

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**February 8, 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: Marie Johnson, Greg Johnson, Lori Williams, Kerry Hanson, Pam Franz, Mary Franz, Jeremiah Franz, Mike Hoover, Terry Barck, Linda Bark

**Approval of Agenda**

- Glen Castore made a motion to approve the Agenda, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.

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

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- February Claims
  - Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve the Claims, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.
- January 11, 2023 & February 4, 2023, Meeting Minutes
  - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 11<sup>th</sup> and February 4<sup>th</sup>, Mike Little seconded, all approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Treasurer's Report
  - All claims were paid for the month.
  - Reese, Winter & Associates completed the W-2's in January and were sent out.
  - Merchant's Bank CD is coming up for renewal. It was discussed to proceed with the renewal at a 2-year term.
- IRS Reporting –
  - The Treasurer will provide the report to Kathleen Kopseng.

**Clerk's Report-**

- Appoint Election Judges
  - It was noted to remove Glen Castore from the Election Judge list.
  - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the list of judges for 2023 after Glen Castore's removal, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.

**Roads**

- Ebel Ray Road Maintenance
  - It was discussed that there will be continued research into the most suitable company to do the project.
  - Mike Groth discussed that he spoke with Midwest 2 weeks prior to get on their schedule with dates and pricing for the work.

- Andrew Ebling discussed that time had been spent on the roads chipping to remove ice buildup after the most recent weather. There was a request from a guest to have chips placed on Falk Ave & 145<sup>th</sup> St. Mike Groth mentioned that he was out Tuesday 2/9 and chipped all the roads in the Township. He stated he would head back out to Falk Ave & 145<sup>th</sup> St. to check on their condition.
- Andrew Ebling stated that dust control inquiries have begun. Mike Little suggested to compile a list of residents who would like to have dust control done so it can be completed all at once. It was discussed to add how the process will happen in the next Newsletter.
- Kathleen Kopseng commented thanking Mike Groth and Randy Ascheman for all the work they have performed on the roads this season so far.

### **Planning & Zoning-**

- RLS Update
  - Glen Castore discussed that Union Pacific has not approved the rail siding until there is an engineering design. RLS is waiting for permission for the siding.
  - Glen Castore discussed that RLS would like to have Steele Waseca as their utility provider as the company can offer backups. Because the property is in Xcel territory there will have to be a petition to the Utility Commission. This process can take up to 6 months to a year. It was decided that there will be a 1 page agreement written to share the cost and work together to petition for Steele Waseca to be the utility provider to RLS.
  - Glen Castore discussed that the Environmental Assessment Worksheet is ongoing and is expected to be completed by June.
  - Glen Castore stated that Peter Tiede is in the process of drafting the Escrow Agreement for RLS and it is close to ready. It was decided that the Board will approve the Escrow at the February 25<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting.
- Sartor Lot Split
  - Glen Castore discussed that met with Chief Assistant Rice Co. Attorney Adam Johnson regarding closing the pit. It was mentioned that Adam Johnson has also met with Peter Tiede regarding the pit. Glen Castore will reach out to Adam Johnson to see where things are at with this matter.
- Reginaldo & Amy Haslett-Marroquin Property 03.32.2.50.002 Compliance Check
  - It was mentioned that there are multiple buildings being built at this site with no permits that have been pulled. There is a question if this is out of compliance.
  - It was discussed to reach out to the Zoning Administrator to see if they are in fact out of compliance and needs permits for these buildings.
  - It was decided that a letter is to be sent to the property owners regarding the buildings and invite them to the March meeting to discuss. A draft will be written for Andrew Ebling and Kathleen Kopseng to review and then the letter will be sent to the property owners.

### **Old Business**

- Williams Cartway Resolution 23-02
  - Mike Little made a motion to approve Resolution 23-02 to create a Cartway. Glen Castore seconded. All approved Resolution 23-02.

- Glen Castore explained that the Cartway will be established and the Township will own the property.
- Payment to Pamela Franz and Kerry Hanson was distributed awarding damages for property lost in creating the Cartway.
- It was discussed that once the Cartway is created it will be a public road. The petitioner of the cartway does have the right to request the Cartway to become private. The petitioner would have to place a request to the Board. The Board would then decide whether the Cartway would become private.
- Jeremiah Franz asked the question if residents directly involved with the Cartway can have any input as to how the Cartway is constructed. The question being to possibly incur the least amount of land loss to the property owners. The answer is no, not on a Cartway.
- Glen Castore explained there is a process to vacate the Cartway if at some point it is needed or wanted. If the Cartway is in fact vacated the property would go back to the land owners.
- Glen Castore suggested to have a meeting with Peter Tiede and all involved with the Cartway to better explain how the process will work going forward.
- Facility Improvements Resolution 23-01
  - Thomas Hart made a motion to approve Resolution 23-01 Frandsen Bank Loan. Mike Little seconded the motion. All approved Resolution 23-01.
  - Glen Castore discussed the loan will be a construction loan in the amount of \$300,000. The construction loan will be in effect until the end of September. At that time the loan will turn into a Term loan at a 4.5% interest rate. The first payment will be due December 15, 2023.
  - Glen Castore explained that there will be no penalty if the loan is paid off early.
  - It was mentioned that \$300,000 is the maximum amount the Township can borrow but there is a chance that not all of it will be used.
- Hollinger Residence - update
  - Kathleen Kopseng discussed that the 6 week timeframe to clean up the property is coming up. The next court date is February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
  - Mike Little mentions that it looked like some items may have been moved, but not real change has happened.
  - It was asked what Peter Tiede should tell the Judge at the hearing. It was decided that he should state that very minimal adjustments have been made.
  - Kathleen Kopseng discussed that she will go to the property and take some updated pictures for Peter Tiede to take to the hearing.
- Septic Inspector
  - The Clerk investigated Inspectron's fees for Septic Inspections and reported back to the Board.
  - It was discussed that the Clerk will reach back out to Inspectron to find out if their fee is for all types or if there is a higher fee for types 4 & 5 systems.
  - The Clerk will add to the next Newsletter the change in the Septic Permit fee when the change of the service provider goes into effect.
  - A letter will be sent to Darrel Gilmer once the final decision is made to proceed with Inspectron as the new Septic Inspector for Bridgewater Township.

**New Business**

- Fee Schedule Public Hearing
  - The Public Hearing was opened at 8:14pm and closed at 8:15pm.
  - Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-01 2023 Fee Schedule. Glen Castore seconded the motion. All approved.
- NFARS Agreement
  - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the Annual agreement for Fire Protection Services with NFARS. Andrew Ebling seconded the motion. All approved.
  - Glen Castore commented that Paul Liebenstein is resigning as Bridgewater Township’s representative and a replacement will need to be sought.
  - After the meeting Glen Castore spoke with Mary Franz regarding becoming BWT’s representative and she agreed to do so.
- Motion to Recommend Resolution for Levy
  - Glen Castore discussed there needs to be an agreement to increase the levy.
  - It was approved to increase the levy to 7%
  - Glen Castore made a motion to recommend a Resolution for a Levy increase at the Annual Meeting. Thomas Hart seconded the motion. All approved.
- Greenvale Twp to hold Intergovernmental Meeting – Wednesday, February 15, 2023
  - Thomas Hart and Mike Little mentioned that they will attend the meeting.
- DNR money available for parks, trails, etc.
  - Kathleen Kopseng brought to the Boards attention that the the most recent Township Insider that there is possible money available for parks, trails, etc in the Township.
  - Glen Castore mentioned that the money available would be granted to Mill Towns Trail Board prior to the Township.

**Issues for future meetings**

- There were no items brought to the attention of the Board.

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	