

MINUTES

APRIL, 2005 BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

April 4, 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 March, 2005; and plan for the month of April, 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 Liebenstein
The meeting was called to order by Chair Paul Liebenstein at 7:05 PM. All Town Officers were present at the meeting; namely, Supervisor Gary Ebling, Treasurer Le Ann Finger, Supervisor Leif Knecht, Chair Paul Liebenstein and Clerk Mike Piper. Dundas Mayor Glen Switzer was present at the meeting; he arrived at approximately 9:00 PM.

B Flag Pledge Liebenstein
Chair Liebenstein invited all present to rise and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

C Approval of Agenda Liebenstein
The Agenda was approved as presented. Motion by Ebling, Second by Knecht, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, Liebenstein aye).

D Approval of Minutes from March, 2005 Town Board Meeting Piper
The Minutes from the March, 2005 Town Board were approved as presented with one correction. Motion by Ebling, Second by Knecht, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, Liebenstein aye).

E Approval of Treasurer's Report Finger
The Treasurer presented Reconciliation Detail for January and February, 2005. The Reconciliation Details were approved as presented. Motion by Ebling, Second by Knecht, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, Liebenstein aye).

F Review of Claims/Deposits Received Piper
Claims that were received since the March, 2005 Town Board Meeting were reviewed. Those that were allowed by the Supervisors were paid.

G Review of Correspondence Received and Generated Piper

- Correspondence that was received since the March, 2005 Town Board Meeting were reviewed. That correspondence included:
 - Minnesota Benefit Association re Township Officer Group Life Plan. Action on this correspondence will be an Action Item for the May, 2005 Town Board Meeting. Knecht
 - Customer Value Survey Program re Caterpillar 143H. This survey was given to Dennis Brown for action. Brown
 - Minnesota Milk Producers Association. Correspondence from this organization Liebenstein

- was given to Liebenstein.
- List of Officers, 2005-2006. The Clerk reported the following officers were identified at the Re-organizational Meeting: Chair, Paul Liebenstein, Vice Chair Leif Knecht, Supervisor Gary Ebling, Treasurer Le Ann Finger and Clerk Mike Piper. Piper
- Outstanding Indebtedness Report. The Treasurer was reminded that the Outstanding Indebtedness Report is due to the Rice County Auditor. Finger
- Road-related training. Correspondence relating to this issue was given to Dennis Brown. Brown
- Right-of-Way Management. Correspondence relating to this issue was given to Knecht. Knecht
- BMI, maintenance of asphalt surface. Dennis Brown was asked to decide whether the asphalt surface in front of the Town Hall needs maintenance. A report on this is an Action Item for the May, 2005 Town Board Meeting. Brown

H Old Business/Action Items Supervisors

H.1 Reports were given from Meetings attended, Committees served on, and Issues addressed since the March, 2005 Meeting of the Town Board: Board

DATE	MEETING	REPORT
March 8, 2005	Town Election	Piper
March 8, 2005	Annual Town Meeting	Piper
March 10, 2005	Public Hearing at the Dundas City Hall re Preliminary Plat for Bridgewater Farms, Phase 1	Ebling
March 23, 2005	Public Hearing at the Dundas City Hall re Preliminary Plat for Stoneridge Hill, Phase 1	Ebling
March 24, 2005	Review of Mill Towns State Trail Master Plan at the Northfield Public Library	
March 31, 2005	Annual Meeting and Election of Officers of the Rice County Township Officers Association	Piper
Committee	Countywide Economic Development Committee No report was given.	Ebling
Committee	Master Plan Development Committee for the area south of Big Steer along I-25	Knecht
Issue	Dust Control for Township Roads A public notice will be prepared by Knecht and Piper identifying Mr. Lou Schmidt as the selected applier of dry chloride dust control. The notice will be published in the <i>Northfield News</i> starting around the first of May and will run for two weeks.	Brown
Issue	Gravel vs. Rock for Township Roads	Knecht
Issue	Potential Road Improvement Project for 124 th Court East and Edwards Way. An informational meeting on this issue will be held with residents on April 21, 2005. Piper will prepare a public notice for the <i>Northfield News</i> ; the public notice will also be mailed to residents on 124 th Court East and Edwards Way.	Ebling and Knecht
April 4, 2005	Report from the Re-organizational Meeting	Liebenstein

I New Business

Supervisors

- Minnesota Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA). Action on this item was deferred to the May, 2005 Town Board Meeting.
 - Bruce Morlan, Bridgewater resident and member of the Dundas Planning Commission gave the following report:
 - With 60% high density housing, Bridgewater Heights is a “character changer” for the area along Rice County 1. The parks in the development are not spread out enough; the plat relies too much on centralized parks.
 - A budgetary (financial) analysis is required for the proposed developments in Dundas. Otherwise, the annexation/development process is a “race to the bottom.” Knecht observed that the developments should be done on a sound financial basis. Liebenstein observed that the City of Dundas has hired a planner.
 - In view of potential traffic on County Road 1, perhaps 120 feet of right-of way is not enough.
 - The preliminary plat for the Stoneridge Hill development shows that the development is “creeping up on a trout stream.”
 - Ebling reported on a meeting he had with Rice County Commissioner Jim Brown and Rice County Highway Engineer Dennis Luebbe re Bridgewater Heights. Ebling said that an intergovernmental effort (including Bridgewater Township, Dundas, and Northfield) is required for this situation as an input to the Rice County Transportation Plan. Ebling reported that Dundas Mayor Glen Switzer is willing to serve in such an effort.
 - Knecht offered to write a letter to Dundas explaining the views of the Bridgewater Town Board on the requirement for sound financial and joint governmental transportation planning. While the hiring of a financial planner was recognized as positive, Knecht expressed concern re inadequate planning. A report on that letter is an Action Item for the May, 2005 Town Board Meeting.
 - Liebenstein expressed the need for traffic counts in the area.
 - Dundas Mayor Glen Switzer expressed concern that the committee considering the rezoned corridor along I-35 and south of Minnesota 19 might not be completed with its work by 12-31-2005.
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J Future Meetings

Clerk

The following future meetings were announced:

DATE	MEETING	LOCATION & TIME
April 8, 2005	Urban Boundaries. This meeting will be attended by Liebenstein.	
April 13, 2005	Rice County EMS Provider Council	Northfield Hospital, 7:00 PM
April 14, 2005	Public Hearing re Annexation matters	Dundas City Hall, 7:00 PM
April 21, 2005	Board of Appeal	Bridgewater Town Hall, 9:00 AM
May 2, 2005	Rice County Genealogy Society	Bridgewater Town Hall, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
May 2, 2005	Monthly Meeting of the Bridgewater Township Board	Bridgewater Town Hall, 7:00 PM
May 9, 2005	Rice County Genealogy Society	Bridgewater Town Hall, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

K Motion to Adjourn

Supervisors

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM. Motion by Ebling, Second by Knecht, motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, Liebenstein aye).

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