

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**May 9, 2018**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introduction of Guests: Nicole and Tony Haan, Jerry Anderson, Nate Watters

Approval of Agenda: Glen Castore made a motion to approve the agenda, John Holden seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

- Jerry Anderson (Dahle Avenue) – Mr. Anderson reviewed the expansion of the Rice County landfill in Bridgewater Township. He expressed concern regarding the increase in traffic on Dahle Avenue due to this expansion. It was noted that there is furniture and appliances that have been left in the ditches by people not wanting to pay for disposal at the landfill. Mr. Anderson requested that Rice County be encouraged to take back Dahle Avenue. Gary Ebling noted that the discussion will be held with Rice County regarding which roads will be turned back to the county in the near future.
  - Mr. Anderson's second concern was the safety of the intersection of Hwy 3/Cty Rd 8/Dahle Avenue. This intersection is not properly aligned and would benefit from the addition of a turn lane on Hwy 3.
- Nate Watters (Liquor license) – The Keepsake Cidery is starting construction on a tasting room. Mr. Watters would like to receive approval to move forward with a license to add beer and wine as on-sale items to his Farm Winery Business. It is his belief that this would increase business. He was advised to come before the Planning Commission on June 7<sup>th</sup> with finalization at the next Board of Supervisors meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Louann Rezac expressed concern regarding the increase in traffic along 115<sup>th</sup> due to construction on Cty Rd 1. The truck traffic is increasing as there is concern that accidents will occur due to increased speeds. Gary Ebling reviewed what the county is doing for maintenance and dust control and the limitations the township has regarding setting speed limits.

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- May Claims – The claims were reviewed and larger expenses discussed. Glen Castore made a motion to approve the claims, John Holden seconded, all approved.
- April 11, April 25, April 30, 2018 Meeting Minutes – John Holden made a motion to approve the minutes, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

1. Treasurer's Report – Brad Pfahning reviewed the treasurers report and current bank balances. Changes versus last month were noted. He will present the year to date budget at the June Board of Supervisors meeting. Gary Ebling requested that the \$5,000 dust control expense for 115<sup>th</sup> street be taken out of the Annexation tax account. Any gravel expense for 115<sup>th</sup> should also come out of the same account. These expenses will be tracked and sent on to Dundas for their information.
2. Bank reconciliation
3. Revenue Report
4. PERA forms
5. IRS Update/EFT form – The IRS is requesting the June 30, 2017 report. Brad Pfahning will print this and send it to them.
6. Quarterly reports for solar project – This was sent in last month.
7. Budget update – Brad Pfahning will bring this in to the June Board of Supervisors meeting.

## **Clerk's Report-**

1. Upcoming Meetings:
  - a. Project meeting on May 21, 1pm (date change due to Memorial Day). – Gary Ebling stated that Dennis Luebbe would be asked to attend this meeting to discuss roads.
2. Mail – The mail was reviewed and some will be scanned and sent on to the Board.
3. Work forms – The clerk will work with individuals to complete the necessary forms.
4. Permits – The permits will be placed on-line as soon as possible.

## **Planning & Zoning**

1. Staff Report
  - Haan Variance – Jim Braun reviewed the conditions and finding of fact for Resolution 2018-06. The Haan's request is to rebuild a garage closer to the road within the setback area. Glen Castore made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-06, John Holden seconded, all approved.
  - Jim Braun reviewed the permit activity for the month.
  - Water samples were taken from the SMC pit. Results should be available next month.
  - The house on the corner of Hwy 3 and Dahle was sold and a new septic was installed. Permits will be issued this summer for construction and repairs.
  - Solar garden – A discussion was held regarding planting and harvesting hay around the solar garden. The Board approves asking Ray Larson to harvest hay from the area.
2. Blighted properties
  - The Hollinger property is being cleaned up. Jim Braun will continue to monitor the project.
  - The Jacobson property will be coming in for an I.U.P from the Planning Commission. If granted, the property will be cleaned up and a fence installed.
3. Construction
  - Jim Braun noted that a new garage will be going in the same footprint as the old barn at 3547 140<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Members of the Board of Supervisors will speak with the residents at 3636 140<sup>th</sup> street regarding boulders placed in the road right of way.
4. Quame Pit
  - A permit had been requested over five years ago. However, Mr. Quame's check bounced so the permit was never granted. In addition, a bond was never given for the pit. Swenke Ims is currently dumping material from a building project in Northfield into the old Quame Pit. Jim Braun spoke with Doug Ims regarding the fact that this is not an operational pit. Mr. Ims will come in for a T.E.P permit so that the project will not be interrupted and hauling can be completed. Ims will pay for the permit and deduct that amount from the money owed to Quame. Jim Braun will send a certified letter to Quame stating that his pit is permanently closed. Doug Ims will close the pit when finished and clean up the area.
5. Misc.
  - The Board approved Jim Braun renewing the on-line subscription to the Northfield News.
  - A meeting will be set up the afternoon of June 7 to meet with Jim Braun, Scot Rosevold, Greg Swanson, Darrel Gilmer and the Board of Supervisors. Notice will be sent regarding this.

## **New Business**

1. Planning-study committee group update.
  - a. Glen Castore will contact residents regarding this committee. Initial meetings are expected in June.
  - b. Gary Ebling will pass on any information regarding the committee to the clerk.
  - c. A request was made that the Planning Commission focus on completing the Comp Plan and Codification.

## **Old Business**

1. Flood Project follow up.
  - a. Central Pond – Gary Ebling reviewed a recent meeting with Todd Piepho from the DNR and a letter from the Army Corps of Engineers. Gary Ebling and Adam Parker believe the request stated in the letter was taken care of by the meeting with Todd Piepho. Glen Castore will review the letter with Peter Tiede to gain a legal perspective. It is the plan to complete the reconstruction requested by Todd Piepho.

- i. Rework/reconstruction on stream – the survey work has been completed and Adam will work to get the necessary permits.
- ii. Remove west driveway at Seeds Farm – The Township will work to have this completed while Barnett's are working on the Seeds Farm in the month of May.

## 2. Roads

- a. 115<sup>th</sup> street plan for use during reconstruction –
  - i. Dust control measures – Rice County has applied dust control to the road in an effort to help the excess dust created by the increase in traffic. Dennis Luebbe offered the counties assistance, if needed, to maintain the road during the County Road 1 reconstruction.
  - ii. Maintenance responsibilities and protocols – It is the townships position that we will maintain the township portion of the road.
- b. Gravel will begin when road restrictions are off. – Gravel will be laid depending on weather conditions.
- c. Dust Control - after the gravel is laid and worked in, the dust control will be applied.
- d. Traffic Counters – Mike Groth requested permission to purchase traffic counters to determine the current traffic levels. Expected cost is \$850 for one or \$2500 for three machines. John Holden made a motion to approve an order for three machines at an estimated cost of \$2500, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.
- e. Mike Groth will look into purchasing a chain saw for the township along with an air compressor.
- f. Gary Ebilng noted that a field driveway will be added to Albers Avenue for farm equipment.

## 3. Noxious Weeds

- a. Wild Parsnip spring spraying – The new gator machine is currently at Albers farm. Safety features will be added along with basic maintenance.
- b. The plan is to start spraying with 2-4D as soon as possible.
- c. Prior to spraying, mapping needs to be completed.

## Upcoming Meetings

- Planning and Zoning meeting, June 7, 2018, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall
- Project Meetings, Monday, May 21, 2018, Bridgewater Town Hall
- Board of Supervisors meeting, June 13, 2018, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall

Adjourn