

MINUTES

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

September 11, 2006 – 7 PM

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 September, 2006 Meeting of the Town Board to order at 7:06 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
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 August 2006 Town Board Meeting** Piper
The Minutes of the August 15, 2006 Meeting of the Town Board were approved. Motion by Ebling; second by Doran-Norton; motion passed unanimously (Doran-Norton aye, Ebling aye, and Knecht aye).
- E Approval of Treasurer’s Report** Finger
The Treasurer’s Report was approved.
- The Treasurer presented a “Budget History for Bridgewater Township – 2006, for the eight months ended 8/31/2006.”
- The Treasurer reported that it may be necessary to transfer money from the Investments to the checking account. The Treasurer recommended that the smaller investment at Wells Fargo be used.
- By Motion, the report, the budget history, and the recommendation were accepted by the Board. 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
The Clerk reviewed the correspondence received since the August 2006 Meeting of the Town Board.

H **Public Comment.** No public comment was given on non-Agenda items.

I **Old Business/Action Items** Supervisors
I.1 Status of Northfield Annexation Tracking Doran-Norton

Doran-Norton and David Salene, Consultant, will meet with Rice County on this issue and report their findings to the Town Board.

I.2 Road Maintenance Status incl. road gravelling Brown
Dennis Brown reported that this activity is complete for 2006.

I.3 Northfield Economic Development September 20, 2006 Meeting Ebling
Knecht will attend this meeting and report to the Town Board.

I.4 Planning and Zoning Study incl Subcommittees Discussion, Sept 13,06 and Proposed Amendment to Ordinance No. 1-2006 Knecht

The Town Board passed an Amendment to Ordinance No. 1-2006 dated 11 September 2006. Motion by Ebling; second by Doran-Norton; motion passed unanimously (Doran-Norton aye, Ebling aye, and Knecht aye). The Amendment is included as a Reference to these Minutes.

The following discussion preceded the passing of the Interim Ordinance Amendment:

- Ebling distributed “Thoughts on the creation of an Ethanol Subcommittee.” This paper is on file. In response to this paper, the following discussion ensued:

Doran-Norton expressed concerns that expectations could be or are being set with Advanced BioEnergy that the Town Board is favorable to an ethanol site on Rice County 8.

Knecht stated that the Town Board needs to know more about the implications of the production of ethanol. Knecht said that encouraging Advanced BioEnergy at this time might be “putting the cart ahead of the horse.”

Ebling stated that ethanol is an opportunity that could be a benefit to the Township. Further, Ebling stated that Glen Switzer, Mayor of Dundas, and the Faribault City Manager have expressed interest in an ethanol plant if it is not accepted in Bridgewater Township.

Knecht said that he would write to Advanced BioEnergy saying that, although members of the Board can speak with them concerning their interests, no single member of the Board is authorized to negotiate on behalf of the Town Board. Knecht said that he would review the letter with Carolyn Braun, Consultant, and David Salene, Consultant, before he mails the letter.

- Knecht distributed “Questions that Need to be Answered for the Study Process on Possible Planning and Zoning by Bridgewater Township.” This paper is on file.

- 1.5 Status of 2005 Road Improvement Projects incl 124th Ct E, Detelemark, Bittersweet Knecht
 In response to John Heselton’s letter dated July 6, 2006 requesting a final payment of \$141,936.58. Since the project was not complete, the Board paid \$100,000 on September 2, 2006.

 Final payment will be made when the Town Board is satisfied all work is complete and the project engineer has completed the “Town Road Work Contract Completion Certificate” and filed it with the Clerk.
- 1.6 Bond Status for 2005 Road Improvement Projects Finger
 The Town Board Chair, the Clerk, and the Treasurer met with the Town Attorney at the First National Bank of Northfield to complete the Bond papers. The Clerk and the Treasurer will complete the “Certificate as to Organization and Condition of the Town of Bridgewater.” Those documents are on file.
- 1.7 Road Policy Status Ebling
 Ebling reported that the Town Board is working with David Salene, Consultant, on the development of a Bridgewater Township Road Policy. Current drafts are on file.
- J New Business**
- J.1 Advanced BioEnergy Status incl meetings and purpose, alternative energy industry information Ebling
 This matter was discussed under I.4.
- J.2 Financial Modeling for Road Projects Doran-Norton
 Doran-Norton reported that she met with Dennis Luebbe, Rice County Engineer concerning the transfer of some roads from the County to the Town and from the Town to the County. Doran-Norton suggested that, before any decisions are made by the Town Board, a financial analysis be performed to indicate the effect to Town finances. This suggestion was accepted and encouraged by the other members of the Board.
- K Future Meetings:** Piper
- K.1 Tuesday, September 12, 2006 - Primary Election at the Bridgewater Town Hall at 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- K.2 Wednesday, September 13, 2006 - Planning and Zoning Study Committee at the Bridgewater Town Hall at 7 p.m.
- K.3 Thursday, September 14, 2006 - CSAH 1 Corridor Work Session at the Bridgewater Town Hall at 5:30 p.m.
- K.4 Wednesday, September 20, 2006 - Planning and Zoning Study Committee at the Bridgewater Town Hall at 7 p.m.
- K.5 Wednesday, September 27, 2006 - Planning and Zoning Study Committee at the Bridgewater Town Hall at 7 p.m.
- K.6 Wednesday, September 20, 2006 - Northfield Economic Development Authority at the Northfield City Hall at 7 p.m.
- K.6 Wednesday, October 4, 2006 - Planning and Zoning Study Committee at the Bridgewater Town Hall at 7 p.m.
- K.7 Tuesday, October 10, 2006 - October Meeting of the Town Board at the Bridgewater Town Hall at 7 p.m.
- K.8 Tuesday, November 7, 2006 - General Election

L Motion to Adjourn

Supervisors

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 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.