

Town of Sand Lake
Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 12, 2023
6:00 p.m.

- Call to Order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairwoman Melanie Connor Johnson
- Roll Call of Officers – Clerk Maggie Olson is absent, all others present.
- Public Notice – Notice was made at the Town Hall and Town Shop, and in the Indianhead Advertiser the weekend of September 10th.
- Approval of Agenda Order – Motion to approve by Supervisor Pardun, seconded by Supervisor Kroll. Motion carried, voice vote.
- Approval of Minutes from August 14th, 2023, Town Board Meeting – Motion by Supervisor Pardun, seconded by Chairwoman Johnson to approve the August 14th minutes. Motion carried, voice vote.
- Public Comments – None.
- Chair Report – Chairwoman Johnson reported that she had to sign a power easement for a property on Sand Lake Road. She also reported that she received a call for a downed tree and Roads Supervisor Brad Huser had already taken care of it.
- Clerk Report – Absent.
- Treasurer Report – Treasurer Crystal Houman provided a report on account balances. As of August 31st, 2023, the General Fund Account balance is \$149,731.97 and the Equipment Fund balance is \$15,874.34. Additions included the Burnett County August Tax Settlement of \$84,981.30 and \$13.35 in interest. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Supervisor Kroll, seconded by Supervisor Pardun. Motion carried, voice vote.
- Supervisors Report – Supervisor Pardun reported they purchased a small chainsaw. He noted that the tires on the truck need to be replaced and they have started researching. Supervisor Kroll reported that she attended the Webster Fire Meeting in July and Webster Fire is purchasing a new fire truck.
- Planning Commission Report – Nothing to report.
- Road Report – Roads Supervisor Brad Huser reported they have installed the new motor on the air compressor, and it is working. He reported that he has received a quote for tires on the black truck, estimated \$531.00 and they will put the tires on themselves. He also reported after the purchase of the new chainsaw they have been doing brush work. They started the work on Birch Haven and will continue on as there are lots of areas with low hanging branches. He will be doing some grading as well with the rain. It will help the process. He suggested that a Road Rating Tour with the board be scheduled soon to allow for planning. Discussion was had and the board agreed to have Supervisor Pardun and Roads Supervisor Huser complete the tour on September 20, 2023, at 8:00 a.m.
- Matters for Discussion and Possible Action
 - Vertical Bridge/Verizon Wireless Tower Project – Scott Steeno with Buell Consulting was present to address the Town Board and answer any questions they have about the project. Mr. Steeno noted that a cell phone tower project is planned for 4115 Normans Landing Road. He shared surveys have been completed and they have received permissions to proceed. He asked the Board if there is anything else, permission or permits, he needs from the township. Mr.

Steenon noted that the footprint of the project with fenced in area is 100 feet by 100 feet. The tower itself will be able to host three (3) additional wireless providers. The project has an anticipated start of Spring 2024. Mr. Steeno indicated if there is any damage to the road during construction to contact the company and any damage would be repaired as it is part of the lease agreement with the property owner. Chairwoman Johnson encouraged him to contact Burnett County to double check if there are any other utility permission requirements. She also suggested he contact the St. Croix Tribe regarding preservation, to see if there are any additional guidelines. Mr. Steeno requested a letter from the Board indicating that he was in attendance in the meeting. Chairwoman Johnson indicated she would draft a letter to be reviewed at the next Town Board meeting and they will send it.

- Short Term Rental Agreement – Burnett County Development Association (BCDA) – Chairwoman Johnson explained that BCDA is looking at formulating a group that will tax short term rentals. It would be administered through a third party. The tax would then be divided with a large amount going to the Burnett County Tourism Coalition and a small amount going to the township. Towns need to pass an ordinance if they want to join the group. Discussion was had and an agreement was made to add a notice to pass an ordinance at the next meeting.
- Town Hall Maintenance Bids – Discussion was had that contractors are reluctant to bid on the project because if there is lead in the existing structure the cost to repair will double. Most contractors then will have issues with their insurance company approving them to work on a project with lead.
- Computer Backup/Maintenance via Momentum Computer Solutions – Tabled for later discussion in the absence of the Clerk.
- Pay Bills – Crystal Houman reviewed invoices presented for payment. The motion to pay invoices as presented was made by Supervisor Pardun and seconded by Supervisor Kroll. Motion carried, voice vote.
- Next Meeting Date – October 10th, which is a TUESDAY.
- Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. by Supervisor Kroll, seconded by Supervisor Pardun. Motion carried, voice vote.