

Town of Bridgewater, County of Rice, State of Minnesota

MINUTES

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

April 3, 2006 – 7 PM

Bridgewater Town Hall

500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019

MINUTES, April 3, 2006 – 7 PM– MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD, Bridgewater Town Hall, 500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019

- A Call to Order, Roll-call of Town Officers, and Introduction of Guests** Knecht
Chair Knecht called the April, 2006 Meeting of the Town Board to order at 7 pm. All Town Officers were present, namely, Kathleen Doran-Norton (Supervisor), Gary Ebling (Supervisor and Town Board Vice Chair), Le Ann Finger (Treasurer), Leif Knecht (Supervisor and Town Board Chair), and Mike Piper (Clerk).
- B Flag Pledge** Knecht invited all present to rise and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Knecht
- C Approval of Agenda** Knecht
The Agenda was approved as presented in these Minutes. Motion by Ebling; second by Doran-Norton; motion passed unanimously (Doran-Norton aye, Ebling aye, and Knecht aye).
- D Approval of Minutes from March, 2006 Town Board Meeting** Piper
The Minutes from the March, 2006 Meeting of the Town Board were approved. Motion by Doran-Norton, second by Ebling; motion passed unanimously (Doran-Norton aye, Ebling aye, and Knecht aye).
- E Approval of Treasurer’s Report** Finger
The Treasurer’s Report was approved. Motion by Doran-Norton, second by Ebling; motion passed unanimously (Doran-Norton aye, Ebling aye, and Knecht aye).
- F Review of Claims/Deposits Received** Piper
The claims presented in Attachment A were reviewed, allowed, and paid. Attachment A is on file at the Town Hall. Motion by Doran-Norton, second by Ebling; motion passed unanimously (Doran-Norton aye, Ebling aye, and Knecht aye).
- G Review of Correspondence Received and Generated, notably:** Piper
- State of Minnesota, Office of Administrative Hearings, March 10, 2006 re OA-1086-7 (Dundas/Bridgewater Township Joint

- Resolution No. 2005-34; DeMann/Lee Property, 18.42 Acres)
- Memorandum from Mike Piper to the Supervisors re the MAT Spring Course.
- Letter from WSB, April 2, 2006 re Update on [the four 2005 road improvement] projects.
- Gravel/Rock estimates from Malecha Trucking, Inc. and Kielmeyer Construction, Inc.
- Agenda for 2006 Urban Town Short Course, April 13, 2006.
- Letter from Northfield, Community Development Department dated March 9, 2006 re the potential extension of water and sewer utilities west of the Northfield Hospital. Also, the hand-outs from Heidi Hamilton, presented at this meeting.
- Letter from MasTec re: utility permits for placing cable along our roads.
- Letter from Glenn Switzer, Mayor of Dundas, dated March 30, 2006 re the selection of Kathleen Doran-Norton for the Dundas Planning Commission. Also, letter from Bridgewater Township re two nominees, dated March 28, 2006.
- Spring 2006 CTAS “News & Notes.”
- Northfield Rural Fire Association, Contract for 2006
- Rice County, news release re local boards of appeal and equalization
- Rice County, news release re: receipt of federal funds for voting equipment
- Rice County, Board of Adjustment, re: hearing for request for variance by David Price
- Rice County, re hiring of Julie Runkel as Planning & Zoning Director.
- Rice County Report, March 2006
- Letter from David Salene re Northfield Annexation of Bridgewater Parcels

G.1 Public Comment

No Public Comment was made re items not on the Agenda.

H Old Business/Action Items

Supervisors
Ebling

H.1 Update: Road Policy

A Work Session of the Bridgewater Board of Supervisors will be held on April 19, 2006 to discuss items below marked H.1, H.3, H.4, H.5, H.7, and H.8. David Salene, Township Consultant, will attend the meeting.

H.2 Update: Subdivision Regulations

Ebling

History: the Board of Supervisors adopted the County Subdivision Regulations. Gary Weiers, acting Planning and Zoning Director has questioned the meaning of this action. Ebling said David Salene will contact Gary Weiers.

Link to the Rice County Planning and Zoning Ordinance:
<http://www.co.rice.mn.us/planning/ordinance.php>; Chapter 523,

Subdivision Regulations.

- H.3 Update: Standards for Construction of a New Road Ebling
Currently, information has been received from Dennis Luebbe, Rice County Engineer.
- H.4 Update: Tax Sharing with Northfield Ebling
- H.5 Update: Asphalt Road Construction Project Knecht
- During this meeting, the letter from WSB was referenced. See item G in these minutes, “Letter from WSB, April 2, 2006 re: Update on [the four 2005 road improvement] projects.”
 - The Clerk was asked to determine the current status of invoices from WSB.
 - Knecht said that WSB indicated to him that they anticipate completion of the four road improvement projects by the end of June; Knecht wants the work to be done by the end of May.
 - The Board agreed that when the four 2005 road improvement projects are complete, they will consider any road improvement work required for Eaton Avenue. It is likely, Knecht observed, that any work required on that road, will be a 2007 project.
- H.6 Review: Township Insurance with K. McCullough Knecht
Knecht said that he would invite Ms McCullough from MAT to assess the Township’s coverage and to address her findings at a meeting of the Town Board.
- H.7 Update: Road Corridor Study Knecht
It was observed at this meeting that the cost of such a study has been estimated to be \$400,000.00. Knecht said that he is seeking ways to limit the scope of the study so that it can be done at an affordable price. Ebling is the point person to pursue this possibility.
- H.8 Update: 115th Street (No access to 115th Street from Bridgewater Heights) Knecht
Knecht observed that more dirt was moved during last summer on this road than the Supervisors had anticipated. Knecht said that his position is that no traffic can either exit or enter Bridgewater Heights from 115th Street until the road is blacktopped. Resident Bruce Morlan suggested that fixing the hill should also be a necessary condition.
- H.9 Report: from Bridgewater Township Dundas Planning Commission Members Morlan
Bruce Morlan reviewed the Dundas Capital Improvements Plan, focusing on Bridgewater Heights, Stoneridge, and the new College City Beverage location.

Morlan briefly spoke about the controversy about maintaining both crop and wet land. Ebling observed Dakota County’s initiatives in this matter.

Morlan spoke about low density housing zones, compost sites in housing developments and the use of wind power.

H.10 Summary: Reorganizational Meeting Ebling
The Minutes from this meeting are on file.

H.11 Report: Rice County Association of Townships Doran-Norton
Doran-Norton discussed several highlights from this meeting including the following:

- A sample agreement with a developer is available
- Asphalt road ideas were discussed
- The meth situation was discussed.

I New Business Supervisors

I.1 Tree and Brush Trimming on Township Right-of-Way Knecht
Knecht said that the Supervisors will be addressing this subject. It will be an agenda item for the May meeting of the Board.

I.2 Report on Road Grading Knecht/Ebling
There was some discussion whether gravel or rock or a mix of the two is the best for the Township's roads. The matter will be further reviewed; Knecht indicated that he would speak with Blair Fowler about the matter. Two bids were received from gravel companies. The Township anticipates spending approximately \$80,000 on gravel and/or rock this year. Ebling raised the possibility of using "CBR Plus" on our gravel roads.

Motion re Purchase of Road Material

It was moved that the Town Board will make a decision about what kind of material to purchase and from whom after the Spring Road Tour, scheduled for April 21, 2006 and a visit to the two bidding vendors. Motion by Knecht, second by Ebling, motion passed unanimously (Doran-Norton aye, Ebling aye, and Knecht aye).

I.3 Road Survey: Date and Time Knecht
The Annual Road Survey has been set for **April 21, 2006** starting at 3 p.m.

I.4 Update: Minnesota Legislature Knecht/Ebling
Knecht and Ebling reported that there is some activity in the Legislature relative to annexation.

I.5 Potential Northfield Infrastructure Extensions by Heidi Hamilton, City of Northfield Engineer Hamillton
Heidi Hamilton, Northfield City Engineer, indicated that the search for an alternate site for College City Beverage lead the City of Northfield to investigate a site west of the Northfield Hospital. The site originally investigated is presently on hold due to the cost of installing water and sewer infrastructure. The present possibility being investigated is east of Decker, south of Minnesota 19, and north of 100th Street.

During discussions about the new possibility, it was noted that there are 2 creek basins in the area that will be an environmental concern. It was also noted by the Supervisors that a railroad spur in the area would be helpful.

I.6 Ms. Julie Runkel, new Rice County Planning and Zoning Director Knecht
Knecht announced Ms. Runkel's hiring.

J Future Meetings, notably: Piper

J.1 **Tuesday April 4, 2006** Local Board of Appeal and Equalization,
Northfield City Hall, 10:00 AM till 1:00 PM

J.2 Dundas Planning Commission Special Meeting, **Wednesday, April 5, 2005** at the Dundas City Hall at 7:00 PM

J.3 Minnesota Association of Townships, 2006 Urban Town Short Course,
April 13, 2006

J.4 **May 8, 2006** Meeting of the Township Board, Bridgewater Town Hall at
7:00 PM

K Motion to Adjourn Supervisors
The meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m. Motion by Ebling, second by Knecht; motion passed unanimously (Doran-Norton aye, Ebling aye, and Knecht aye).

Reference: Town Officers: Cheri Albers, Deputy Clerk and Treasurer; Kathleen Doran-Norton, Supervisor; Gary Ebling, Supervisor and Town Vice Chair; Le Ann Finger, Treasurer and Webmaster; Leif Knecht, Supervisor and Town Board Chair; and Mike Piper, Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Michael Piper
Town Clerk