

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

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Kathleen Kopseng, Glen Castore, Gary Ebling, Mike Groth, Jim Braun

Introduction of Guests: John Holden, Mark Thompson

Approval of Agenda: Gary Ebling made a motion to approve the agenda, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: Thank you to John Holden for almost six years of service to the Township. The Township presented an engraved vase to Mr. Holden for all of his contributions in helping the Township.

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- November Claims
 - A late claim from Barr Engineering for \$3,018.50 was added to the November claims list. Gary Ebling made a motion to approve the November claims, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.
- October 9, 16, 23, 30, November 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes
 - Gary Ebling made a motion to approved the minutes, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

1. Treasurer's Report -
 - Deb Salaba was absent from the meeting. The Clerk reviewed the report provided by the Treasurer.
2. Bank reconciliation - did not cover
3. IRS Update/EFT form - did not cover
4. Quarterly reports for solar project - will address next month

Clerk's Report-

1. Mail – The Clerk reviewed the mail received over the month.
2. Absentee Voting Polling Place Resolution 2019-14
 - a. Glen Castore made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-14 Designating the Rice County Government Center in Faribault as the absentee ballot voting location for 2020, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.

Planning & Zoning

1. Staff Report
 - Jim Braun reviewed the permits to date. So far this year, over 100 have permits have been applied for.
2. Rice County C.U.P authority update
 - Jim Braun reviewed a recent discussion with Sara Folstad. Rice County would like to meet with Bridgewater Township, Jake Gillan, and Galen Malecha to discuss old Rice County C.U.Ps. Dates suggested by Bridgewater Township were December 4th and 11th at 1:00 pm.
3. Update on nuisance properties –
 - The Nelson property on Hwy 19 was served notice by the Sheriff.
 - The house on Cty Rd 1 is taking down the accessory buildings. The house will be repaired.
 - Jim Braun reviewed other nuisance properties and progress made bringing them into compliance.
4. House on 1st Timberlane
 - Jim Braun reviewed recent correspondence with the current owners. The Township has requested that the house be boarded up by the end of November 30th or the Township will secure the property and pass the cost on to the homeowner. A complete set of plans and permit application for the property are due by the end of May 2020. If not completed by this date, the Township will begin legal action.
5. Praver Community Solar culvert agreement
 - Carolyn Braun will draft an agreement and provide it to the Board by Wednesday, November 20th.
6. Mark Thompson Addition
 - 121st Street Status

- Jim Braun reviewed the issues with the road as it exists today. It does not meet current standards and strays outside of the easement boundaries.
 - A discussion was held regarding the history of the platted lots and the road.
 - Per Mark Thompson, Rice County had mandated how the road was to be constructed. It was noted that on the official drawings, it may be a county road.
 - Jim and Carolyn Braun will research if the county owns the road or if it is considered private.
- 7. Future effect to township of Nfld Climate Action Plan
 - This will be discussed during the next Bridgewater Township Planning Commission.
- 8. A lot split for Liebenstein completed in 2013, was found to have an error. Jim Braun has corrected the legal description and the clerk will sign and send to the law firm handling this in Faribault.
- 9. Jim Braun reviewed the work needed to be done to turn a road stub in Edgebrook over to the neighboring residents.
- 10. Inspector – Jim Braun will work with Ron Wasmund regarding creating a different permit for Agriculture permits. He will also obtain a stamp with Mr. Wasmund signature for signing permits.
- 11. Mr. Braun reviewed the current status of the Hoover Dump Site.
- 12. Old ATV Park – Mr. Keith Johnson will be purchasing the old ATV Park and hauling gravel off the site. Jim will work with Mr. Johnson regarding how much gravel can be removed over a specified time frame.
- 13. Fireside Orchard – A request was made from Fireside Orchard regarding a permit for a winery or cidery. Jim Braun will confirm which they are looking for and the particulars.
- 14. Praver Solar Site – Jim Braun reviewed a recent conversation with the construction workers on site. A number of trees were taken down and piled near the fence line. Jim Braun stated that this was unacceptable and would need to be cleaned up.

New Business

1. Noxious Weed Collaborative
 - a. Memorandum of Understanding – John Holden reviewed the status of writing the grant to continue fighting noxious weeds. Bridgewater Township is joining with Northfield Township, Greenvale Township, and Waterford Township as the Cannon Valley Noxious Weed Collaborative Group to submit an application for a grant. Bridgewater Township would act as the financial agent for the group. Glen Castore made a motion to approve signing the Memorandum of Understanding for this grant, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.
2. Future budget considerations as it relates to the next levy – This topic is moved to the December meeting.
 - a. Emergency Fund
 - b. Differed road maintenance (culverts, trees, brush, ditches)
 - c. Engineering/consultants

Old Business

1. Strategic Plan
 - a. Next Steps
 - i. Discussions have been started with the City of Northfield. Topics to cover during the small group meeting with Northfield will be covered during an upcoming work session.
2. Comprehensive Plan Update – This will be covered during the next Planning Commission.
3. Central Pond Lawsuit
 - a. The mediation session was moved from December 3rd, 2019, to March 2020.
 - b. Glen Castore is continuing to work with Brenda Sauro regarding this lawsuit.
4. Roads
 - a. Guard Rail on 115th Street
 - i. Due to cold temperatures, this will be completed in the spring.
 - b. Intersection of township road and resident's driveway
 - i. Mike Groth would like to draw attention to driveways that do not meet standard and may cause damage to the plow as the driveway slopes up from the roadway.

- ii. As winter approaches, a reminder needs to be sent to residents regarding pushing snow across roadways. Glen Castore will talk to Peter Tiede regarding what enforcement is available to ensure compliance.
 - c. David Wett Driveway
 - i. Barr Engineering is working on obtaining the necessary permit. Gary Ebling will also look at the possibility of adding a grate to prevent large branches from entering the culvert.
- 5. Equipment
 - a. Nuss has completed building the truck and it was delivered to Tow Master. Tow Master has notified Mike Groth that they will not be able to meet the deadline they had agreed to of November 15th. The Supervisors proposed a meeting with Tow Master to see what could be resolved.
- 6. Snow Plow Operators
 - a. Mike Groth is talking to prospective snow plow operators.

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	