

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
August 14, 2019
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: John Holden, Glen Castore, Gary Ebling, Debbie Salaba, Jim Braun, Frances Boehning

Introduction of Guests: Steve Albers, Alli Pambach

Approval of Agenda: Glen Castore made a motion to approve as amended, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: None

Noxious Weed Presentation by Carleton Intern and Steve Albers

- Alli Palmbach presented an outline of what she was working on over the summer. She reviewed the mapping done in 2018 to 2019 and showed how the spread of wild parsnip had been contained. The maps will be printed in book format and made available to the township. A suggestion was made to distribute these to Rice County and MnDOT. It was also suggested that a position statement be written regarding the progress made.

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- August Claims
 - Gary Ebling made a motion to approve the claims, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.
- July 10,10,17,24,29,31, 2019 Meeting Minutes
 - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the minutes in total, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

1. Treasurer's Report
 - The Treasurer reviewed the current bank balances and checks that will be going out.
 - Glen Castore made a motion to approve moving \$100,000 from the Annexation Tax Fund to the First National checking account, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.
 - Gary Ebling requested an updated budget for the September Board of Supervisors meeting.
2. Bank reconciliation
3. PERA forms - these are completed
4. IRS Update/EFT form
 - Debbie Salaba is working with the IRS to resolve past issues. The Supervisors requested that she contact Reese Winter for assistance in getting this cleared up.
5. Quarterly reports for solar project – This will be done in August.

Clerk's Report-

1. Mail
 - a. The Clerk reviewed incoming mail for the month including the annexation tax repayment from Northfield, town aid from the State, and the upcoming L&R meeting.
 - b. The 2019 Dundas annexation tax repayment form is completed and will be sent to Reese Winter for review.

Planning & Zoning

1. Staff Report
 - Jim Braun reviewed the permits to date.
 - Concerns regarding Inspectron have been raised by Jim Braun. He will create a list of these concerns and bring them to a meeting on Wednesday, August 21st.
2. Rice County C.U.P authority update
 - Glen Castore suggested talking to Sara Folstad to get her assistance in resolving this. Jim Braun will follow up with this suggestion.

- Gary Ebling requested that Jim Braun schedule Terry Overn to attend the Wednesday, August 28th, meeting to review the mining operation and other possibilities.
3. Update on nuisance properties
 - Jim Braun noted that the Catholic Church contacted him regarding the Hollinger property. They will be offering assistance to Mrs. Hollinger.
 - Regarding the house at 13192 Dahle Ave., Jim B. has spoken with the home owner. There is the possibility that the property will be for sale. Jim B. will continue to monitor this.
 - About half of the nuisance property owners have been approached by Jim Braun. A number of these have indicated that the properties will be cleaned up. All properties will continue to be monitored.
 4. 12425 Ebel Ave Easement
 - The Township cannot acquire private easements for individual residents or provide legal advice. John Holden will talk to the homeowner to let them know that they are responsible for acquiring an easement if they so choose.
 5. House on 1st Timberlane
 - Jim Braun was not able to get a hold of the homeowner.
 - Rieland Builders is getting bids to complete demolition of the house.
 6. C.U.P for IPS Solar
 - IPS did not provide the information requested within the set timeline. When the information is available, the C.U.P will be brought before the Board during a Wednesday meeting.
 7. Solar Garden Fee Amendment
 - Jim Braun reviewed the need for an escrow when applications submit a request for approval of a solar garden. This escrow will cover the costs associated with research on the application.
 - Glen Castore made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-02 Amended Fee Schedule for Bridgewater Township, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.
 8. Solar Garden cover crops
 - Mike Groth requested that Jim Braun review the prairie restoration planting under the existing solar gardens and request that new installations include cover crops while the prairie gets established. It was noted that a prairie can take three years to show.

New Business

1. None

Old Business

1. Strategic Plan
 - a. Next Steps
 - i. Glen Castore stated that he will be talking to Rice County regarding future prospects of the township. Additional meetings will take place to work with the City of Northfield. Mr. Castore will also continue to meet with outside consultants to further research the possibility of incorporation and other options.
 - b. Neighborhood Meetings will continue to happen through August and September.
2. Equipment
 - a. Mike Groth is continuing to monitor the progress of the new plow truck.

Adjourn

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	

