

**Bridgewater Township Joint Meeting with  
Northfield and Dundas  
County of Rice, State of Minnesota  
March 26, 2019  
Official Minutes**

Call to order at 10:00 am

Roll Call: Gary Ebling, Glen Castore, John Holden, Frances Boehning, Ben Martig, Brad Ness, Rhonda Pownell, Glen Switzer, John McCarthy, Larry Fowler, Paula Callies, Stu Anderson

Guests: Philip Weyhe, Christy Purcell, Kathleen Doran-Norton

- Joint meeting to discuss the incorporation of Bridgewater.
  - Glen Castore reviewed the reasons the township is looking at the possibility of incorporation.
  - Gary Ebling reviewed the past growth in the cities and the future potential.
    - It was noted that the township is willing to work with the cities to help them grow in the future.
  - John Holden noted the feedback that we have received from the township residents during the past public meetings.
- City of Northfield
  - Mayor Rhonda Pownell open the meeting for questions.
    - Ben Martig asked for clarification on where the industrial area would be and when Comus junction is located.
    - Glen Switzer
      - Questioned where the land is that we think they can build on?
      - When did the township decide not to go with a hybrid legislature option? Where does it appear in the minutes?
    - Larry Fowler
      - Question regarding what the powers of an urban township are.
        - Glen Castore reviewed the annexation agreements between the township and cities versus annexation by petition.
    - Mayor Rhonda Pownell
      - Will the township offer sewer and water?
        - Glen Castore reviewed what has been explored to date regarding common wells and common septic systems.
    - Paula Callies
      - Questioned if there have been discussions with Rice County regarding re-zoning.
    - Mayor Rhonda Pownell
      - What is meant by services to the township?
        - Response by the Supervisors included: Roads, Flood Mitigation, Storm Damage clean up, and Planning and Zoning.
    - Ben Martig
      - In the Commercial area would you need to hook up to Northfield or Faribault for sewer services?
    - Glen Switzer
      - Is there concern regarding Faribault taking over the township?
    - Mayor Rhonda Pownell
      - It would be nice to see Rice County's land use changes.

- Glen Switzer
  - Industrial areas should be kept in the cities. The new auto club will include 300 full time houses. So, Rice County will allow anything.
- John McCarthy
  - The Dundas city engineer worked with the Wolf Creek developer and found that the package septic system would not work for them.
- Larry Fowler
  - In anticipation, we built up infrastructure for expansion at great expense – would you be willing reimburse the City of Dundas?
- Ben Martig
  - Do you anticipate any changes to the current timeline?
- Mayor Rhonda Pownell
  - The Northfield City Council does not have a position on this topic. We will need additional information to determine if the incorporation is consistent with the cities long term values.
  - The City would like to explore a new annexation agreement.
  - The City is still working with Waterford to reach a new agreement.
  - Future meetings will be arranged.
- Glen Switzer
  - Trust has been eroded, he does not trust the township.
  - The City and Board have not been meeting. The City has asked many times for a meeting but it has not happened. Nothing regarding this was brought up at the PCARD meeting.

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	