

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**July 8, 2020**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Glen Castore, Kathleen Kopseng, Thomas Hart, Tracy Jonkman, Debbie Salaba, Jim Braun, Frances Boehning

Introduction of Guests: Peter Tiede, Andy Ebling, Janalee Cooper, Jim Purfeerst, Brad Pfahning, John Becker

**Approval of Agenda** – Kathleen Kopseng made a motion to approve the agenda, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** – Jim Purfeerst introduced himself as a resident of the county. He is running for Rice County Commissioner.

**Discussion with Peter Tiede**

- Conflict of Interest
  - Peter Tiede discussed the laws around conflict of interest as it relates to those serving on the Board of Supervisors. The rules are clear that when there is the possibility of monetary gain, the Supervisor with the conflict of interest should recuse themselves from influencing the Board or voting on that matter. The Supervisor is permitted to act in the capacity of a resident and present information to the Board.
- Open Meeting Law
  - Mr. Tiede reviewed the rules regarding open meeting laws. As a five-member Board, two members are allowed to talk, but care must still be taken to avoid expanding the discussion further to other members. It was noted that both the League of Cities and the Minnesota Association of Townships have information regarding this online.
- New Plow Truck
  - Glen Castore reviewed the history with the new plow truck. Mike Groth will be going up to retrieve the truck from TowMaster while Peter Tiede will be contacting them regarding payment.

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- July Claims – Thomas Hart made a motion to approve the July claims, Tracy Jonkman seconded, all approved.
- June 10, 2020, Meeting Minutes – Kathleen Kopseng made a motion to approve the minutes of June 10<sup>th</sup>, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Treasurer's Report –
  - Debbie Salaba noted that the check from Vance Norgaard was returned to him as the variance was not needed.
  - The equipment fund account at Merchant's Bank was closed as the funds had been moved to a similar account at Frandsen.
  - The process of closing the checking account at Merchant's Bank was reviewed. As the State and Rice County update their systems for direct deposit, we will transition to Frandsen.

**Clerk's Report-** None

**Planning & Zoning**

- Staff Report
  - Jim Braun reviewed the permits issued to date and the upcoming public hearings to be held during the Planning Commission on July 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Update on compliance letters
  - Jim Braun has visited about half of the non-compliant properties and plans to visit the other half on Friday. He will provide a report to the Supervisors shortly after this.
  - Peter Tiede will be contacting three of the property owners that have not complied with Mr. Braun’s requests.
- House on 1<sup>st</sup> Timberlane
  - Peter Tiede will be sending a letter to the owner regarding next steps for this property.

**New Business**

- The Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors wish to publicly express their appreciation for all of the hard work and dedication shown by Supervisor Gary Ebling. He served as Supervisor for many years and was instrumental in assisting the township in setting the groundwork for future growth. His support and vision for the future was valuable to all residents. He will be greatly missed.
- Appoint new Supervisor –
  - The method of appointing a Supervisor to the Board to serve the remainder of Gary Ebling’s term was reviewed.
  - The current Supervisors will submit names to the Clerk for discussion during a special meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the Bridgewater Town Hall.

**Old Business**

- Roads
  - Plow and Grader driver – Mike Groth will work with the potential candidates to determine their ability to drive the road grader.
  - Chip Seal Asphalt – The work is expected to be done on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Post Weights on Asphalt Roads – The signs are available and Mike Groth will post them when he has time in the near future. Signs will also be added to Dahle Ave.
  - Dust Control – It was noted that Leif Knecht would like dust control on 147<sup>th</sup> street. Mike Groth stated that dust control would be coming next week.
  - Central Pond – Glen Castore has spoken with Burnett Bros and they will work to determine the schedule for completion of the project.
  - Wett Driveway – Glen Castore will talk to David Wett and let him know that Mike Groth will be cleaning out the ditches.

**Adjourn**

Chair	
Clerk	