

Town of Crystal Bay

Annual Meeting

Minutes

March 8th 2022

- I. Attendance: 23 residents, 1 non-residents, of those 3 participated via Zoom(Deb, Michelle, Russ).
- II. Call To Order: Colby
 - A. Colby Abazs, Town Clerk, called the meeting to order in the Finland Community Center at 7:02pm with the pledge of allegiance.
- III. Selection of Moderator: Colby
 - A. Bee was selected to moderate the 2022 Crystal Bay Township Annual Meeting by unanimous consent.
- IV. Reading of the 2021 Minutes:
 - A. MOTION: to waive the reading of and place on file the minutes of the last Annual Meeting as copies had been supplied to those present. Motioned by Katee, Seconded by David Abazs, Passed by voice vote.
- V. Reports:
 - A. Treasurer's: Danielle
 1. MOTION: to accept the treasurer's report as shared in written form and explained. Motioned by David, Seconded by Doug, Passed by voice vote.
 - B. Clerk's: Colby
 1. There are ongoing conversations with Silver Bay about transforming the Silver Bay airport into a regional airport.
 2. The annual Local Board of appeal will be happening April 28th at 1pm in the Finland Community Center.
 3. The Town has now adopted a policy of having Remote Video participation as an option at Town meetings.
 4. Clerk Colby is planning regular office hours this year. The current thought is to have them during the evening every 2nd Tuesday but feedback on a good day & time would be appreciated.
 5. Reminder about a Township resource in the form of a revolving community loan. \$12,000 was recently loaned to the Finland Nature Daycare from this fund.
 6. The Culvert Replacement project on Hockamin creek is moving ahead and should begin this spring. There will be road closures during parts of the work.
 7. There are frequent grant opportunities that come to the attention of the Town Clerk and so if any community member has a passion for a community project they should reach out and see if there is a way to move it forward with the Town's support.
 8. The Town got a good chunk of covid dollars in 2022, about \$25k, and will get a similar amount in 2023. This money can go to regular town expenses and should help bring the Road and Bridge fund positive.
 - C. Supervisors: Paul, Karl, Russ

1. We had Jack Nelson on the board for a while but he moved out of town and Russ has been appointed to fill that position and we are happy to have his expertise.
- D. Road and Bridge: Doug
1. Winter is almost over so starting to shift to hauling gravel and fixing roads up.
- E. Cemetery: Colby
1. The Town is currently working to hire a Cemetery Manager with the passing of Bob Nikolia. If you or someone you know might be interested please reach out to the Clerk ASAP as action could be taken as soon as the next Regular Board Meeting March 15th at 7pm.
- F. Community Center: Honor
1. With covid the normal routine of having an annual planning and strategizing event was done differently. The Friends of Finland Board tabled at the farmers market, had comment boxes, and had a potluck. The center was partially reopened this year and now tracking numbers of people is hopefully going to start up again which is hard with so many different people using the space. There are a lot of old favorite weekly activities and several new ones. There were grant dollars that helped improve the internet in the parking area for folks working from their cars during covid. There is a Zoom account that is used by several community organizations. The firefighting activities was a major use of the center and brought in some income. The youth program restarted and over 100 kids have been served. Camp Finland was smaller but did happen during the pandemic. Hosted a very successful community training. The Finland Food chain had a number of successes this year with a notable one being the wild rice processing facility. FoF was also the initial sponsor of the Finland Nature Childcare that has now spun off into its own organization. A timber framing class as part of the building plan for a new shed by the courts is in the plans as well as a pizza oven and continued work on housing issues.
- G. STAR Land Use Grant: Shannon
1. Grant from the MN coastal program. Initial purposes; Setup a process for how township land could be used for community businesses, and guidelines for maintaining the quality of that land. With leftover money the grant was extended to work to address housing access issues that are very present in the community now. There is also work being done to make sure all this work supports building community wealth locally. On May 7th there will be a community wide event to share the knowledge and models for building local community wealth.
- H. Silver Bay Library: Shannon
1. 182 cardholders from Crystal Bay which is the biggest outside of Silver Bay. The library was able to stay open throughout the pandemic. 101 programs serving over 700 participants. 1300 people have used the library computers. The library received a large amount of state funding to make renovations and an expansion which will be enacted over the next couple of years.
 2. MOTION: to increase the regular annual Township donation to \$2500 to the Silver Bay Library. Motioned by Nancy, Seconded by Katee, Passed by voice vote.
- I. North Shore Area Partners: Lise

1. Working to support elderly to stay in their homes. Based out of Silver Bay but servicing the rural areas as well and have been making a lot of effort to meet the needs of the rural community. Provide many services including drivers to help get folks to appointments and such. Our population is aging and so these services are very much needed. Most services are paid as able but heavily supported by grant dollars and donations like from the Crystal Bay Township.
2. MOTION: to increase the regular Township donation to North Shore Area Partners to \$5000. Motioned by Katee, Seconded by Doug, Passed by voice vote.

J. Finland Historical Society: Karee

1. The site has been a very important place this summer being able to do activities outdoors.
2. MOTION: to increase the regular annual Township donation to \$2000 to the Finland Historical Society. Motioned by David, Seconded by Karl, Passed by voice vote.

K. Lake County Rescue:

1. MOTION: to continue the regular annual Township donation of \$1000 to the Lake County Rescue. Motioned by Karee, Seconded by Katee, Passed by voice vote.

VI. New Business

A. Recycling and Composting: David

1. This is a project through the Finland Food Chain and Crystal Bay Township. All the landfills in the area are going to be full in 2026. We need solutions to deal with our waste. Nolla Roskaa is asking for an increase to the levy by \$10,000 to support an employee to run this composting facility which will be built with grant dollars and supporting resources from the county and Crystal Bay. 200 tons of food waste which would make about 130 tons of compost to be used by the community. Also interested in persons interested in joining the group finalizing the building design and plan.
2. MOTION: To add \$10,000 to the levy to support an employee to operate the planned Waste Diversion Facility. Motioned by David, Seconded by Nancy, Passed by voice vote.

B. Set Tax Levy: Board Recommendation; Danielle

1. General Fund	35,000
2. Road & Bridge	60,000
3. Emergency Services	22,500
4. Cemetery	2,000
5. Capital Equipment	5,000
6. Rec Building	25,000
7. Capital Improvements	5,000
8. Community Projects	5,000
9. Waste Diversion Facility	10,000
10. Total Levy	169,500

11. MOTION: to approve the 2023 Town levy as recommended by the Board which is the same as in 2022 with the addition of a new fund of \$10,000 to support the

development of a Waste Diversion Facility. Motioned by Russ, Seconded by Karl, Passed by voice vote.

C. Mail in Voting Review: Colby

1. Clerk Colby presented the report he assembled to look at the effects of the change to Mail in Only voting. There was then discussion about the pros and cons of Mail In Only Voting for Crystal Bay. There was great interest in having an election day registration and voting option in Finland.
2. MOTION: To switch to In Person Voting. Motioned by Karl, Seconded by Karee, Passed by hand vote(for 12, against 7).

VII. Other Business:

VIII. Adjourn:

- A. MOTION: to adjourn at 8:47. Motioned by Karl, Seconded by Katee, Passed by voice vote.