

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
June 8, 2016
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: John Holden, Kathleen Doran-Norton, Gary Ebling, Brad Pfahning, Jim Braun, Frances Boehning

Introduction of Guests: Dennis Brown

Approval of Agenda: Gary Ebling made a motion to approve, Kathleen Doran-Norton seconded, all approved with the change to add a request for a letter of thanks to Jeff Stremcha

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: none

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- June Claims – Gary Ebling made a motion approved, Kathleen Doran-Norton seconded, all approved.
- May 11, May 16, June 6, 2016 Meeting Minutes – Kathleen Doran-Norton made a motion to approve, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved
 - Chair and clerk signed minutes.

Treasurer's Report

1. Treasurer's Report – The tax repayment should arrive in July which will cover the gravel expenses.
2. Discussion about 2015 Dundas Annexation area road work to be charged to that account. It needs to be sent to Dundas along with Annexation Invoice that Brad & Kathleen have worked on.
 - Prior to sending in the annexation account to Dundas, we will need to determine the expense involved with maintaining 115th street. The 115th Street gravel invoice will be sent separately from the annexation accounting invoice.
 - Kathleen Doran-Norton made a motion to move funds from the Annexation Account to cover a portion of the gravel expenses for Decker Avenue, as was identified in the 2015 road plan. The accounting for the transfer of funds will be included with the Annexation invoice to Dundas. Gary Ebling seconded this motion, all approved.

Clerk's Report-

1. Election judges – Kathleen Doran-Norton made a motion to approve the current list of potential Election Judges, Gary Ebling seconded all approved.
2. Membership cards – government membership cards from M.A.T. were handed out.
3. Census numbers – Per the Minnesota State Demographer – The population of Bridgewater Township is 1,813 people and 684 households.

Planning & Zoning

1. Staff Report
 - Jim Braun reviewed current activity on permits, C.U.Ps, and T.E.P.Ps
 - DeGroot – Jim Braun spoke with DeGroot, who has agreed to remove 50 vehicles per year until they are gone.
 - Jim Braun visited a small towing company near DeGroots. They were informed that they would need an Interim Use Permit and to comply with conditions. They will get back to Jim Braun regarding this.
 - Jim Braun reviewed the parking at the ATV Park. It was determined that they are within compliance as cars are not on the road but rather parked near the house.
 - SMC Dundas Wash Plant –
 - Restoration is currently taking place on the old Johnson Pit
 - Most of the Johnson Pit will be filled and a platform will be created for placement of a plant.
 - Grading will allow water to run down to the new pond.
 - The north road will be sloped, trees will be removed, and Keith Johnson will replace a road fence.
 - Excessive dust is being created by trucks entering Hwy 3 – Jim Braun informed Don Redmond that steps will need to be taken to mitigate this.

2. Priority List for Carolyn Braun and Planning and Zoning – Kathleen Doran-Norton made a motion to agree to the following priority list, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.
 - Converting the township zoning ordinance to a town code format
 - Creation of an ordinance not allowing temporary health care dwelling or an alternative ordinance to meet our residents needs.
 - Resolve the legal challenge to 250ft lot width standards – include discussion of clusters
 - Standards for highly sensitive groundwater areas
 - Creation of a Rice Creek zoning map overlay which includes DNR standards
 - Hold comp plan discussions
 - Hold a joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors and Planning and Zoning
 - Exploration of uses for un-reclaimed gravel pits (zoning overlay that allows some commercial/industrial/recreational use) – a list of owners and sites would need to be created.
 - Exploration of residential clusters consistent with current township neighborhood clusters, possible for seniors.
3. Solar Array – statement of direction from the Board – Kathleen Doran-Norton will work with EOR to compile a list of standards that the township would like to see.
4. Ag Building Standards – Darrel Gilmer and Jim Braun will work on this and bring it for review during the next meeting.
5. Ordinance to opt out of Temporary Health Care Dwelling Legislation – Carolyn Braun will work on this.

New Business

1. Roadside Vegetative Management - tabled until a future meeting
2. Pollinator Habitat – tabled until a future meeting
3. Request from Paul Jackson at St.Olaf – Kathleen Doran-Norton reviewed the letter from Paul Jackson regarding a request for research funding for research on Rice Creek. John Holden requested that St.Olaf also request funds from CRWP. Kathleen Doran-Norton will talk to Paul Jackson and request that they obtain funds from CRWP also. This will be discussed during the next Flood Mitigation meeting on June 20, 2016.

Old Business

1. Edgebrook update - Certification of the stabilizer has been requested from the federal offices as the Minnesota state offices would not sign off. We are waiting to hear if the federal office will certify or request that it be removed and replaced with something else. Bridgewater Township has made the offer to certify it at certain intervals as determined by the state office. John Holden agreed with speaking with John Kline may be helpful to ensure that this moves quickly through the federal office. Gary Ebling will try to work with Mary Peterson prior to contacting John Kline.
2. Central Pond phase one excavation – removed from agenda
3. Gary Rock farm grading – removed from agenda
4. Roads – Gravel status – some of the gravel has been laid. We are waiting on Anderson to complete laying the remaining gravel. Following the next rain, the gravel will be bladed and then dust control will be applied.

Upcoming Meetings

- Board of Supervisors meeting, July 13 , 2016, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall
- Flood Mitigation Meetings, Mondays at 1:00pm, Bridgewater Town Hall
- Planning and Zoning meeting, June 29, 2016, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall

Adjourn – 9:30pm