

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
September 19, 2018
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: John Holden, Glen Castore, Gary Ebling, Brad Pfahning, Jim Braun, Frances Boehning

Introduction of Guests: Kai Thorson, Patrick Douglas, Jim Olds, Ed Koktavy, Mr & Mrs. Boltman, Erik Hong, Robert Tuma

Approval of Agenda: John Holden made a motion to approve the agenda with the modification of moving some of the old business to Monday's project meeting to better accommodate the public comments, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

- Robert Tuma final determination of rock issue
 - Gary Ebling reviewed the rock panels that were placed over the culverts on Tuma's side of the ditch to limit rock from migrating. Robert Tuma does not want these panels put in. Mr Tuma is willing to accept responsibility of any rock that comes through the culvert into his ditch if the Township will remove the rock panels. A form will be created regarding this agreement and Mr. Tuma has agreed to sign it. Robert Tuma questioned who was responsible for placement of hay bales along Eaton Ave last year as they apparently caused water and silt to overrun Eaton Avenue. The Supervisors and Road Superintendent were not aware of any hay bales only Eaton Avenue last year. Mr Tuma will flag the area that had hay bales last year.
- Jim Olds – Wendwood
 - Mr. Olds noted that BMI had driven through the park area of Wendwood and left large ruts. A request was made to BMI to fix this issue. Also, damage to Endwood Trail was caused by heavy machinery connected to the Cty Rd 1 project going through the development. The road was cracked along the edges. Gary Ebling will talk to Jim Koehler to see if Rice County will fix this yet this fall or in early spring.
- Erik Hong – Concern regarding easement on Kai Thorson property and building violations
 - Erik Hong stated that because of building violations on Kai Thorson's property, his bank will not provide him with financing. Erik Hong provided copies of the letters sent from his lawyer to Jim Braun regarding the building violations. Glen Castore suggested that Jim Braun approach Peter Tiede to obtain a legal opinion regarding Erik Hong's letters.
 - Kai Thorson noted that his shed is movable and it does not have electricity. He requested that a review be done of the Brookside Bylaws and easements.
 - Patrick Douglas would like to continue to use the easement through the Thorson property to get to his property.
 - Copies of the easement and Brookside bylaws should be sent to Peter Tiede. It was suggested that Peter Tiede contact Erik Hong's attorney.
- Ed Koktavy – Industrial/Commercial area
 - Ed Koktavy would like the Board to look into an industrial/commercial area around Comus Junction. Jim Braun advised Ed Koktavy to come to the next Planning Commission meeting.
 - Mr. Koktavy is currently communicating with his neighbors; Hoover, Barsness, and Thomas regarding this.
 - The idea he is currently looking at is a convention site or railway unloading site.
 - Jim Braun noted that Mining is not allowed in an industrial area.

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- August Claims – John Holden made a motion to approve the September claims, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.
- August 8, 25, 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Glen Castore made a motion to approve the August minutes, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

1. Treasurer's Report – Brad Pfahning will provide for the Monday, September 24th meeting.

2. Bank reconciliation – Brad Pfahning will provide for the Monday, September 24th meeting.-
3. Revenue Report - The clerk reviewed the revenue report.
4. PERA forms– Brad Pfahning will provide for the Monday, September 24th meeting.
5. IRS Update/EFT form– Brad Pfahning will provide for the Monday, September 24th meeting.
6. Quarterly reports for solar project- none due at this time.
7. Budget update– Brad Pfahning will provide for the Monday, September 24th meeting.

Clerk's Report-

1. Upcoming Meetings: Set meeting with Northland – Glen Castore spoke with Northland and noted that the draft is due on September 24th and a meeting will be set up after a review of the draft.
2. Mail - The clerk did not have any important mail to mention.

Planning & Zoning

1. Staff Report
 - Jim Braun reviewed the permit activity for the past month along with lot splits for Denison and Hoover.
 - Dennis Brown will be getting a lot split for a new solar garden being put in.
 - Edgebrook blighted property – Jim Braun will send a letter to the property owner to get the site cleaned up.
 - Bruce Albers is trying to combine two lots. Jim Braun will create the paperwork and submit it to John McCarty to sign and get to Bruce Albers.
 - Fireside Orchard is looking at possibly expanding. They will come in for an I.U.P if plans progress.
 - Hollinger property – The grass has been mowed. Jim Braun left a note requesting that clean up continue.
 - Jim Braun stated that a meeting would be set with Greg Swanson, Scot Rosvold, Jim Braun and the Clerk to review any issues.
 - Jim Braun is creating a plan review schedule in which all commercial properties would be reviewed by Scot Rosvold while others would be reviewed by Greg Swanson.
 - Regarding the Tim Strong house – A permit will be issued for the new Strong house as they have contracted with an engineer to create an acceptable basement given the surrounding soil structure and water level.
 - Keepsake Cidery – Jim Braun spoke with the owners and stated that the parking area must be mowed along with the ditches for safety reasons. John Holden stated that the owners should be informed that if they want the C.U.P renewed, the areas need to be properly maintained and any other safety issues addressed.
2. Timberlane blight update – Jim Braun reviewed the current state of the house. It is a hazard and attractive nuisance. A public notice and hearing will be held regarding razing the house.
3. Rice County C.U.P authority update – Jim Braun suggested that the Board of Supervisors request to be on the agenda at the next Rice County Commissioners meeting to confirm who has authority on old C.U.Ps.
4. Meetings regarding future use of Hoover Dump site – Jim Braun called to see who is testing the area from the MPCA office. The MPCA will contact Jim with results as soon as they are available.

New Business

1. MNDOT RR Crossing at 140th Street East – Glen Castore made a motion to approve using \$20,000 to support upgrading the railway crossing at 140th Street East as requested by MnDot, John Holden seconded, all approved.
2. Transfer 150th Street – shared driveway update following conversation with K. Johnson – Gary Ebling made a motion to formally change the maintenance structure on 150th Street so that the Township will no longer maintain this street, the street will be maintained by Keith Johnson, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.
3. Gary Ebling requested that business cards be made for all of the Supervisors.

Old Business

1. Strategic Plan
 - a. Status Update – This will be discussed during the Monday, September 24th meeting along with an update on the Central Pond project.
2. Roads
 - a. Road Superintendent – Glen Castore noted that in our road policy, we reference a position of Road Superintendent. John Holden made a motion to change the title of Road Supervisor to Road Superintendent, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.
 - b. Fall cutting – Mike Groth will talk to Steve Albers regarding what he has seen in the ditches and who will be cutting it. Mike will also speak with Brad Sanford regarding tree cutting and spraying for brush in the right of ways. Timing on this is yet to be determined, but Mike Groth will keep the Board informed of any changes.
 - c. Tree trimming for machinery preservation. – Gary Ebling suggested mapping the areas needed. A meeting may be set with Mike Groth, Gary Ebling, and Steve Albers to determine where to focus for this fall.
 - d. Bridge Tree clean-up and removal – This will be done when it stops raining and the ground dries out.
 - e. “Permits Required” signs at township borders – Gary Ebling is working on this.
 - f. Equestrian signs for 140th Street – Mike Groth has a contact and will pass this on to Gary Ebling to inquire about signs.
 - g. 123rd Street pothole update – Mike Groth noted that the first hole was dug and properly backfilled. The second hole will be completed soon. Following this, the area will be packed with gravel then repaved.
 - h. Steve Albers fall spraying and mowing – This has been moved to the Board of Supervisors meeting on October 10th, 2018.
 - i. Mike Groth will talk to Reynolds Paving to have them look at Oak Hills and Wendwood to see if there are any repairs needed.
3. Noxious Weeds
 - a. Wild Parsnip grant project – Moved to a later meeting.
 - b. Fall Mowing – moved to a later meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

- Planning and Zoning meeting, September 27, 2018, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall
- Project Meetings, Monday, September 24, 2018, 1pm Bridgewater Town Hall
- Board of Supervisors meeting, October 10, 2018, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall
- Intergovernmental Meeting, October 17, 2018, 7pm Northfield Town Hall

Adjourn