

MINUTES

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

May 8, 2006 – 7 PM

Bridgewater Town Hall

500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019

MINUTES, May 8, 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 May 2006 Meeting of the Town Board to order at 7 PM. All Town Officers were present: 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
Knecht invited all present to rise for the pledge of allegiance.
- 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 April 2006 Town Board Meeting** Piper
The Minutes from the April 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 were reviewed and paid. 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:** Piper
- Rice County Planning Commission documents re: Public Hearings
 - Rice County Building Permit Applications
 - Public Notice from City of Dundas re: TIF (College City)

- Beverage)
- Request re: Principal Outstanding as of May 1, 2006 (re Independent School District No. 659)
- State of Minnesota, Office of Administrative Hearings re: OA-1086-7 Dundas, Joint Resolution No. 2005-35 [Filed: Annexation, Dundas, 2005]
- Receipt from Northfield Rural Fire Protection District for first ½ of 2006 fire protection dues
- Public Notices, Bridgewater Township, April 3, 2006 and April 19, 2006 (from *Northfield News*)
- Notice from Rice County: Property Tax Payments Due May 15, 2006

G.1 Public Comment

Gloria Kiester presented a petition from Township residents re: closing Cedar Avenue at the Retirement Center, joining Lashbrook Park to the St. Olaf Nature preserve, and the use of a ring-road for through traffic on Cedar-Foliage. Data re: this issue is on file.

H Old Business/Action Items

Supervisors
Doran-
Norton

H.1 Report on the Road Survey

Kathleen Doran-Norton reported that:

- Township roads are exceptionally mushy this year due to the thaw and frost in January.
- Eaton Avenue should be considered for an upgrade. The Supervisors observed that the upgrade would not happen in 2006.
- Some Township gravel roads need more gravel.
- To ensure that the Township is getting all the rock and gravel that it pays for, Ebling suggested that the Township should get scale tickets from the gravel site.
- A soy-based product is a possible dust control application. Doran-Norton will get more data re: the effectiveness and cost of this possibility.

H.2 Report on the April 19, 2006 Work Session

The following report has been assembled from comments at the April 19, 2006 Town Board Meeting and the notes from the Clerk:

- It was noted that Rice County Administrator, Gary Weiers, said Township interests need more representation at the County.
- The Annexation agreement with the city of Northfield was signed in 1999. Per the Agreement, when parcels are fully assessed, payments are made from Northfield to Bridgewater for 10 years. Presently, Bridgewater is in the process of tracking the payments. Notably: The Excel spreadsheet tracking Northfield annexations should be available at the July meeting. This spreadsheet will track physical addresses to parcel number. When completed, the spreadsheet will be checked against a physical inventory and a web-based assessor source and validated by Rice County.
- Traffic on Township roads will be counted before school is out.

The count will be done by Yaggy Colby Associates, an engineering firm in Rochester, Minnesota.

- Doran-Norton reported that \$10,000 in grant money might be available for the purchase of road equipment, for example, a shoulder disk or packer. Dennis Brown will look into the availability and cost of these items at Ziegler.
- As to the contents of a Bridgewater Township Road policy, it was noted that a map will be attached to the Policy and that existing road configurations will be grandfathered in. It was also noted that the Policy will contain guidance for roads in potential new cluster developments, and that such guidance will rely on the Rice County standards. Leif Knecht took the action item to obtain a spec sheet from Dennis Luebbe, Rice County Engineer.

The Supervisors noted some disappointment relative to how the situation developed last year on 115th Street, particularly disagreement with Dundas as to who owns the road. It was noted that “a road is a road not half a road.”

Salene delivered Initial Draft II of the Township Road Policy Statement. The document is on file.

- A report was given on pending House File 3925 which says, in part:

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** An advisory task force on municipal boundary

1.13 adjustments is established to study and make recommendations on what, if any, changes

1.14 should be made to the law governing municipal boundary adjustments. The task force

1.15 shall develop recommendations regarding best practices annexation training for city and

1.16 township officials to better communicate and jointly plan potential annexations. The task

1.17 force is comprised of the following members:

2.1 (4) three representatives of township interests, appointed by the Minnesota

2.2 Association of Townships;

Gary Ebling will visit the Association of Townships relative to Bridgewater representation on this task force.

H.3 Report on the Status of the Four Road Improvement Projects (2005)
Knecht reported that these projects will be completed this spring

H.4 Update: Road Corridor Study Knecht
The Clerk’s notes from this meeting are on file.

I New Business Supervisors
I.1 Wind Power Generation Doran-
Doran-Norton will examine the possibility of grant money for a wind- Norton

turbine that might be of interest to the Township.

J Future Meetings:

Piper

- J.1 **Wednesday, May 17, 2006 at 7 PM.** Continuation of the Work Session held on April 19, 2006 on a Township Road Policy, Legislative Update, and the Status of Annexation Payments. Meeting will be held at the Town Hall.
- J.2 **Thursday, May 18, 2006.** Dundas Comp Plan Meeting at the Dundas City Hall.
- J.3 **Monday, May 22, 2006.** Dundas Downtown Planning Meeting at Holy Cross Church.
- J. 4 **Monday, June 12, 2006 at 7:00 PM.** Monthly Meeting of the Town Board. Meeting will be held at the Town Hall.

K Motion to Adjourn

Supervisors

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM. Motion by Ebling, second by Doran-Norton. 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.