

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**October 9, 2019**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introduction of Guests: Kathleen Kopseng

**Approval of Agenda:** Gary Ebling made a motion to approve the agenda with changes, John Holden seconded, all approved.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** None

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- October Claims
  - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the October claims, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.
- September 11, 14, 18, 25, October 2, 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
  - Debbie Salaba reviewed the current Treasurer's report including the operating and dedicated accounts.
  - The Township chart of accounts is being revised to better reflect township business. A meeting will be set with Reese & Winter to review the new chart and request their assistance in bringing the current chart of accounts up to date.
2. Bank reconciliation
  - The reconciliation is complete.
3. IRS Update/EFT form
  - The most recent invoice from the IRS has been paid. Per Reese & Winter, there may be one final invoice from the IRS then the township should be up to date.
4. Quarterly reports for solar project
  - The Treasurer will complete this during October.

**Clerk's Report-**

1. Mail – There was no notable mail this month.
2. Newsletter
  - a. The Supervisors approved having On Target, a mailing company in Faribault, send out the next mailing as it is less expensive than the clerk completing it. The final version of the newsletter will be sent to the Supervisors for review prior to mailing.
3. Intergovernmental Meeting – October 16<sup>th</sup>
  - a. Bridgewater Township is hosting the next Intergovernmental meeting. Gary Ebling reviewed a recent conversation with Galen Malecha regarding this meeting. Dennis Luebbe will attend a give a presentation on roads.
  - b. Then clerk was requested to bring coffee and treats.
4. Polling Place
  - a. Glen Castore made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-13 to designate the Bridgewater Town Hall at 500 Railway Street, Dundas, as the official polling place for the 2020 elections, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.

**Planning & Zoning**

1. Staff Report
  - Jim Braun was not in attendance.
2. Rice County C.U.P authority update

3. Update on nuisance properties
4. House on 1<sup>st</sup> Timberlane
5. Method to move money out of escrow
  - The Clerk reviewed the email from Carolyn Braun regarding the method to follow for drawing down funds held in escrow for the solar gardens. A letter will be sent to the solar companies detailing this information.
  - Gary Ebling expressed concern that the decommissioning funds in escrow are not going to be sufficient for actually decommissioning the site.
6. Praver Community Solar construction agreement
  - Gary Ebling made a motion to approve the Praver Community Solar Construction agreement, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.
  - The Construction escrow check (\$81,250) and the Decommissioning escrow check (\$31,250) was received and submitted to the treasurer to be deposited.
  - Mike Groth reviewed his concern regarding the placement of the culvert at the new Praver solar garden. The culvert was placed further into the field and not at the ditch. Gary Ebling suggested that an agreement be developed that states that if there are any change to the ditch or road that a new culvert will be installed by the solar company. Gary Ebling will work with Jim Braun regarding this.
  - The solar construction company is unloading on the road and causing damage. Mike Groth will continue to monitor this.

#### **New Business**

1. Move to five-person Board of Supervisors.
  - a. The possibility of moving to a five-person Board of Supervisors was discussed. Glen Castore made a motion to place the question to adopt Option A to the electors, which would change the township government to allow for a five-person Board of Supervisors, Gary Ebling seconded, all approved.
2. Replacement for John Holden
  - a. The possible candidates to approach for the March elections was reviewed. Kathleen Kopseng is interested in serving as appointed Supervisor until the March elections.
3. Noxious Weed Grant
  - a. John Holden is working with Ron Sommers on the presentation for the Intergovernmental Meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>. They are also working with the Department of Agriculture to explore the possibility of a new grant to combat the spread of noxious weeds.

#### **Old Business**

1. Strategic Plan
  - a. Next Steps
    - i. Glen Castore is working with representative from the City of Northfield to develop the agenda for the November meeting.
    - ii. Mr. Castore attended the Northfield Township meeting recently to discuss Bridgewater Townships plan.
    - iii. A work session will be held prior to the November joint meeting between the City of Northfield and Bridgewater Twp to review the agenda.
2. Comprehensive Plan Update
  - a. An outline was received from Carolyn Braun. Glen Castore has requested that Carolyn Braun move forward with writing the plan.
3. Roads
  - a. Guard Rail on 115<sup>th</sup> Street
    - i. Glen Castore has sent a status report to Mr. Johnson regarding this project.
    - ii. Per Gary Ebling, nothing is currently happening with the guard rail.
  - b. 115<sup>th</sup> Street

- i. Glen Castore noted that construction equipment from Bridgewater Heights has been using the back entrance on to 115<sup>th</sup> and causing damage to the road. Gary Ebling will talk to Janelle Teppen regarding closing this entrance.
    - ii. Mike Groth talked to Duane Meliza regarding placing gravel on the Dundas section of 115<sup>th</sup>. A price quote was given to Dundas. The City Engineer responded with some questions regarding the quote. Mike Groth will address these questions with the Engineer.
  - c. Culvert at Wett's residence
    - i. Barr Engineering is working on a quote and recommendations for the new culvert.
    - ii. Gary Ebling is looking into who can do the work before the ground freezes. Answers should be available by the end of next week.
- 4. Equipment
  - a. The new truck is with Tow Master to have the snow package added. The truck is anticipated to be available to the Township in November.
- 5. Misc.
  - a. Gary Ebling reviewed past resolutions sent to Rice County. He will work with Rice County to meet to review these resolutions and possibly discuss the old C.U.Ps.

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	