

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
January 13, 2021
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Glen Castore, Kathleen Kopseng, Thomas Hart, Tracy Jonkman, Andy Ebling, Debbie Salaba, Mike Groth

Introduction of Guests: None

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

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: None

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- January Claims – Kathleen Kopseng made a motion to approve the January claims, Andy Ebling seconded, all approved.
- December 9, 2020 and January 9, 2021, Meeting Minutes – Andy Ebling made a motion to approve the minutes from December 9, 2020, and January 9, 2021, Tracy Jonkman seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report
 - Debbie Salaba reviewed the current bank balances. She noted that \$36,000 was moved from the Landfill account to the operating account to cover the cost of demolition of the 1st Timberlane house. Payments made by the state of MN are still going into the Merchants bank account. Debbie Salaba is working with the state to change this so that funds are deposited into the Frandsen account.
 - Debbie Salaba noted that the W-2s and year end IRS reporting is complete. A report will be provided to the Board monthly showing that all IRS payments are being made on time.
- IRS Reporting
 - Glen Castore reviewed past problems with payments to the IRS. Due to missing some payments to the IRS in the past, the Township has received fines.
 - Debbie Salaba presented a report that is available from the IRS that confirms when payments have been made and if anything is missing. This report will be provided to the Board on a monthly basis.

Clerk's Report-

- Elections update
 - Eight candidates filed for the open Township Board positions.
 - Supervisor position: Position A = Glen Castore; Position B = Andy Ebling and Nathan Menge; Position D = Tracy Jonkman and Michael Little; Position E = Thomas Hart and Roger Helgeson; Treasurer = Debbie Salaba.
- Checklist of Annual Reports
 - The Clerk reviewed the list of reports that are completed by the Township each year. A calendar will be provided to the Supervisors with report due dates shown.

Planning & Zoning

- Public Hearing for Ordinance 2021-1 Fee Schedule
 - The Public Hearing for Ordinance 2021-01 was opened at 7:34 pm and closed at 7:35 pm due to no public comment.
 - The Clerk reviewed the changes to the fee schedule. Supervisor Ebling requested that information regarding the fees and escrow be made available on the application.

- City of Dundas/Dundas ARD changes
 - Glen Castore reviewed the memo from the Board of Supervisors that will be given to the Dundas Planning Commission.
 - A discussion was held regarding the current annexation agreement and the limits to authority.
 - Glen Castore made a motion to send the memo from the Board of Supervisors and the memo from Cindy Nash to the Dundas Planning Commission, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.

- Non-compliant properties
 - Glen Castore reviewed the current non-compliant properties
 - Tracy Jonkman suggested that an initial letter come from the township followed by a letter from the attorney if work is not done.
 - Glen Castore suggested that the initial letter be sent by the current Zoning Administrator.
 - Mike Groth will check on the properties on the list when he is working in the township.
 - The list will be reviewed again in March.
 - The owners of a property along Hwy 19 will be notified by the Zoning Administrator that it is against ordinance to reside in a travel trailer and that it is not permissible to use a neighbor's septic system.

New Business

- Rezoning Discussion
 - Glen Castore reviewed a recent meeting with a resident and Galen Malecha regarding potential opportunities in the Comus junction area. The Supervisors will work with Rice County to explore possible zoning opportunities in the area. Future discussions will be held regarding defining the area and how current residents would be affected.

Old Business

- Roads
 - The recent 2021 budget for roads was reviewed.
 - A discussion was held regarding how other township manage dust control. A letter will be drafted to residents regarding dust control and how residents can request additional applications.

- Tree removal with rented skid loader
 - Mike Groth reviewed the difficulties in trimming trees in some areas due to heavy undergrowth.

- Mr. Groth would like to rent a skid loader with a brush attachment that will cut and mulch brush more efficiently than current endeavors.
- The Board of Supervisors approved the rental of the skid loader to determine if it performs better than current methods.
- Road policy ordinance update
 - Andy Ebling and Thomas Hart reviewed the new Right of Way policy.
 - A public hearing for the new ordinance will be held next month.
- Timberlane Demolition
 - The demolition of 10563 1st Timberlane is complete. The cost of the demolition will be assessed to the property taxes.

Old Business

- Miscellaneous
 - The Audit meeting will be held on Saturday, February 6th, at 9:00 am in the Bridgewater Town Hall.

Issues for future meetings - None

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	