

**Bridgewater Township Work Session**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**August 28, 2019**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order at 1:00 pm

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

Guests: Ron Wasmund

- **Inspectron Concerns**

- Jim Braun mentioned that the Rice County Landfill building is in need of an inspection. Ron Wasmund will follow up with this.
- Jim Braun noted that he was concerned regarding the way that Inspectron was mandating fire suppression in the township's small businesses (home occupations). It is Jim's impression that Inspectron is requiring sprinkler systems in all businesses. Ron Wasmund reviewed the current building code requirements regarding sprinkler systems in buildings. Mr. Wasmund stated that he was willing to work with the homeowners as there were multiple ways to meet the building code.
- Rice County Steam & Gas and Fireside Orchard
  - There was some confusion regarding the permit for the Steam & Gas building being an Ag Building. Ron Wasmund reviewed the definition on ag buildings. Per the Township attorney and Supervisors, the building meets the definition of an ag building and has been permitted as such. Mr. Wasmund reviewed how a building could be both an ag and commercial building.
- Glen Castore asked what recommendations or concerns Inspectron had:
  - Ron Wasmund stated that as Zoning Administrator, Jim Braun should issue a certificate stating that the permit plans meet the ordinance for zoning compliance. He should also sign off on the application if there are no zoning issues. All other concerns regarding the application should go to the Building Official before issuing the permit.
  - Ron Wasmund noted that the Building Official should be signing the building permits. He also stated that Inspectron could turn maintenance permits around the same day. For additions or new buildings, the application should go to Jim first for zoning review and then to Inspectron for plan review and permit issuance.
- Gary Ebling asked which permits were inspected.
  - Ron Wasmund replied that all permits are inspected even if it is only one window.
  - It was noted by Ron Wasmund that per the rules, only a building official could sign permits.
- Jim Braun mentioned that a number of residents were concerned about the increase in requirements for plan reviews.
  - Ron Wasmund said that many places (i.e. Morton Buildings) have engineered drawings available. The drawings are needed to complete the plan review.
- Gary Ebling asked how roofs are inspected.
  - Reply: If Inspectron is not there to inspect during the tear off then pictures are needed and the contractor will need to be present at the final inspection. If Inspectron is there at tear off, then the contractor does not need to be present for the final inspection.
- Glen Castore mentioned that in the next newsletter, there will be a section regarding complying with the building code.
- Jim Braun asked if it would help Inspectron if there were pit bores on new houses. Ron was not sure how this would help. It will be addressed at a future time.

- A five minutes break was called at 2:00 pm
- The meeting was joined at 2:05 by Terry Overn, Don Redmond, and Michael Callahan.
  - Jim Braun reviewed the idea of a concrete plant near the current SMC mine.
  - Gary Ebling reviewed the possibilities of rail line transportation in the area.
  - In response, Terry Overn talked about the feasibility of a concrete plant in the area and how product currently moves and added costs. There are no current plans to place a concrete plant in the area.
  - The general future of industry in the township was discussed along with the possibilities of transportation and mining expansion.
  - Mr. Braun talked about the former Judson mine and the extensive reclamation that happened in the area. It was hoped that similar reclamation could happen in the SMC area.
  - Terry Overn stated that discussions will need to be held regarding how and when reclamation will happen at the Dundas Wash Plant.
  - Jim Braun expressed concern regarding the pond near Hwy 3 that is a straight drop off. Mr. Overn has people working on fixing the slope near the pond.
  - There is concern regarding excessive weeds at the former Mealpas pit. Mr. Callahan will look into this and control the weeds.
  - Jim Braun reviewed a complaint regarding excessive dust from the Hwy 3 scale at the Dundas Wash Plant. Mr. Overn will look into the problem.
  - Mr. Redmond reviewed the extra material that is being moved off of Keith Johnson's former pit.
  - Milwaukee Pit
    - This pit is partially owned by Mr. Redmond and still has stock piles on it. Work is being done to get the extra material out. No date has been set for reclamation of the site. The C.U.P has run out and will need to be renewed.
    - Gary Ebling asked for aerial photos of the pit. Don Redmond did have a plan for reclamation that had been shared with Jim Braun.
  - Mr. Callahan is overseeing noxious weeds at the different sites.
- Misc.
  - Gary Ebling reviewed a conversation with Dennis Luebbe regarding Baseline road.
    - Dennis Luebbe is having difficulty getting road right of ways along Baseline. Gary Ebling will work to find information regarding this. Baseline will be paved on the sections owned by Rice County.
    - A discussion was held regarding any roads turned back to the township will need to either be restored or funds provided for restoration.
  - 100<sup>th</sup> and Cates
    - Gary Ebling reviewed a discussion with Dennis Luebbe regarding the culvert and county ditch. Luebbe explained the state funding option. Mr. Luebbe will help with creating a plan for the reconstruction of this area. This will be discussed at a future meeting.
  - Decker Ave – ditch and culvert at Wett residence.
    - Mr. Ebling will work with Barr Engineering regarding a plan to fix this area.
  - Glen Castore mentioned that he will be meeting with Ms. Nash regarding questions about the possible future incorporation.
  - The recent Farm meeting was reviewed and discussed.

- The upcoming joint meeting with Dundas was reviewed. The main topic of discussion will be the concerns and objections that Dundas has with Bridgewater Township.

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	