

MINUTES

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

August 14, 2007 – 7 PM

Bridgewater Town Hall
500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019

1. Introductory Vice Chair Kathleen Doran-Norton called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Elected officials present were Kathleen Doran-Norton, Supervisor and Town Board Vice Chair; Leif Knecht, Supervisor; and Mike Piper, Clerk. State Representative David Bly, Carolyn Braun, planning and zoning consultant, and Jim Braun, zoning administrator, were also present. Gary Ebling, Supervisor and Town Board Chair and Le Ann Finger, Treasurer were not present. Doran-Norton invited all present to rise and pledge allegiance to the flag.
2. Approval of Agenda MOTION by Doran-Norton, second by Knecht, and passed by a vote of 2-0, to approve the agenda as presented in these Minutes. (Vote: Doran-Norton, aye; and Knecht, aye.)
3. Approval of Minutes from the July 3, 10, and 14 Town Board Meetings MOTION by Doran-Norton, second by Knecht, and passed by a vote of 2-0, to approve the Minutes for these three meetings of the town board. (Vote: Doran-Norton, aye; and Knecht, aye.)
4. Approval of Treasurer's Report for July 2007 The Treasurer's Report for July 2007 was delayed until the August 28, 2007 town board meeting.
5. Review of Claims Against the Township The clerk reviewed claims against the township that have been received since the last meeting of the town board. MOTION by Doran-Norton, second by Knecht, to allow those claims against the township to be paid. (Vote: Doran-Norton, aye; and Knecht, aye.)

Doran-Norton questioned whether the vendor for the 2007 Eaton Ave. et al. Road Improvement Project could be paid, at least partially, before the bond is signed and the money from the bond is placed in the town's checking account. It was decided that either the town attorney, John Ophaug, would be asked if the value of the prepaid assessments could be given to the vendor, or, assuming that the later would be the better option, that the town would wait until the closing of the bond at the First National Bank of Northfield on September 5, 2007.

6. Review of Correspondence Received The clerk reviewed the correspondence received and generated since the last meeting of the town board. Included on file:

- 6.1. Affidavit, *Northfield News*, 7-24-2007 meetings
- 6.2. Castle Rock Materials, quote for road materials
- 6.3. Hakanson Anderson Assoc., Inc., brochure re: Comp Plan capabilities
- 6.4. Insurance, Policy Package, 7-1-2007 to 7-1-2008
- 6.5. Ludewig, Sara, comments given to town board on 7-3-2007 re the importance for the planning and zoning function to respect the Little Prairie heritage
- 6.6. MAT District 4, notice of meeting and election, 8-23-2007
- 6.7. PERA, Newsletter, 2nd quarter, 2007
- 6.8. Reynolds Services, Inc., quote for asphalt work
- 6.9. Rice County, EMS, notice of meeting, 10-17-2007
- 6.10. Rice County, July 2007 Report

7. Public Comment (non-Agenda items) Ms. Deb Sullivan spoke about Rice County's schedule for the pending revision to the County's Feedlot Ordinance. The county's efforts here are to bring the county ordinance in line with the State standards. The following dates were presented (all 2007):

August 21	work group work session on draft ordinance
September 11	public info/input meeting – Govt Svcs Bldg, Faribault
September 12	public info/input meeting – Forest Town Hall
September 25	work group work session on public input
October 18	public hearing before Planning Commission
November 13	adoption by County Board

Sullivan also mentioned anticipated bridge work in the county, partially in response to the collapse of the I35W on August 1, 2007 in Minneapolis.

Ms. Cathy Larson delivered a written copy of the comments made by Sara Ludewig during a July meeting of the town board about the importance of respecting the heritage and history of the Little Prairie area. These comments are on file.

Mr. Bruce Morlan spoke about the necessity of the county to do regional planning; he also said that Dundas is considering the cost of city services.

Rep. David Bly said that a session of the state legislature is expected after Labor Day to deal with bridges, taxation, and traffic in the metro area.

- 8. Summary of Pending Legislation (old business) Doran-Norton read a letter from Paul Reuvers and Jeffrey Egge concerning the lawsuit by ABE. In brief, the letter said that the claims made by ABE have "absolutely no merit." Doran-Norton advised that the best policy for the township now is to continue focusing on planning and zoning issues.
- 9. Report on ABE EAW (old business): Doran-Norton reported that the report is available from the State of Minnesota (Mike Rafferty).

10. Report on Pandemic Flu table top exercise (old business): Doran-Norton reported on this meeting held on August 7, 2007 at St. Olaf College. The work book from this meeting is on file.
11. Update on the Eaton Ave. et al. 2007 Road Improvement Project (old business)
Knecht reported that the project was completed under budget and the town board will determine how the excess funds will be used. A report on this matter is expected at the September 11, 2007 meeting of the town board. Mr. Robert Tuma and Mrs. Canady, residents, repeated their view that the residents of the area were told during the first paving of their roads that the township would pay for all future surfacing. Knecht said that the township responsibilities are to crack fill, seal coat, snow plow, and fill pot holes. Knecht also reported that Bruce Albers told him that he (Albers) has no recollection of any such commitment by the town board at the time of the original surfacing of Eaton Ave. et al. referenced by Tuma and Canady.
12. Work Session scheduled for August 21, 2007 (new business) Doran-Norton said that this work session will be held at her home at 7 p.m. and will discuss walking/bike trails in the township and the Bittersweet/Timberland area specifically.
13. Planning Commission schedule Carolyn Braun said that she would e-mail the schedule to the Clerk.
14. Permit fees collected by Rice County Several building permit fees were collected by Rice County after the township officially began the permitting process. Jim Braun said that he would follow through on this issue. A report on the matter is expected at the September 11, 2007 town board meeting.
15. Land fill update Mr. Mike Cook of the County Landfill was not present at the meeting. The present issues seem to be the desire of the county to collect trees and brushes to cut down on the amount of burning, and the delay in the anticipated building construction.
16. Extended care facility in Dundas Doran-Norton reported that the Dundas Planning Commission has approved such a facility on Rice County 1. Sewer capacity in Dundas remains an issue. Knecht observed that large lot development without city sewer in Dundas in areas annexed from the township might not meet the requirements of the Bridgewater-Dundas Annexation Agreement. The current ordinance requires city sewer.
17. Bridgewater Heights Doran-Norton reported information that DR Horton has turned land back to Geiger. This matter will be explored, particularly its implication to 115th Street.
18. Bridgewater Road Policy and other road issues Doran-Norton reported that she would investigate the progress of the review of this document by Dundas.

Further, and of particular interest, as to township roads, are Decker Ave. and 115th Street.

The matters of the effectiveness of dust control (particularly after heavy rain) and roads serving urban expansion and cluster developments were also discussed.

19. Report on the July 11, 2007 joint government meeting Knecht reported that the city of Northfield wants other jurisdictions to support its view that upgrading Minnesota 19 is the top transportation priority in the area. Knecht observed that there would be some difficulty that a 4-lane MN 19 to interface (abruptly) with a traffic light with MN 3.
20. Adjournment MOTION by Doran-Norton, second by Knecht, and passed 2-0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 PM. (Vote: Doran-Norton, aye; and Knecht, aye.)

Submitted by

C. Michael Piper
Clerk, Bridgewater Township

Accepted by

Kathleen Doran-Norton
Supervisor and Vice Chair,
Bridgewater Township Board of
Supervisors

Financial component approved by

Le Ann Finger
Treasurer, Bridgewater Township

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