

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

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**MINUTES**

**BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**

**October 4, 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 September, 2004; and plan for the month of October, 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.

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| <b>A</b> | <b>Call to Order, Roll-call of Town Officers, and Introduction of Guests</b><br>Town Board Chair Gary Ebling called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. The following Town Officers were present: Supervisor and Town Board Chair Gary Ebling, Treasurer Le Ann Finger, Supervisor Leif Knecht, and Clerk Mike Piper. Supervisor Paul Liebenstein arrived at 8:00 PM.   | Chair       |
| <b>B</b> | <b>Flag Pledge</b><br>Chair Ebling invited all present to rise and pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.  | Chair       |
| <b>C</b> | <b>Approval of Agenda</b><br>The Agenda was approved as presented. Motion by Knecht, second by Ebling, motion passed unanimously.  | Supervisors |
| <b>D</b> | <b>5<sup>th</sup> District Rice County Commissioner Candidate Forum</b><br>The two candidates for 5 <sup>th</sup> District Rice County Commissioner, Commissioner Jim Brown and challenger Kathleen Doran-Norton, answered a series of questions prepared by Ebling. Ebling moderated the forum. The Board thanked both candidates and congratulated them on a civil and cogent presentation of their views. | Ebling      |
| <b>E</b> | <b>Approval of Minutes from September, 2004 Town Board Meetings</b><br>The Minutes for the September 13, 2004 were reviewed and accepted, pending noted changes. Motion by Knecht, second by Liebenstein, motion passed unanimously.   | Piper       |
| <b>F</b> | <b>Approval of Treasurer's Report</b>  | Finger      |
| F.1      | Approval of the July, August, and September, 2004 Treasurer's Reports<br>The Treasurer's Reports were accepted as presented. <u>Action Item</u> : The Treasurer and the Clerk will meet separately to prepare Reconciled Statements for July through September, 2004.  |             |
| F.2      | 2003 Financial Report to the State of Minnesota<br>The Report was sent by the Treasurer to the State of Minnesota.   |             |
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Action Item: Treasurer to supply a copy of the Report to the Clerk for the Town File. Assigned to Treasurer.

- F.3 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financial Review: January through September, 2004  
This Review was postponed to a later Meeting. Action Item: Ebling will schedule the Review.

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**G Review of Claims/Deposits Received** Supervisors  
Claims received since the last Meeting of the Town Board were reviewed. Those approved were paid. Motion by Knecht, second by Liebenstein, motion passed unanimously.

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**H Review of Correspondence Received and Generated** Piper  
Correspondence received since the last meeting of the Town Board was reviewed by the Clerk.

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**I Old Business/Action Items** Supervisors

- I.1 Review of 2 Annexation Requests by the City of Dundas and the Preparation of Response/Resolutions due to the City of Dundas on October 10, 2004 ("Paulson Request") and October 26, 2004 ("College City Request"). Ebling

- 1.1.1 The Paulson Request

The Request was not approved by the Board. Knecht presented a paper citing some presently unresolved annexation criteria. That paper is attached to these Minutes. Several residents supported the Supervisors' observations that the Request doesn't explain how the contiguous requirement will be met. There was also agreement that the concept of "ribbon" or "thread" annexation where the City of Dundas would be connected to the Paulson property solely by water and sewer pipes does not agree with the spirit of the agreement and the commonly understood meaning of the word "contiguous." It was further questioned whether ribbon annexation is defined in either/or statute or case law. Action Item: Salene offered to provide the answer to this question.

Gary Rock expressed reluctance to have his 20 acres annexed which is located between the City of Dundas and the Paulson property.

Several citizens expressed a safety concern about the present and anticipated use of 115<sup>th</sup> Street by construction vehicles.

Several citizens recommended that the Township retain the services of an annexation attorney in addition to the Consultant. The Supervisors felt that the services of the Consultant are sufficient, and that, when required, the Consultant does consult legal opinion.

Action Item: Salene volunteered to write a letter to the City of Dundas expressing these concerns.

- 1.1.2 The College City Request

The Board reviewed the College City Request. By resolution, attached to these Minutes, the Board approved the request.

**Agenda for Bridgewater Town Board Meeting, October 4, 2004**

The discussion concerning this request included the possible relocation of County Road 1 to the North, which adapted would cause Dundas to dedicate the right of way for this road for future construction.

The need for a joint Bridgewater Township-City of Dundas work session was cited to address questions and details that will surround the College City Annexation development as it unfolds.

A further item of interest was how and when 100<sup>th</sup> Street East and Decker Avenue will be improved.

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| 1.2 | Report: Dundas Planning Commission<br>Liebenstein reported that the Dundas Planning Commission is continuing to review the Dundas Comprehensive Plan and the Dundas Planning and Zoning Ordinance.  | Liebenstein |
| 1.3 | Report: Coalition of Governments Meeting<br>Knecht reported that the local governments see the need for adopting positions and communicating them to the state Legislators. Local governments are finding that the state is pushing fiscal responsibility down to lower levels of government.   | Knecht      |
| 1.4 | Report: Awards Ceremony re Annexation Agreement with the City of Dundas<br>Ebling reported on the award that Bridgewater Township and the City of Northfield received for the Annexation Agreement signed between the two governments during July, 2004.  | Ebling      |
| 1.5 | Letters (Salene and Supervisors) to be sent to the residents of the rural residential subdivisions in Bridgewater Township<br>These letters were received for distribution by the Clerk. <u>Action Item</u> : Piper was tasked to copy the letters and distribute them to the residents of rural residential subdivisions in Bridgewater Township.  | Ebling      |
| 1.6 | Update on the Road Grader Sale<br>Ebling announced that a Sales Agreement has been signed for the Town's Motor Grader. The Agreement, <u>attached</u> these Minutes, states "This document serves as a binding agreement to transfer the ownership of Bridgewater Township's existing motor grader as described above to Iosco Township via private treaty sale." A new grader will be purchased. | Ebling      |
| 1.7 | Patching on 124 <sup>th</sup> Court.<br>The Road Supervisor was authorized to patch holes in 124 <sup>th</sup> Court East and Edwards Way. Both roads are in upper Oak Hill South.  |             |

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| <b>J</b> | <b>New Business</b>  | Supervisors |
| J.1      | A Bridgewater Township Newsletter<br>The Board decided that a Township Newsletter, outlining the major Township tasks throughout the typical year and made available to residents at the Town Hall on election days, would be a good idea. <u>Action Item</u> : Write a Township Newsletter for distribution, if possible, at the November 2, 2004 General Election. Writing assigned to Knecht, review assigned to Ebling and Liebenstein, printing responsibilities assigned to Piper. | Ebling      |

J.2	General Election – November 2, 2004 Piper reported that Election Judges for the General Election have been assigned and that Cheri Aibers will serve as the Head Election Judge. The list of Election Judges is <u>attached</u> .	Piper
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<b>K</b>	<b>Future Meetings (all dates are in 2004)</b>	Clerk
K.1	November Meeting of Town Board – Monday, November 1, 2004	Piper
K.2	General Election – Tuesday, November 2, 2004	Piper
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<b>L</b>	<b>Motion to Adjourn</b> The Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.	Supervisors
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**Reference:**

Town Officers: Supervisor and Town Board Chair Gary Ebling, Treasurer Le Ann Finger, Supervisor Leif Knecht, Supervisor Paul Liebenstein, and Clerk Mike Piper.

**Attachments to the Minutes for October 4, 2004:**

1. Bridgewater Township Response to Request for Annexation of 30 Acres into Dundas from the Harold and Norma Paulson Property (Phase 1B).
2. Resolution re College City Petition dated 10/4/2004, and a letter regarding the Resolution addressed to Myron Malecha, Mayor of Dundas.
3. Letters sent to the residents of rural residential subdivisions in Bridgewater concerning the inability of the City of Dundas to annex the subdivisions during the next 30 years without 2/3 agreement of the residents
4. Motor Grader Sales Agreement with Iosco Township, dated September 25, 2004.
5. List of Election Judges for the General Election to be held on November 2, 2004.

**Action Items generated during the October 4, 2004 Meeting:**

1. Treasurer and Clerk to schedule a meeting and prepare Reconciled Statements for July through September, 2004. Reference: paragraph F.1.
2. Treasurer to supply a copy of the 2003 Financial Report to the Clerk for the Town File. Reference: paragraph F.2.
3. Chair Ebling to schedule 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financial Review. Reference: paragraph F.3.
4. Consultant Salene to write a letter to the City of Dundas expressing concerns re the present state of the Paulson Annexation Request. Reference: paragraph I.1.
5. Salene to determine the justification in either statute and/or case law for ribbon annexation. Reference: paragraph I.1
6. Write a Township Newsletter for distribution, if possible, at the November 2, 2004 General Election Writing assigned to Knecht, review assigned to Ebling and Liebenstein, printing assigned to Piper.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

Mike Piper  
Town Clerk

Gary Ebling  
Chair, Town Board of Supervisors