Terry Giernett, Scott Streitz, Steph Upton, Ray Mlodozyniec and Jeff Dulinski.

Clerks' minutes for April 2022 were read.

Treasurer Report for April 2022

<b>For the Period : 4/1/2022 To 5/1/2022</b>				
<u>Name of Fund</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>Total Disbursed</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
General Fund	\$96,403.74	\$258.27	\$7,179.69	\$89,482.32
Road and Bridge	\$30,869.50	\$0.00	\$1,706.25	\$29,163.25
Fire	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cemetery	\$6,529.38	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$6,079.38
ARPA	\$11,110.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,110.79
General Capital Projects	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$159,913.41</b>	<b>\$258.27</b>	<b>\$9,335.94</b>	<b>\$150,835.74</b>

<b>CLAIMS SUBMITTED FOR PAYMENT - MAY 2022</b>			
Invoice	Description	Check #	Amount
Arvig	Telephone and internet	8320	\$102.37
Culligan Water	Water softener salt	8321	\$65.35
Lake Country Power	Electricity	8322	\$296.30
Meadowlands Ambulance	Balance of donation	8323	\$500.00
Summit Fire Protection	Annula Fire Ext inspection	8324	\$57.00
Cindy Brown	Mileage and office supplies and registration fee	8325	\$403.73
Beth Caple	Gift for district meeting	8326	\$20.00
Kevin Davidson	Mileage	8327	\$23.40
John Upton	Mileage and purchases	8328	\$484.49
PERA	Retirement	8329	\$198.52
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,151.16</b>
<b>PAYROLL SUBMITTED FOR MAY</b>			<b>\$2,183.61</b>

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### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- April Meeting Minutes
- Treasurer Report
- Bills for payment
- Payroll

Chairperson Beth Caple made a motion to approve consent agenda items, Supervisor John Upton second, motion approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** No action required.

### **RESIDENTS AND GUESTS:**

- Supervisor John Upton made a motion to create a policy that when multiple residents and guests want to speak we allot three minutes per person, Chairperson Beth Caple second, motion approved.
- Bill McKechnie requested that the township provides gravel for Blackburn Drive or considers making it a minimum maintenance road. This lead to a conversation about the recent Moratzka Decision the clerk learned about at the May 25, 2022 Town Law Review. The clerk will inquire with the MAT attorney to see if we can even have authority to consider either request.
- Ron Saukko informed us that there was an issue with the grading done on his road. Vice Chair Kevin Davidson will talk to the grading contractor.
- Heidi Yokel gave a fire department report. They had 4 calls in May, two power lines down and 1 vehicle fire. They held wild fire training, helicopter training and trained for propane leaks. The fire department will participate in the Melrude Parade on July 2.
- Arrlette Krog asked if one of the supervisors would consider attending monthly fire department meetings.
- Terry Giernett of TAG Handyman Service asked if he could remove the sand box from the playground as it is falling apart and appears it has not been used in a long time. Vice Chair Kevin Davidson made a motion to hire TAG Handyman Services to remove the sandbox, Supervisor John Upton second, motion approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Road and Bridge:**
  - Vice Chair Kevin Davidson reported that he is in the process of getting bids for ditching and replacing four culverts on the W Mink Rd. Grading will be done this week and chloride will be done the following week.
  - Chairperson Beth Caple reported that Mesabi Signs did not order our road signs. Vice Chair Kevin Davidson will check on cost of purchasing and installation through Vic Lund with the county.
- **Buildings:**
  - Supervisor John Upton reported that K&B Plumbing will begin the install of the new furnace/AC unit on Friday, June 10. John will coordinate with the electrician. Light bulbs were replaced in

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both fire halls. He reported that these bulbs are now obsolete so when the spare bulbs he purchased are gone we will need to consider new light fixtures for both fire halls.

- Chairperson Beth Caple made a motion to approve Twin Ports Pest Control to spray for flies and Asian beetles at the Melrude Town Hall and Bass Lake Fire Hall, Supervisor John Upton second, motion approved.
- Ellsburg Volunteer Fire Department presented a bid from Red Fox Builders for \$155,600.00 for a 24 x 32 garage to alleviate the space issues in the Melrude Town Hall. This information will be provided to the electors at the July 12 Special Board Meeting for consideration of adding to the levy for 2023.
- **Cemetery:**
  - Chairperson Beth Caple reported that two headstones were placed in the cemetery.
- **Website:** Nothing new to report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Chairperson Beth Caple made a motion to remove Arrlette Krog from Miners Bank and Northern State Bank accounts and add the current town officers to both accounts. Current officers are Elizabeth Caple, Kevin Davidson, John Upton, Elaine Wick, Cindy Brown, Aubreanna McKeever. Supervisor John Upton second, motion approved.
- Clerk Cindy Brown asked that we go to a two-signature checking account at Miners Bank. This will streamline the payroll and the monthly check signing process. The MAT attorney was consulted to ensure this is acceptable and he informed her that payroll does not have to be approved by supervisors and for claims we just need to have one form signed by the Chairperson, Treasurer and Clerk approving the claims which makes paying them legal. Supervisor John Upton made a motion to approve, Chairperson Beth Caple second, motion approved.
- Chairperson Beth Caple and Supervisor John Upton gave a short report on the Annual District 10 meeting.
- Clerk Cindy Brown asked for approval to put the two air purifiers up for bid on the website once the new furnace/AC unit is installed. The units will be on the website for one month and be awarded to the highest bidder.
- It was brought to the supervisors' attention that a sign has gone up at the corner of Hwy 53 and Comstock Lake Rd stating there are campsites available on West Bass Lake. They asked the clerk to research if the township has any responsibility to residents to ensure this business was set up properly.
- Supervisor Kevin Davidson said he will follow up with the county regarding the blight issue brought to their attention last fall.

As there was no further business, Chairperson Beth Caple made a motion to adjourn, Supervisor John Upton second, motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 P.M.

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Cindy Brown, Clerk

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Beth Caple, Chairman

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Date