

State of Minnesota

County of Rice, Town of Bridgewater

MINUTES

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

**January 5, 2004 – 7:00 PM
Bridgewater Town Hall
500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019**

Purpose of Meeting: Review issue, project, task, and financial status of Bridgewater Township for the month of December, 2003; and plan for the month of January, 2004. In addition, correspondence and claims received since the last Board Meeting were reviewed, and, those claims that were allowed were paid.

A Call to Order and Roll-call of Town Officers

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Knecht. All Town Officers were present, namely: Supervisor Gary Ebling, Treasure Le Ann Finger, Supervisor-Chair Leif Knecht, Supervisor Paul Liebenstein, and Clerk Mike Piper.

B Flag Pledge

All present were invited by Knecht to pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

C Approval of Agenda

The Agenda for this Meeting was approved. Motion: Ebling, Second: Liebenstein, Action: Passed Unanimously.

D Approval of Minutes from December Meetings and Work Sessions

The Minutes from the following Meetings and Works Sessions were considered by the Board:

December 1, 2003 Town Board Meeting.

Minutes were approved as presented. Motion: Ebling, Second: Liebenstein, Action: Passed Unanimously.

December 9, 2003 Work Session with Dundas.

Minutes were approved as presented. Motion: Ebling, Second: Liebenstein, Action: Passed Unanimously.

December 18, 2003 Work Session.

Minutes were approved pending adjustments. Motion: Ebling, Second:

Liebenstein, Action: Passed Unanimously.

December 23, 2003 Work Session with Dundas.

Minutes were approved pending adjustments. Motion: Ebling, Second: Liebenstein, Action: Passed Unanimously.

E Approval of the December, 2003 Treasurer's Report

The December, 2003 Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

It was suggested that the investment funds (\$194,482.88 as of 12/31/2003) be allocated to specific funds. When the funds were at \$150,000.00 the allocation was \$110,000.00 for New Equipment and \$40,000.00 for Road Improvements. Proportionately, the present values would be \$142,528.88 for New Equipment and \$51,900.00 for Road Improvements. The exact allocation will be made by the Supervisors when the 2004 Budget is developed.

The Treasurer reported that Bridgewater Township has not received all payments from Northfield during 2003 per Annexation Agreements.

The Treasurer and the Clerk will meet prior to the Board of Audit, scheduled for January 20, 2004.

F Review of Claims Received

The list of claims received since the last Board Meeting that were allowed and paid is attached to these Minutes.

G Review of Correspondence Received

Correspondence received since the last Board Meeting was reviewed. The correspondence is on file in the Town File for 2004.

H Old Business

The following items of old business were reviewed by the Board:

Bond documents for the Timberlane-Ebel Way Road Improvement Project.

Piper reported that the Township has not received the bond documents from the Town Attorney. The item will remain on the Agenda as Old Business until the documentation is received.

Brush Hog Task and Owners's Request for Brush Control Work.

Knecht reported that although there were some complaints, the task is legal and mandated by State Statutes.

The Land Use Issue – Cluster Development and Transfer of Development Rights.

It was observed that it must be a priority for the Township to preserve agriculture land. Where cluster development is allowed, the following observations were made:

- 1 As to roads and infrastructure in cluster developments, the Township will review road design and the developer will pay the costs.
- 2 The need for pre-development engineering was also discussed, specifically, the siting of buildings.
- 3 It was also noted that developers need incentives.

Traffic Light in Dundas.

The matter of a potential traffic light at the intersection of Hester and Highway 3 was briefly discussed. The Dundas-MN DOT interface was also reviewed. Bridgewater Township supports changes to improve safety.

Update on a Potential Dundas Annexation and a Formula for Industrial Areas.

Knecht discussed his proposal to Dundas that Annexation is limited to 500 acres over 16 years and that, in the Annexation calculation, to encourage the provision for good jobs, an industrial acre would count as ½ acre.

The Supervisors listed Imperatives for the Dundas Annexation discussions. Namely:

- 1 16-year term; i.e., to 2020
- 2 500 acres
- 3 Industrial formula; i.e., 1 acre for industrial use counts as ½ acre
- 4 Phased Annexation over the life of the Agreement
- 5 After Annexation, taxes paid to Bridgewater at the mil rate for occupied buildings
- 6 Developer and/or city of Dundas to build and rebuild roads highly impacted by development and other public infrastructure.
- 7 The matters of joint planning and equal powers will be further examined.
- 8 No leap-frogging.
- 9 The concerns of Wendwood residents will be respected.
- 10 The transportation plan will be followed for major roads.
- 11 Land which could be annexed should be identified.
- 12 The right to farm adjacent ag land will be respected.
- 13 The documented financial soundness of potential developers will be required.
- 14 Tax impacts to Township and Dundas residents should be defined.
- 15 Pre-development engineering design is required.

I New Business

The following items of new business were reviewed by the Board:

Update from Commissioner Brown re Development on the I-35, County 1, and County 46 Intersections.

Commissioner Brown referred to the new proposed Rice County Zoning Ordinance. Bridgewater Township is invited to a meeting at the Rice County Government Center on January 14, 2004 at 7:00 PM.

Preparations for Township Elections on Tuesday, March 9, 2004.

Piper reported on preparations to date for the election. As of the date of this meeting, only Knecht had filed for election as Supervisor.

Additional items.

The Clerk was instructed to find out the price of renting a box at the Dundas Post Office and either leasing or purchasing a copy machine for the Township.

J Future Meetings

The following Meetings are anticipated:

January 6, 2004 – Town Supervisors meet with Dundas Mayor, City Administrator, and member/s of the City Council to discuss future planning and development issues. The meeting will be held at the Dundas City Hall at 5:30 PM.

January 8, 2004 – Town Supervisor Work Session (with consultants) to discuss future planning and development issues. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

January 14, 2004 – Rice County Planning and Zoning Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Rice County Government building at 7:00 PM.

January 22, 2004 – Town Supervisor Work Session (with consultants) to discuss future planning and development issues. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

January 29, 2004 – Millstone Home Owners Association. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

February 5, 2004 – The February, 2004 Town Board Meeting will be held at the Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

K Motion to Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leif Knecht
Chair, Bridgewater Township Board of
Supervisors

Mike Piper
Mike Piper
Clerk of Bridgewater Township