

MINUTES

MARCH, 2005 BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

March 7, 2005 – 7:00 PM

Bridgewater Town Hall

500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019

Purpose of Meeting:

- Review Minutes, finances, and the status of issues, projects, tasks, and action items for Bridgewater Township for the month of February, 2005; and plan for the month of March, 2005.
- Review correspondence and claims received since the last Board Meeting; those claims that are allowed will be paid.
- During the meeting, the Board of Supervisors welcomes comments by residents at appropriate times.

A Call to Order, Roll-call of Town Officers, and Introduction of Guests Ebling
The March, 2005 meeting of the Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Gary Ebling at 7:00 PM. All officers of the Township were present; namely, Supervisor and Chair Gary Ebling, Treasurer Le Ann K.H. Finger, Supervisor Leif Knecht, Supervisor Paul Liebenstein, and Clerk Mike Piper.

B Flag Pledge Ebling
All present were invited by Ebling to stand and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

C Approval of Agenda Ebling
With the addition of item H.5, the agenda was approved as submitted. Motion by Knecht, second by Liebenstein, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, and Liebenstein aye).

D Approval of Minutes from January and February, 2005 Town Board Meetings Piper
The Minutes from the January and February, 2005 meetings of the Town Board were approved as submitted. Motion by Knecht, second by Liebenstein, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, and Liebenstein aye).

E Approval of Treasurer's Report Finger

- It was decided that the Reconciled Statements for January, February, and March 2005 would be read and approved at the April meeting of the Town Board. Motion by Knecht, second by Liebenstein, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, and Liebenstein aye).
- The Minutes from Annual Board of Audit for 2004 were approved as submitted. Motion by Knecht, second by Liebenstein, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, and Liebenstein aye).

F	Review of Claims/Deposits Received	Piper
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Piper presented the invoices received since the February, 2005 meeting of the Town Board. Those invoices approved were paid. Motion by Knecht, second by Liebenstein, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, and Liebenstein aye). 	
G	Review of Correspondence Received and Generated	Piper
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Piper reviewed the correspondence received and generated since the February 	
H	Old Business/Action Items	Supervisors
H.1	<p data-bbox="323 468 643 495">Annual Meeting Prep/Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preliminary reports for the following township activities/involvements were presented: Audit, Elections, Fire, Ambulance, Annexation, Insurance, Roads. A report on these items will be included in the Minutes for the 2005 Annual Meeting. ▪ The following notes are presented from Knecht’s Road Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The current major transportation issues in the Northfield-Dundas-Bridgewater area are the ring road, an east-west corridor, river crossings, and rail road grade crossings. Knecht sees evidence that there is a rush to development before these issues are resolved. Knecht’s recommendation is that the communities proceed not development-by-development, but in accordance with a “big picture” transportation plan that would describe integrated planning. ▪ Together, the population for the 2 cities and Bridgewater is approximately 24,000; in 20 years, the population is projected to be 40,000. For such a large population, Knecht observed, the transportation infrastructure will need 3 river crossings. ▪ Needed improvements to the transportation infrastructure haven’t happened to date because they are difficult financially and politically. 	Board
H.2	<p data-bbox="323 1106 669 1134">Status of Dundas Developments</p> <p data-bbox="323 1138 651 1165">The following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The plat/EAW for Bridgewater Farms preliminary plat/EAW was approved (per Dundas Resolution Number 2005-08, “An EIS is not required.”) ▪ Dundas Public Hearing on March 10, 2005 (7:00 PM) @ Dundas City Hall to consider Preliminary Plat for Bridgewater Farms Phase 1 ▪ Dundas Public Hearing on March 23, 2005 (7:00 PM) to consider Preliminary Plat for Stonebridge Development Phase 1. 	Board
H.3	<p data-bbox="323 1411 932 1438">County Zoning and Economic Development Committees</p> <p data-bbox="323 1442 922 1470">The following committee assignments were announced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leif Knecht appointed to Master Plan Development Committee for the area south of Big Steer along I-35 ▪ Gary Ebling appointed to Countywide Economic Development Committee ▪ Both Supervisors asked that Township residents contact them with ideas and suggestions relative to the work of these two committees. 	Ebling
H.4	<p data-bbox="323 1688 1159 1745">Meeting Rules and Notices (reference to Minnesota Association of Townships document number TM2100)</p> <p data-bbox="323 1749 1203 1803">This document was referenced and distributed to the Supervisors. Discussion as to the implications of this document was deferred to a later date.</p>	

- H.5 Leif Knecht's visit to the State Capitol
Knecht reported that there appears to be increased support for raising the fuel tax as a way to pay for needed road improvements and building.
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I New Business

Supervisors

- I.1 Dust Control (Proposal for the application of Calcium Chloride) Brown
Mr. Lou Schmidt discussed the benefits of applying calcium chloride for dust control. Dennis Brown will keep in contact with Mr. Schmidt and other potential vendors for the potential use of this method. The costs of the application would be borne by residents that would request it. When a decision has been made as to what form of the chemical (dry or liquid) and what vendor will be used, the Clerk and Knecht will prepare a Notice for the Northfield News to inform residents of the feature and its cost. Application would not occur until the frost is out of the road beds.

- I.2 Gravel and Rock
The Supervisors also discussed what type of gravel and rock will be used on township roads this year. The Supervisors by unanimous motion decided that Knecht will examine the size of rock available before any is purchased.

- I.3 Road Improvement Project – 124th Court and Edwards Way Johnson,
Risberg
Nancy Johnson, a resident in the Oak Hill South rural residential subdivision, spoke to the board. Her comments were that something clearly needs to be done to the road, the question is what. She suggested that core samples could be taken to determine the type of remedy required, specifically if it would make sense to do selective rebuilds.

Ebling noted that Blair Fowler prepared an estimate for the resurfacing of 124th Court and Edwards Way on May 18, 2003. Ebling noted that the major heavy load on these roads is the garbage trucks.

Knecht said that he would meet with Blair Fowler to examine the road and develop proposed approaches. Knecht will address this issue at the April meeting of the Town Board.

April, 2005 Agenda Item: Knecht report on Potential 124th Court, Edwards Way Road Improvement Project.

The Supervisors by unanimous motion decided that a Public Information Meeting will be held on April 21, 2005 to discuss the analysis of the present condition of 124th Court East and Edwards Way, proposed solutions, and per-lot assessments (costs).

April, 2005 Agenda Item: If the progress on the above is sufficient, Knecht and Piper will draft a Public Notice re the Public Information Meeting for publication in the Northfield News.

- I.4 Adequate Public Facilities – Ordinance idea Doran-
Norton
Kathleen Doran-Norton addressed the Board on the Adequate Public Facilities concept. The idea, as presented, is that this effort happens concurrently with development.

As an example of the use of this concept, a preliminary plan of subdivision would not be approved unless the Planning Board determines that public facilities will be adequate to support and service the area of the proposed subdivision. Public facilities and services to be examined would include roads and public transportation facilities, sewerage and water service, schools, police and fire protection, and health-related capabilities including ambulance service and access

to clinics.

Knecht observed that as applied to the development in areas recently annexed by Dundas, the existing Annexation Agreement is, as compared with other annexation engines, the “lesser of two evils.” He observed that there will be a period of “reality clarification” as an additional 9,000 people begin to travel on township roads.

- I.5 Rice County Planning and Zoning – Temporary Equipment Placement Permit – Owatonna Construction Co.- Hoover-Main Plant area
The Supervisors decided that they had nothing to pass on to Rice County Planning and Zoning relative to this issue.

J Future Meetings

Clerk

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- J.1 March 8, 2005 -- Town Election (10 AM – 8 PM) , Annual Meeting (8:05 PM), and Board of Canvass (following Annual Meeting) @ the Town Hall
- Gary Ebling has filed for Town Supervisor (3-year term). No other candidates have filed.
 - Le Ann K.H. Finger has filed for Town Treasurer (2-year term). No other candidates have filed.

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- J.2 March 10, 2005 - Public Hearing (7PM) @ the Dundas City Hall to consider the Preliminary Plat for the proposed Bridgewater Farms Phase 1 Development by Geiger/O’Neil Company

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- J.3 March 23, 2005 – Public Hearing (7 PM) @ the Dundas City Hall to consider the Preliminary Plat for the proposed Stonehill Phase 1 Development

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- J.4 March 31, 2005 – Annual Meeting and Election of Officers of the Rice County Township Officers Association (7:30 PM) @ The American Legion Club, 112 N.E. 5th Street, Faribault
- Action Item for Clerk following Election: Submit List of Officers to Minnesota Association of Townships by May 1, 2005

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- J.5 April 4, 2005 – April Monthly Meeting of the Town Board (7 PM) @ the Town Hall

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- J.6 April 21, 2005 – Board of Appeal (9AM) @ the Bridgewater Town Hall for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment of Bridgewater Township.
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K Motion to Adjourn

Supervisors

By unanimous agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

C. Michael Piper
Town Clerk

Gary Ebling
Supervisor, Town Board Chair

Reference:

Town Officers: Supervisor and Town Board Chair Gary Ebling, Treasurer Le Ann Finger, Supervisor Leif Knecht, Supervisor Paul Liebenstein, and Clerk Mike Piper.