

MINUTES

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

**March 6, 2006 – 7 PM**  
Bridgewater Town Hall  
500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019

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**MINUTES**, March 6, 2006 – 7 PM– MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD, Bridgewater Town Hall, 500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019

Purpose of Meeting:

- Review last month’s minutes and finances, and the status of issues, projects, tasks, and action items; and plan for activities until the next monthly meeting.
- 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 welcome comments by residents at appropriate times.

- A Call to Order, Roll-call of Town Officers** Liebenstein  
Chair Liebenstein called the March, 2006 Meeting of the Town Board to order at 7:00 PM. All Town Officers were present, namely, Gary Ebling (Supervisor), Le Ann Finger (Treasurer), Leif Knecht (Supervisor and Town Board Vice Chair), Paul Liebenstein (Supervisor and Town Board Chair), and Mike Piper (Clerk).
- B Flag Pledge** Liebenstein  
Liebenstein invited all present to stand for the pledge.
- C Approval of Agenda** Liebenstein  
The Agenda was approved as presented in these Minutes. Motion by Ebling; second by Liebenstein; motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, and Liebenstein aye).
- D Approval of Minutes from February, 2006 Town Board Meeting** Piper  
The Minutes for February 2006 were approved, with changes.
- E Approval of Treasurer’s Report** Finger  
The Treasurer’s report was approved as submitted.
- F Review of Claims/Deposits Received** Piper  
The claims presented were reviewed, allowed and paid.
- G Review of Correspondence Received and Generated, notably:** Piper
- Rice County 2006 Spring Load Restrictions
  - Minnesota House of Representatives, House Research, Tax

- Increment Financing
  - Cannon River Watershed Partnership, Annual Meeting, March 13, 2006
  - Dakota County, Farmland and Natural Areas Program
  - 2005 Rice County Bridge List with Recommended Maintenance Work

**G.1 Candidate Forum** Candidates  
 Moderated by Leif Knecht, the two candidates for Supervisor, Kathleen Doran-Norton and Kraig Quamme, addressed the list of questions and answered a limited set of questions from the residents. Both candidates distributed campaign literature.

**H Old Business/Action Items** Supervisors  
**H.1 Subdivision Regulations** Piper

Piper reported that Gary Weiers, interim Planning and Zoning Director and County Administrator, would like to meet with the Supervisors and the Clerk, along with the County Attorney, concerning Bridgewater Township’s adoption of these Regulations. Ebling said that he would ask David Salene to contact the Rice County Planning and Zoning Department on this issue.

**H.2 Asphalt road improvements: update** Knecht

Knecht reported that the 2005 Road Improvement projects were not completed last year and that, based on conversations with BMI, they are expected to be complete this year. Knecht encouraged residents to send him a statement of their concern.

Knecht reported that the First National Bank of Northfield has guaranteed the bond interest rate from July 2005. This is important because interest rates are increasing.

**H.3 Report on February 10, 2006 Roundtable Meeting re CSAH 1 Corridor** Knecht

This meeting was intergovernmental and focused on road development in Dundas and south of Dundas.

Knecht observed that an east-west route is impeded by the presence of the railroad.

The Supervisors supported the idea that the corridor task should start with an engineering study. The projected cost of this study was shocking; it was suggested that an RFP be issued for the study and that the contract for the study be based on best-value criteria. It was suggested that Bridgewater Township contribute to the cost of the study with revenue from the annexation agreements.

A resident suggested that the County repair the existing CSAH 1 and, in those areas where the road runs through Dundas, in cooperation with

Dundas. It was further suggested that Minnesota 19 is a state road and is an excellent candidate for the east-west corridor from I35 to MN 61.

H.4 Road Policy

Knecht

It was reported that David Salene has prepared a draft Road Policy and that he is expected to present it to the Board at the April, 2006 meeting of the Town Board.

Liebenstein reported that he is favoring Yaggy Colby Associates, an engineering firm in Rochester, MN, to do the road usage (traffic count) study.

**I** New Business

Supervisors

I.1 Report: Rice County Economic Development Committee No. 1: Master Development Committee for Implementation of Zoning Change

Knecht

Knecht reported that this committee has met twice in the last month. The area along County Road 46 has 1200 acres of potential development. Presently, the plans are that, the area around the County Road 46/County Road 1 intersection will see 480 acres of [?] development, and the area around the County Road 46/Minnesota 19 intersection will see 70 acres of [?] development. Together, the two areas of potential development total 550 acres; it is anticipated that the remaining 650 acres will not be developed for approximately 10 years.

Knecht said that even the anticipated development of 550 acres depends on the approval of the Rice County Board of a bond for infrastructure costs.

I.2 Report: Rice County Economic Development Committee No. 3: Countywide Economic Development Initiative

Ebling

Ebling reported that this committee has produced a report, "Countywide Economic Development Initiative." Ebling summarized the two recommendations made in the report:

- The creation of a County staff position with the primary goal of assisting in the creation of new quality job opportunities and additional commercial/industrial tax base in Rice County, and
- The creation of a Rice County Economic Development Committee that would be appointed annually by the County Board to continue the countywide economic dialogue that has been initiated by the committee.

Ebling noted that the success of this committed and the follow on committee depends on the willingness of the jurisdictions to work together.

I.3 Concerning HF 2732

Ebling

This bill, written in part by Rep. Peter Nelson, has the support of the Minnesota Association of Townships. David Salene, Township

consultant, will contact MAT with the concerns that he has. It is expected that Salene will report his findings at the April meeting of the Township Board.

I.4 Bridge Maintenance Knecht

A report “2005 Rice County Bridge List with Recommended Maintenance Work” was given to Dennis Brown. The report is on file.

I.5 Dundas Planning and Zoning Commission

**J Future Meetings, notably:** Piper

J.1 Annual Meeting, **March 14, 2006** at the Bridgewater Town Hall at approximately 8:15 p.m.

J.2 Election Report Piper  
Town Elections, **March 14, 2006** Polls are open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

- The following Bridgewater Township residents will serve as **election judges** on March 14, 2006: Cheri Albers, John Berge, Wayne Eddy, Le Ann Finger, Mary Manderfeld, William Nohava, Vaira Zankevics and Linda Zawack.

J.3 Open house meeting concerning the proposed Rice County Transportation Plan, **March 16, 2006** at the Rice County Government Services Building, County Board Room, 320 N.W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Faribault, MN, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

J.4 2005 Reorganizational Meeting of the Bridgewater Town Board of Supervisors, **March 20, 2006** at Perkins Restaurant at 7 a.m.

J.5 Annual meeting and election of the Rice County Township Officers Association, **March 30, 2006** at 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Club, 112 N.E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Faribault, MN.

J.6 April Meeting of the Bridgewater Town Board, **April 3, 2006** at 7 p.m. at the Bridgewater Town Hall, 500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN.

**K Motion to Adjourn** Supervisors

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM. Motion by Ebling; second by Liebenstein; motion passed unanimously (Ebling aye, Knecht aye, and 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, Clerk Mike Piper, and Deputy Clerk and Treasurer Cheri Albers.

