

*Town of Bridgewater, County of Rice, State of Minnesota*

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**MINUTES**

**BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**

August 12, 2004 – 7:00 PM  
 Bridgewater Town Hall  
 500 Railway Street South, Dundas, MN 55019

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Purpose of Meeting:

- Review issue, project, task, action item, and financial status of Bridgewater Township for the month of July, 2004; and plan for the month of August, 2004.
- Review correspondence and claims received since the last Board Meeting; those claims that are allowed will be paid.
- During the meeting, the Board of Supervisors welcomes comments by residents at appropriate times.

**A Call to Order and Roll-call of Town Officers** Chair

The August, 2004 meeting of the Bridgewater Town Board was called to order by Town Chair, Gary Ebling. Along with Mr. Ebling, the other Town Officers present were Supervisor Leif Knecht, Supervisor Paul Liebenstein, and Clerk Mike Piper. Treasure Le Ann Finger was not present.

**In Memory, John Dooley**

Chair Ebling recognized the passing of Minnesota Association of Townships attorney, John Dooley. His contributions to Minnesota Townships and Bridgewater Township in particular was recognized and appreciated.

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**B Flag Pledge** Chair

Chair Ebling invited all present to rise and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

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**C Approval of Agenda** Supervisors

With the reorganization that Rice County Commissioner Jim Brown and Rice County Commissioner candidate Kathleen Norton were present and would be addressing the Meeting, the Agenda was approved as presented. Motion by Liebenstein, Second by Knecht, Motion passed unanimously.

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**D Approval of Minutes from June, 2004 Town Board Meetings** Clerk

With a noted change, the Minutes were approved as presented. Motion by Liebenstein, Second by Knecht, Motion passed unanimously.

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**E Treasurer's Report** Treasurer

- E.1 Approval of the July, 2004 Treasurer's Report  
No Treasurer's report was presented.
  - E.2 Second quarter (2004) Financial Review  
The Financial Review was deferred to a later date
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**F Review of Claims/Deposits Received**

Supervisors

The Supervisors reviewed the Claims received by the Clerk since the last monthly meeting. All Claims received were approved. Motion by Liebenstein, Second by Knecht, Motion passed unanimously. Action Item: The Clerk will make arrangements to meet with the Treasurer to have checks written and distributed.

**G Review of Correspondence Received and Generated**

Clerk

As applicable, implications of the following correspondence were reviewed.

DATE	SOURCE
7.2.2004	From Bridgewater Board of Supervisors: re Issuance of Mining Permits
7.5.2004	From Rice County: re June/July 2004 tax settlement
7.15.2004	From City of Dundas: re Public Hearing on 7.15.2004 on Zoning Ordinance Chap. 1500.
7.15.2004	From Rice County: re Building Permit Applications
7.15.2004	From Country Insurance and Financial Services: re E&O coverage
7.22.2004	From Northfield Area Ambulance Association: re meeting on 7.22.2004
7.27.2004	From Northfield Community Development: re Property Tax Payments per Annexation Agreement
7.30.2004	From Peter Tiede: re changes to Chapter 462.357
8.1.2004	From Rice County Planning Commission: re CUP for gravel mining operation in section 32 of Bridgewater Township
8.3.2004	From ProMap and Rice County: re GIS demonstration on 8.3.2004
8.7.2004	From Cannon River Watershed Partnership: re festival on 8.7.2004 at Bridge Square, Northfield
8.7.2004	From Bruce Morlan: appointment of Dundas Planning Commission
8.19.2004	From Dundas Planning Commission: re meeting on 8.19.2004 to consider CUP for outdoor storage
8.25.2004	From Rice County: re Economic Development Summit on 8.25.2004 at 6:30 PM in the Board Room of the Rice County Government Services Building
8.26.2004	From MAT: re District 4 Meeting and Election at the Arlington Community Center on 8.26.2004 at 7:00 PM. <u>Action Item:</u> Supervisor Leif Knecht will attend this meeting.
9.15.2004	From Rice County: request for Town Taxes voted. Response due 9.15.2004 <u>Action Item:</u> Clerk deliver Form to County Auditor before September 15, 2004

**H Old Business/Action Items**

Supervisors

- H.a Kathleen Doran-Norton, a candidate for District 5 Rice County Chair addressed the Meeting. Ms Norton said that her primary interest is in transportation. Ms Doran-Norton also noted that she is doing research on the present taxation situation and potential modifications with the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota. While she recognized that growth is a good thing, she observed that Rice County, and this district in particular, has much to preserve. Ms Doran-Norton noted that some waterways in Rice County are polluted, and that good rivers and lakes are good for the economy and for recreation.
- H. b Jim Brown, Rice County District 5 Commissioner addressed the Meeting. Mr Brown reported that the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance had been approved by the County Board of Commissioners and was effective on July 15, 2004. He reported that he had voted for it. Mr Brown reported that the Rice County Board of Commissioners will be discussing transportation issues in the County on August 17, 2004; he indicated that funding is an issue. Mr Brown reported that a Rice County Economic Summit will be

held on August 25, 2004. Mr Brown noted that the state of Minnesota is forecasting a budget shortfall, although Rice County has managed its funds well. Mr Brown reported that there is some commercial interest in the I35/Rice County 1 intersection. He reported that he will have an exploratory meeting with the interested company. Mr Brown indicated that he is interested in a planned approach to commercial development. Supervisor Knecht noted his preference for a planned, phased approach to commercial development. Chair Ebling noted his preference for development that brings good paying jobs to the area.

H.c Registered Land Survey No. 7

Chair Ebling and Clerk Piper agreed to sign this survey when it becomes available. The parcel of land is located on Rice County 20, across from the upper part of Oak Hill South. Action item: Chair Ebling and Clerk Piper will sign the land survey when it is available and arrange for its delivery to Rice County.

H.1 Update on the Annexation Agreement with Dundas, including the letter to the residents of the Oak Hill South rural residential subdivision

Ebling

Copies of the signed Annexation Agreement between Bridgewater Township and the City of Dundas were received by the Clerk since the last meeting of the Town Board. Copies were made available for residents attending the meeting. David Salene, Annexation consultant, presented a letter that he drafted for distribution to the residents of the Oak Hill South rural residential subdivision. Several comments were made; Mr Salene will revise the letter and have it available for the September meeting of the Town Board.

Chair Ebling observed that the due dates for the Bridgewater response for the two proposed Annexations by Dundas will be postponed. Action item: Chair Ebling will request a letter from the City of Dundas saying that the two original start dates (August 10, 2004 for the Paulson request and August 27, 2004 for the College City request) will be revised and announced in subsequent letters from the City of Dundas.

The Supervisors expressed concern that, as conditions exist, Annexation of the Paulson property would not pass the contiguous test of the Annexation Agreement. Of note, Mr. Gary Rock who owns the property between the City of Dundas and the Paulson property attended the meeting. Mr Rock expressed some concern re the effect of the potential annexation of the Paulson property and the interests of his son-in-law who is a builder with interests in the Northfield-Dundas-Bridgewater area.

Dan O'Neill from Geiger spoke about the plans for the Initial Annexation for Paulson Property. He presented an analysis of site for Phase I (approximately 65 acres. That analysis is attached to these Minutes.

H.2 Update on the Dundas Planning Commission and Zoning issues  
Reference: Public Hearing on July 15, 2004

Ebling

Reference: the Rice County Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance that has been placed in the Town File.

H.3 Update on gravel mining issues in Bridgewater Township  
Reference: Report on the meeting held on 8.12.2004 at 5:30 PM

Ebling

Chair Ebling observed that the new Rice County Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance covers concerns of Bridgewater residents who live near the potential mining area.

H.4 Update on the Northfield Planning Commission Ebling

Chair Ebling reported that Northfield Mayor Keith Covey wants development in the urban areas and that the City of Northfield must review present Annexation Agreements to determine how to expand.

As a related item, Chair Ebling and Clerk Piper will be attending a meeting to discuss the amounts and schedule for Northfield Annexation payments to Bridgewater Township.

H.5 Road report Ebling

Chair Ebling noted that <sup>County</sup> Dennis Brown has done a good job on seal coating of ~~Town~~ roads. Mr Brown reported that the Township will be spraying road ditches during August. Action item: Clerk Piper was asked to post and publish a notice re spraying.

H.6 Update on the Northfield Area Ambulance Association Ebling

Chair Ebling attended the meeting; there was nothing significant to report.

H.7 Update on the Township's Insurance status Knecht

Supervisor Knecht reported on the Township's Insurance status. All components are active and current.

H.8 Update on the EMS Provider Council. Reference: Meeting on July 14, 2004 Piper

This report was deferred to a later date.

H.9 Update on Septic Systems Owner's Guide. Reference: July Meeting in Dennison Piper

This report was deferred to a later date.

**I New Business** Supervisors

I.1 Visit by Kathleen Doran-Norton, candidate for Rice County Commission, District 5 Doran-Norton

I.2 Report on Rice County Planning and Zoning Ordinance and Rice County Industrial Policy Brown

I.3 Elections – September 14, 2004 and November 2, 2004 Piper

**K Future Meetings** Clerk

8/17/2004 Kent Sulem of MAT speaks on annexation and consolidation of city

and township governments on 8.17.2004 at 7:00 PM at the Walker American Legion. The meeting is hosted by the Shingobee Township Board of Supervisors.

9/13/2004 September Town Board Meeting

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<b>L</b>	<b>Motion to Adjourn</b>	Supervisors
	The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM. Motion by Liebenstein, Second by Knecht, Motion passed unanimously.	

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Respectfully submitted

Approved

Mike Piper, Town Clerk

Gary Ebling, Chair, Town Board