

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**February 13, 2019**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introduction of Guests: Mary Jenson, Elle DeBlieck, Dennis Brown, John McCarthy

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

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** None

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- February Claims
  - John Holden made a motion to approve the February claims as presented, Glen Castore seconded, all approved. It was noted that Gleason should be submitting an invoice soon.
- January 9, 28, 31, February 2, and 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes
  - John Holden made a motion to approve the minutes in total, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

1. Treasurer's Report
  - Brad Pfahning reviewed the current bank accounts in detail.
2. Bank reconciliation
  - Will be given to the clerk when available.
3. PERA forms
  - Will complete and give to the clerk.
4. IRS Update/EFT form
  - To be completed.
5. Quarterly reports for solar project
  - This has been sent out.
6. Outstanding Indebtedness Report
  - Brad Pfahning will continue to work on this.
7. Year end report for Secretary of State
  - This is due in March. Brad Pfahning will work to complete this prior to the next Board meeting.

**Clerk's Report-**

1. Mail – this was nothing to note.

**Planning & Zoning**

1. Staff Report
  - a. Jim Braun reviewed the permits to date.
2. Rice County C.U.P authority update
  - a. Peter Tiede is reviewing the paper trail to determine the next steps. Jim Braun mentioned that the township has approximately 20 Rice County issued C.U.Ps. He suggested that we have them renew then they can be enforced by the township. This would not apply to the Johnson and DeGroot C.U.Ps. Gary Ebling will forward the last letter received from the County to Jim Braun.
3. Update on nuisance properties
  - a. As the Hollinger property is in the ARD, Jim Braun will request a letter from Dundas asking for continued cleanup of this property.
  - b. The new owners of the Timberlane property is working with an architect to see if the house can be remodeled or if it will need to be rebuilt. The Board suggested meeting with the owners during the March 25<sup>th</sup> Project meeting. Jim Braun will follow up with the owners.
4. Jacobson Towing and Storage C.U.P
  - a. This will come before the March Planning Commission.

5. 12425 Ebel Ave Easement
  - a. As the neighbor has not returned home, this will continue to be on hold.
6. Update on Storm Damage Survey – permits issued?
  - a. Jim Braun reviewed the list. He will continue to follow up.
7. Geronimo/Hydra Community Solar.
  - a. Jim Braun reviewed the C.U.P and noted that they will add in trees and bushes along the north side of the property. Hydra is concerned about the security bond for landscaping and water management. Jim Braun addressed this issue stating that it is in our ordinance. Hydra presented plans for the plantings along 118<sup>th</sup> street. Glen Castore made a motion permitting Resolution 2019-02 for a Community Solar Garden on the Brown property, John Holden seconded, all approved.
8. Praver Solar Garden expansion
  - a. Jim Braun reviewed the request to extend the current solar garden on the Praver property. Carolyn Braun reviewed the application and responded with a list of items that were missing. This project would be a 1MW installation. Jim Braun noted that due to regulations, this could not be combined with the 5MW project next to it as that would violate our ordinance. Jim Braun is asking that they also detail what the storm water plan is.
9. Solar Garden Taxation
  - a. Gary Ebling reviewed the solar garden taxing structure. Rice County provided information on how taxes are broken down.
  - b. Jim Braun noted that there were four entities that have called regarding placing solar gardens in the township.
10. Quame Pit Restoration
  - a. Jim Braun reviewed a recent discussion with Quame regarding reclamation of his old gravel pit. A suggestion was made to Quame to work with IMS regarding reclamation.
11. Moratorium on Solar
  - a. A short discussion was held regarding placing a moratorium on solar construction in the township. This will be discussed further at the April meeting.
12. Jim Braun requested and received approval to hire E.O.R to review the application for the Praver solar garden addition.
13. The item “how to work with Inspectron” was added to the April agenda.

## **New Business**

1. Strategic Plan – meeting updates
  - a. Glen Castore reviewed the schedule and list of projects to be completed for the Incorporation study. This list will be sent to the clerk for distribution.
  - b. A representative from the City of Faribault approached a Board member to inquire about a future meeting to discuss Incorporation and its implications.
  - c. A suggestion was made to form a committee in April to begin work on a city charter.
  - d. Glen Castore reviewed the list of 13 statutory items that need to be addressed. The clerk will send this out as responsibilities for completion are assigned.
  - e. Northland Securities sent out the final report today regarding the Incorporation Study. Glen Castore made a motion to accept the final “Implications of Incorporation for Bridgewater Township” report, John Holden seconded, all approved. This report will be forwarded on to Ben Martig and John McCarthy, Galen Malacha, and Jake Gillen. It will also be added to the website.
  - f. Per the Data request from Dundas, all official minutes and a copy of the Northland final report will be sent to Dundas. It was noted that townships are not subject to the Data Practices Act.
2. Special Meetings Schedule
  - a. The Board of Supervisors requested a meeting with the Dundas City Council to learn what their concerns are. It was noted that this meeting is to listen to any concerns that Dundas has and to clear up any misunderstandings.
3. Annual Meeting Agenda
  - a. The preliminary agenda was reviewed. The clerk will send out a revised agenda with the changes requested.

## Old Business

1. Central Pond Project
  - a. Issue Updates
    - i. A draft was submitted by Bolton and Menk for part of the work. Gary Ebling made a motion to sign off on the boundary application proposal as sent by Bolton and Menk, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.
    - ii. Gary Ebling has been reviewing past project notes with Adam Parker.
      1. Adam Parker suggested that his E&O insurance be approached to help pay for the changes needed on the project.
      2. It was noted that Adam Parker had sent the initial information to three different agencies, none of whom responded.
      3. Peter Tiede will work with Adam Parker's insurance agency.
    - iii. Glen Castore made a motion to have Peter Tiede work with Adam Parker's Errors and Omission Insurance not to exceed \$5,000 in legal expense, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.
    - iv. Glen Castore will also look into the township M.A.T. insurance.
  - b. Storm Damage Clean Up and Stump Removal – moved to a later meeting.
  - c. Mail boxes – Discussion moved to February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - d. Meeting with Brent Aspenwall – Discussion moved to February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## Upcoming Meetings

- Project Meeting, Monday, February 25, 2019 1 pm Bridgewater Town Hall
- Incorporation Meeting, February 27, 2019, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall
- Planning and Zoning meeting, February 28, 2019, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall
- Incorporation Meeting, March 2, 2019, 9am Bridgewater Town Hall
- Board of Supervisors meeting, March 13, 2019, 7pm Bridgewater Town Hall

Adjourn – Glen Castore made a motion to adjourn, John Holden seconded, all approved.