

# Town of Duluth

Town Board Meeting  
December 14, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Barb Crow, Rolf Carlson, Dave Mount, Travis Stolp and Corlis West were in attendance.

## Motion to approve the minutes:

- Town Board meeting November 9, 2017: Travis made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Rolf seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
  - o Correction: Top of page 3 parking lot remove "sealing".

## Motion to approve the agenda:

- Barb made a motion to approve the agenda, Travis seconded. Motion passed.

The Treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$548,427.00, deposits of \$1,331.31 and expenses of \$32,461.21 for an ending balance of \$514,634.18. Claims list for approval was reviewed with no issues found, all bills were approved, and payroll net pay account distribution was signed.

There were no Public Comments at this meeting.

## Department Reports

Police: All is quiet.

### Fire:

- Five years ago the Fire Department moved their Relief Association Benefits to the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) with the requirement that for 5 years the Fire Department did not change their per year of service payout. We have been invested for 5 years and so requested a Relief Association Benefit analysis to decide if the fire department could increase their retirement payout and would work with PERA to decide how much. Travis made a motion that Dave and Travis investigate and as long as they are comfortable with the answers to the questions the board has they will increase the funding to \$2000 or a lesser amount if more appropriate according to their judgement. Rolf seconded. Motion passed. Vote: Aye - Rolf, Travis, Dave, Corlis Abstained: Barb

## Planning and Zoning

### i. Storm Water

- MS4 General Permit application: Sue, Dave, Val and Jo have a phone call pending with the MPCA.

### ii. Director's Report

- Tax forfeited classification MEMO: Corlis made a motion to write a letter to County Planning regarding the sale of an undersized lot, Barb seconded. Motion passed.
- There was a Variance hearing last month, this month the Planning Commission will be talking about greenhouses, short term rentals and commercial endeavor.
- St. Louis County Planning is redoing their comp plan Sue will request clarification on a couple of points.

Legal: No report

## Roads:

- Bill for the turn around on the North Ryan.
- There is some concern about spreading invasive species through gravel. There are some gravel pits that certify their product to alleviate that concern.

Community Center Projects: No report

Town Hall:

- Arts and Heritage held a successful gathering but were wondering if the Town Board had a length of time they felt the pictures should stay on the walls and if we have hall rentals does the Town Board have feelings about how long the displays should be kept up. The Board felt it was up to the discretion of the Arts and Heritage group.
- Corlis will put a locking cover over the thermostat to stop reprogramming.

Emergency Operations: No report

Materials Management:

- Some verbal abuse over recycling policies has been taking place and will be reported to our Police.
- Corlis attended the WLSSD rural Supervisor meeting. The attendant's financial and annual report will be due January 28<sup>th</sup>. WLSSD is looking into combining mixed paper and newspaper together in the future, possibly adding empty aerosol cans recycling in the future, plastic film containers and a possible container for recyclable batteries. There will be new signs on the recycling sheds
- Meeting for Shed attendants is January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Cemetery: No report

Communications:

- Barb is having difficulty with the company that hosts our web site, they bill us incorrectly and don't respond to e-mails it is time to change companies.

Personnel:

- Cost of living increase (COLA): Barb made a motion to increase wages for township employees by 2% starting with the first paycheck in January excluding the town board, police officers and planning commission, Travis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

- Budgeter: Corlis sent out a letter and will now follow up.

New Business

- St. Louis County letter of support request for French River Wayside: The project was not funded last year but has been proposed for this year. Rolf made a motion to send a letter of support to the County for the French river wayside project, Travis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence

- North Shore Management Board
- SLCAT newsletter
- Airbag recall notification
- Noncom Scoop – MN Dept. of Health
- USDA Rural Housing programs
- Technology Exchange
- MAT & MATIT financial reports

Calendar Events and Meeting Schedule

- Town Board Meeting January 11,2017

Adjournment:

- Travis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Corlis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Clifton Relief Benefit meeting  
December 28, 2017 6:30PM

Present: Corlis West, Robert Engelson, Travis Stolp, Dave Mount, Rolf Carlson, Clerk Ann K. Cox, absent Barb Crow.

Corlis made a motion to fill in the amount of \$1900.00 as the benefit level per year of service. Travis seconded. Motion passed unopposed. With that motion the following resolution (2017-1228) was approved to be returned to PERA.

DULUTH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2017-1228

**WHEREAS** the Town of Duluth (St. Louis County, MN; "Town" hereafter) previously authorized the Clifton Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) as represented by the Clifton Relief Association to join the Voluntary Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Retirement Plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA); and

**WHEREAS** Within the last 120 days, the Town requested and obtained a cost analysis of increasing the benefit level for firefighters who are vested in the Voluntary Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Retirement Plan from PERA; and

**WHEREAS** the Town understands that Minnesota statute allows an increase in benefit levels if the plan is fully funded, but does not have provisions for a decrease in benefit levels; and

**WHEREAS** the Town highly values the contributions of the CVFD members to the safety and wellbeing of our community and wishes to safeguard their pension investments in a prudent manner.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE DULUTH TOWN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. The Town hereby approves an increase in the benefit level for CVFD members who have completed at least 5 years of good time service as a member of the Voluntary Statewide Retirement Plan administered by PERA at the \$1900 benefit level per year of Service, effective January 1, 2018; and
2. The chair of the Town Board of Supervisors and the Town Clerk are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this resolution.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was proposed by Supervisor West and was duly seconded by Supervisor Stolp and upon vote being taken thereon, the following votes were cast:

	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Supervisor Carlson	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Supervisor Crow	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Supervisor Mount	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Supervisor Stolp	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Supervisor West	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Duluth Town Board of Supervisors this 28<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017.

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David R. Mount, Chair, Duluth Town Board of Supervisors

Attest:

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Ann Cox, Town Clerk

Document was signed.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 PM