

Bridgewater Township Work Session
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
May 14, 2019
Official Minutes

Call to order at 1:00 pm

Roll Call: Gary Ebling, Glen Castore, John Holden, Frances Boehning,

Guests: John McCarthy

- Newsletter.
 - A request was made to add a highlight at the beginning of the newsletter calling out the new website.
 - Glen Castore will send in his comments regarding the newsletter to the clerk.

- Recent road issues
 - Gary Ebling reviewed a recent communication from Rezac regarding his driveway and culvert. There was concern regarding gravel washing into the culvert and causing water to come toward the house. Gary Ebling will follow up with the homeowner.
 - A short discussion was held regarding the ditch at 3537 Decker Avenue (David Wett house). The issue is that the ditch and culvert are not properly allowing water to flow where needed. Gary Ebling will review and follow up with the homeowner, the DNR, and Army Corps to determine the appropriate next steps.

- Incorporation
 - Glen Castore covered a recent meeting with Jessica Green from Northland Securities. They discussed how Northland could assist Bridgewater Township. Northland noted that financing options are available to help with creating affordable housing. One alternative suggested was private financing with a bank as opposed to public financing through bonds. It was mentioned that Traditions Bank is also interested in affordable housing.
 - Northland Securities could also help with creating regular bonds.
 - A discussion was held regarding other services offered through Northland to small cities; project planning and reports. They do not offer accounting services.
 - Gary Ebling is creating a list of absentee landowners that should be contacted regarding the incorporation process and setting meetings with them.
 - Glen Castore suggested having a contact person in each neighborhood to facilitate meetings and distribute information.
 - John Holden reviewed a recent conversation with a resident regarding starting a petition and calling people.
 - Glen Castore will talk to Peter Tiede regarding the need for a petition. It may be advisable for the neighborhood to have a petition specific to their area. Each neighborhood would need a primary contact.
 - Edgebrook – Janalee
 - Telemark – Andy M.
 - Bittersweet – Brian H.
 - Wendwood – Jim Olds
 - Timberlane (Cherly Buck was suggested)
 - Oak Hills – Nancy

- Additional neighborhood meetings will need to be set. The goal is to complete all meetings by the end of August.
 - A discussion of rural service districts and taxes will be added to a later meeting agenda.
- Housing
 - Glen Castore reviewed what he had found regarding affordable housing. There are a number of people interested in this topic.
 - There was a suggestion of getting a group together to discuss this including: Madine, Natural Systems Utilities, others. Timing for this would be mid-summer.
 - Gary Ebling will talk to some builders and relators to gain additional insight regarding costs.
- Storm Damage
 - Gary Ebling mentioned that Gleason is still taking out stumps left from last September's tornadoes.
- Roads
 - Culvert on Cates and 100th
 - The culvert is rotted. Gary Ebling talked to Contect and they do not sell patches, only complete culverts.
 - Gary Ebling is working to find a way to patch the culvert without replacing it.
 - Mike Groth is working to get the ditch around the culvert cleaned out.
 - Gary Ebling reviewed that he is working with Barsness to clean out the culvert and possible lower the third one. Prior to this, Gary will check wit Dan Donayre to see if this presents any issues with the DNR.
 - The Board expressed interest in cost sharing with the landowners to complete these repairs.
 - Traffic Counters
 - Gary Ebling suggested putting traffic counters on all gravel farm roads.
 - Glen Castore requested that counters also be placed on Falk and 145th as these are possible turn back roads from Rice County.
 - Gary Ebling noted that counters should also be placed on 115th as there seems to be more traffic than past years.
- Planning and Zoning
 - A short discussion was held with Carolyn Braun regarding the solar project on Praver land.
 - Carolyn Braun noted that she sent the engineering portion to EOR for approval.
 - Jim Braun requested that Gary Ebling assist in facilitating a meeting for Wednesday or Thursday evening with Roger Yanik and Doug Ims regarding the cartway through Steam & Gas to the Ims gravel pit.
 - The goal of the meeting is to have Ims maintain the cartway through the Steam and Gas site.
 - A suggestion was made to have Ims pull back his C.U.P application as he does not have clear access to the site at this time. The access issue must be clear before the application can be heard.
 - Jim Braun noted that regrading the Rezac site, this is in the ARD and must go through the Dundas PCARD. Jim will get information to McCarthy.
- Misc.
 - McCarthy suggested sending another meeting request to have the full City Council meet with the Board of Supervisors per the Annexation Agreement.

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	