

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**January 11, 2023**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Kathleen Kopseng, Andrew Ebling, Thomas Hart, Debbie Salaba, Glen Castore, Mike Little, Lori Noreen

Introduction of Guests: Jesse Thomas, Lori Williams, R. Steinbachen, Kerry Hanson, Pam Franz, Mary Franz, Kate Franek, Jeremiah Franz

**Approval of Agenda**

- Mike Little made a motion to approve the agenda, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.

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

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- January Claims
  - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the claims, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
- December 14, 2022 & January 7, 2023, Meeting Minutes
  - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the minutes of December 9<sup>th</sup> and January 7<sup>th</sup>, Andy Ebling seconded, all approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Treasurer's Report
  - All claims were paid for the month, checks 9983 have been voided.
  - The final real estate tax payment has been received for 2022.
  - The Treasurer will work with Reese, Winter & Associates again this year for year end and payroll W-2's etc.
  - An Audit for 2022 and a Budget for 2023 need to be prepared prior to the annual meeting in March, there will be a special meeting held on Saturday, February 4, 2023 for this purpose. The Clerk will provide a budget spreadsheet to the Supervisors to prepare for the meeting.
- IRS Reporting –
  - The report was provided to Kathleen Kopseng.

**Clerk's Report-** none

**Roads**

- Andrew Ebling stated that Mike Groth trained the new plow driver hired prior to the holidays and that the new driver has been a success in helping with the plowing load after the large storm.
- Andrew Ebling discussed that Rice County had called stating they noticed the north side of Baseline had not been plowed after the last large storm. After review, the road had been plowed the evening before, but BWT plow drivers had not yet been back to clear the road again after additional snow fell.
- Andrew Ebling stated that there were again some mailbox inquiries but relatively minimal.
- Comments made by guests that the plow crew, in their opinion, was doing a great job.

## Planning & Zoning-

- RLS Update
  - Glen Castore made a motion to enter into an agreement with Northland Security to engage as Underwriter and Planning Consultant for the project. Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
  - Glen Castore discussed that he gave the go ahead to begin working on the Environmental Worksheet to Stantec.
  - Glen Castore stated that Peter Tiede drafted an Escrow Agreement in the amount of \$75,000 but it is not quite ready. He will get the Agreement sent out the following week with mention that the Escrow will be replenished throughout the project to cover incurred fees.
- Sartor Lot Split
  - Glen Castore discussed that he will have a meeting on Friday 1/13 with Chief Assistance Rice Co. Attorney Adam Johnson, and that closing down the pit will be the topic of discussion. After the meeting is held, they will proceed with having Peter Tiede send out a letter.
- Possible Planning & Zoning Committee Candidates
  - Kathleen Kopseng stated that both Bruce Morlen and Larry Alderks are willing to stay on the Dundas Planning Committee this year.
  - There was a discussion that John Klockeman and Ray Larson have expressed interest in stepping down from the Planning & Zoning Committee. John, Ray and Bruce Morlan's terms are up in May, 2023.
  - There was a discussion of possible candidates which are: Marie Johnson, John Thomas & Brad Phanning.
- Meeting update
  - Mike Little stated that there has not been a meeting yet to report on. The next meeting is Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 2023.

## Old Business

- Williams Cartway – update
  - Glen Castore stated that there were some private proposals within the last month.
  - Lori Williams commented that the negotiations had hit a stale mate and she does not see the parties at hand coming to terms.
  - Glen Castore stated that in the last meeting held at his home that the decision on the Cartway has been moved to the February 8th BOS Meeting. There will be a resolution regarding the cartway addressed in the February meeting.
  - Peter Tiede will create a resolution to create the cartway and will distribute prior to the next meeting.
  - Once the resolution passes and the cartway is established the checks for payment will be distributed to Hansen and Franz.
  - Lori expressed her gratitude to the Board for their time and efforts.
- Facility Improvements – update
  - The panels for the new building have been delivered to the Town Hall parking lot. Once the weather clears up, the trusses will be put up.
  - Kathleen Kopseng stated that the Variance for the addition to the hall passed but there are still some landscape plan changes that need to occur per the City of Dundas.

- It was discussed that there will be a vote on the loan needed from Frandsen Bank & Trust to complete the new building. It was stated that the loan cannot be a mortgage because BWT is a government entity.
- Frandsen Bank & Trust provided a Real Estate Estimate of Value to us for our records.
- It was stated that there will not be a loan needed for the Hall addition as we will use the ARPA funds for that project.
- Rural Industrial Zone – update
  - It was mentioned that the Rice County 2014 Rail Authority gives flexibility on the rail spurs but it is uncertain of what that means at this time.
  - Glen Castore discussed that there is some benefit if Steele Waseca is involved rather than Xcel in the Rural Industrial Zone. Steele Waseca can provide possible grant and loan monies for the projects within the industrial zone.
- Hollinger Residence - update
  - Kathleen Kopseng drove by earlier in the week and took a few pictures of the property as a starting point after the hearing where Ms. Hollinger was given 45 days to make progress on cleaning up her property.
  - There was a letter sent by Peter Tiede to Ms. Hollinger to let her know someone from the Township would be stopping by to check on the progress, if any. Glen Castore and Andrew Ebling will go Thursday, January 12, 2023 to do so.
  - It was discussed that there will be another check in at the property in February.

### **New Business**

- Septic Inspector
  - The Board agreed to move to Inspectron beginning April 1, 2023 in the last meeting in December as it was discussed that Darrel Gilmer is looking to retire in the near future. Inspectron does septic inspections, and the advantage of using them is that they have the capability of doing Type 4.
  - There was a question if the Township should stay with Darrel and his successor or in fact move to Inspectron.
  - The Clerk will look into what Inspectron's fees are for Septic Inspections and report back to the board for final decision prior to sending a letter to Darrel stating we will be making the move April 1.

### **Issues for future meetings**

- State Hwy 246
  - There is current discussion of MN DOT turning Hwy 246 over to Rice County. Northfield Township is writing a letter regarding the possibility of turning the road back to the County. Stating certain concerns, such as the usage of the road by large trucks. If the County Trucks can handle the maintenance as well as the State Trucks.
  - It was discussed if Bridgewater Township should follow Northfield Township's lead and send a letter expressing its concerns as well and decided that we should. Glen Castore will write the letter.
  - Glen Castore will pass along to the City of Northfield at their Transportation meeting that Bridgewater Township is not in favor of the possible change.

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	