

Marion Township Meeting
April 9, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Schoenfelder at 7:07 pm.

Present: Joel Messmer, John Schoenfelder, Roger Bjerke, Debra Raduenz, Colleen Bjerke, Attorney Bill Volkmar and guests (Al Wussow, Jason Kappers, Erik Kerska, Ed Scherr, Troy Holmberg, Marcos Gomez, Doug Wigham).

A M/M/S by Bjerke/Schoenfelder to approve the agenda. 3 yes.

M/M/S by Bjerke/Schoenfelder to approve the clerk's minutes as amended with correct ARPA funds reflecting \$416,361.55.

Treasurer: savings/checking \$919,745.34. ARPA funds \$416,361.55. M/M/S by Messmer/Bjerke to approve. 3 yes.

Claims #s 8657 – 8676 were approved for payment per a M/M/S by Bjerke/Messmer. 3 yes.

Apps: Mr. Marcos Gomez attended the meeting and stated he is rescinding his request to rezone parcel 63.03.43.036486 from Agriculture Protection to Highway Commercial H-C. No further action necessary by Marion Township Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

Storm Water – Jason Kappers provided a MS4 Illicit Discharge citizen concern reporting form to be made available at Marion Township and posted on Township website. Mr. Kappers also provided a new MS4 map designating all outfalls, including 13 new identified outfalls in Marion and Chester for a total of 49 outfalls. Mr. Kappers and Joel Messmer will coordinate date/time to inspect outfalls and completion of necessary inspection forms. Mr. Kappers will file the annual MS4 report on behalf of Marion Township. Mr. Kappers stated Marion Township is in good standing.

Roads

- 27 ton of salt remaining for 2024 contract. The township has until May 31, 2024 to decide if they want to accept the salt now. 75 tons of salt was ordered for 2025.
- A M/M/S by Bjerke/Messmer to accept the quote from Wigham Trucking quote to repair the culvert at 5531 Cambridge Hills Road SE by installing a new band clamp where the culverts are joined. The bid does not include asphalt replacement. 3 yes.
- Cambridge Hill Road – John Schoenfelder to follow-up with Thatcher regarding road damage caused by Thatcher heavy equipment.

Other – John Schoenfelder to follow-up with Cindy Golenzer regarding her request to add a driveway on Walnut Street.

ARPA Funds - No action tonight. Reminder to determine use by the end of this year. Deb Raduenz will consult with other area Townships regarding how to submit necessary paperwork to designate funds by December 2024.

LRIP – Received notification April 1, 2024, Marion Township did not receive the LRIP grand fund for 2024. Schoenfelder will consult with County Highway Engineer to resubmit application for 2025; submission deadline is December 2024.

Ordinances – Mr. Volkmar provided a final copy of the Marion Township Ordinance 2024-1 (dog bite ordinance including a hearing fee) to be placed on the Township website. He also presented a summary of the ordinance to be published in Rochester Post Bulletin. A M/M/S by Bjerke/Messmer to accept Ordinance 2024-1 with \$500 hearing fee. 3 yes.

The following sealed bids were reviewed at 7:30 pm. Township decisions are noted below:

- **Milestone Materials** – M/M/S by Bjerke/Messmer to accept the rock bid as submitted. 3 yes
- **Paulson Rock** – Bid was not accepted. No action taken.
- **Rochester Sand and Gravel (RS&G)**– M/M/S by Bjerke/Schoenfelder to table the bid. Bjerke will contact RS&G and request clarification whether the submitted bid was intended for a specific project/road or general bid rates.
- **Wigham Trucking** – Snow removal/sanding = M/M/S by Bjerke/Schoenfelder to accept the equipment and labor bid as submitted. 3 yes.
- **Wigham Trucking** – Seasonal bid = M/M/S by Schoenfelder/Messmer to accept the equipment and labor bid as submitted. 3 yes.
- **NorthStar Companies** – M/M/S by Messmer/Bjerke to accept the brush spraying and mechanical brush trimming/clearing bid as submitted. 3 yes.
- **Hildebrandt Services, LLC** – M/M/S by Bjerke/Messmer to accept the ditch mowing bid as submitted. 3 yes.

Board of Review – The annual Board of Review will be held April 10, 2024, at 1:30 at Marion Townhall.

New Business:

Fire Contract – Mr. Eric Kerska attended and provided an update on Marion Township fire contract. The existing contract runs through 2025. Mr. Kerska recommends the Township negotiate a new contract by the end of 2024 to allow for future budgeting. He also offered the opportunity for a member(s) of Marion Township meet individually or with a subgroup made up of other townships (Rochester, Haverhill and Cascade) to discuss future contract options. Roger Bjerke agreed to represent Marion Township. Mr. Kerska to contact Township clerk with dates/times of meetings.

Presidential Nomination Primary Grant- Colleen Bjerke stated she has submitted a grant application to the Office of Secretary of State for reimbursement of incurred Township election fees. No further action necessary at this time.

Smith Schafer Audit – No audit date set. Deb Raduenz will follow-up.

Correspondence:

- Freeborn County Co-op Oil providing dust control services.
- Carr's Tree Service providing brushing, tree trimming, tree removal and spraying.
- MATIT Consolidated Liability Coverage (CLC) Renewal Estimate received.

M/M/S by Messmer/Bjerke to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 pm.

John Schoenfelder, Chair _____ Colleen Bjerke, Clerk _____