

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
November 11, 2020
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Glen Castore, Kathleen Kopseng, Thomas Hart, Tracy Jonkman, Andy Ebling, Frances Boehning (Debbie Salaba was absent)

Introduction of Guests: Darrel Gilmer, Doug Ims, Casey Bailey, Brad Pfahning, Lorie and Robert Tuma

Approval of Agenda: Andy Ebling made a motion to approve the agenda, Tracy Jonkman seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- Mrs. Tuma reviewed the letter she received from the Township regarding concerns with their septic system. They were upset that the Township septic inspector, Darrel Gilmer, entered their property and conversed with the septic contractor hired by the Tumas. Mrs. Tuma reviewed the work they have done in the past to take care of their property and enhance the pond and water features. They expressed concern that Mr. Gilmer talked to their contractor, Lonnie Little, without their presence. Mr. Tuma noted that they had not requested Mr. Little to make modifications to the septic system beyond fixing a backed-up pipe. Mr. Gilmer reviewed his conversation with Mr. Little and noted that in addition to fixing the backed-up pipe, Mr. Little had added a drain field and other modifications. The drain field and modifications required a permit for the work. As a result of the lack of permit, MPCA rules state that a new system must be installed. Glen Castore stated that he would work with Darrel Gilmer and the MPCA to determine what the next steps should be.

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- November Claims – Thomas Hart made a motion to approve the November claims, Andy Ebling seconded, all approved.
- October 14, 2020, Meeting Minutes - Thomas Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of October 14th with changes, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer was absent from the meeting. The current report from the Treasurer was provided to the Supervisors.

Clerk's Report-

- Election Resolutions
 - Glen Castore made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-12 designating the annual absentee ballot voting location to be the Rice County Property Tax & Elections Department, Tracy Jonkman seconded, all approved.
 - Glen Castore made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-13 designating Rice County Property Tax & Election Department to handle the Bridgewater Township UOCAVA voting, Andy Ebling seconded, all approved.
 - Andy Ebling made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-14 designating the Bridgewater Town Hall at 500 Railway Street as the official polling place for all elections, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.
- Carpet Cleaning in Town Hall – The Supervisors approved the estimate of \$309.24 to hire Service Master to clean the carpets in the Town Hall.
- November newsletter – The Clerk will send the draft of the November Newsletter to the Supervisors for review.

Planning & Zoning

- IMS TEPP

- The Staff Report regarding the IMS TEPP was reviewed. The Planning Commission recommends approval of the TEPP with the conditions noted. Doug Ims plans to crush the remaining material in the pit by the end of November. Following this, he will begin restoration and move operations to another location.
- Andy Ebling made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-11 for the Interim Use Permit for Temporary Equipment Placement for Swenke-Ims Construction, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.
- Variance for Casey Bailey
 - The Staff Report for the Variance for Casey Bailey was reviewed along with the approval from the Planning Commission.
 - Thomas Hart made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-10 for the Variance for construction of a garage in the front yard setback for 4886 90th Street E., Northfield, Andy Ebling seconded, all approved.

New Business

- Northfield Annexation Agreement negotiations
 - Glen Castore reviewed that a meeting will be set in December for the small group to meet with representative from the City of Northfield. Peter Tiede has reviewed a tentative agreement that will be forwarded to the Board.
 - The history of township annexations was reviewed.
- CRWP – reports.
 - Tracy Jonkman noted that a recent newspaper article was informative. There is the possibility of grant money being made available next year. She will continue to look into this.

Old Business

- Roads
 - Glen Castore suggested that the area around the Central Pond could be burned to encourage new growth. Mike Groth talked to Zumbro Forestry and they advised that inter-seeding would be more effective.
 - Mike Groth is working with contractors to trim some of the trees in the developments.
 - Tracy Jonkman referenced an email sent to the “Board” asking if the speed limit on Dahl Avenue could be lowered. Glen Castore stated that the speed limit is set by the state and to lower it would need a full road study and application to the state for a change.
 - Kathleen Kopseng noted that copies of the draft Dakota Cty Comp Plan and the Rice County Road Plan had recently been emailed. Glen Castore reviewed that the Rice County Road Plan does concern the Township as those items planned within the next two years will likely happen. It was mentioned that changes mentioned in the plan could have a potential impact on the annual budget and should be kept in mind.
 - Glen Castore reviewed a recent meeting at the railroad crossing at 140th street. MNDOT and the Railroad are looking at possible safety features that could be added. The Township will be notified in six months if changes will be made with actual construction happening within two years.
 - Kathleen Kopseng asked if Rice County was going to take over Decker Ave. Glen Castore reviewed the steps needed to move the ownership of the road to Rice Cty.
- Road policy update
 - Andy Ebling and Thomas Hart have been working with Peter Tiede regarding a new policy. They will continue working with Mr. Tiede to obtain a final draft to present to the Board at the December meeting.

Issues for future meetings

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	