

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
April 12, 2023
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introduction of Guests: Jane Hanson, Jan Stevens, Andrew Stevens

Approval of Agenda

- Glen Castore requested to move the Planning & Zoning up after the Clerk's Report
- Kathleen Kopseng requested to add Township History to the end of the meeting.
- Mike Little made a motion to approve the Agenda, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items n/a

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- April Claims
 - Kathleen Kopseng made a motion to approve the Claims, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
- March 8th, 2023, March 14th and April 5th Meeting Minutes
 - Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 8th, March 14th, and April 5th, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report
 - Debbie Salaba transferred monies from the dedicated investments account to an 18th month CD at the interest rate of 4%.
 - It was stated that per the last meetings discussion Debbie Salaba transferred monies to the operating account to cover paying claims, then the Landfill monies were deposited. 25% was transferred back. It was asked if the monies transferred from the host account be transferred back as well.
 - It was decided to leave the monies in the operating account.
 - Debbie Salaba stated that the Dundas Solar CD at Merchants Bank was automatically renewed for a 5-year 1.7% term.
 - It was discussed to remove this money and pay the early withdrawal penalty and put it in a 3year 3.8% CD.
 - It was discussed to open a separate account for Escrow monies to help keep track of those separate from the operating funds. It was agreed to do so.
- IRS Reporting
 - The Treasurer will provide the report to Glen Castore.

Clerk's Report

Planning & Zoning-

- St. Olaf Preliminary Plat
 - Guest Jane Hanson from St. Olaf explained to the Board the reason for the Plat is that St. Olaf has plans to sell a parcel west of Eaves Ave.
 - It was explained that the current plot intersects with Eaves Ave and the main purpose of this is to clean up the parcel lines to sell the property. The rest of the parcels will then have clean property lines.

- It was also discussed that the purpose of this is to properly record the easement to Eaves Ave with the City of Northfield which was not completed with the road was constructed.
- Kathleen Kopseng made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-04 Approving a Preliminary and Final Plat for a development known as St. Olaf West Addition, Mike Little seconded the motion, all approved. Resolution 2023-04 passed.
- RLS – update
 - The Board had a special meeting at 6pm discussing the updates on the RLS project.
- Set Date for next RLS meeting
 - It was decided to hold the nest RLS meeting on May 10th at 6pm.
- Meeting Update
 - Mike Little explained that the Planning & Zoning Meeting held on March 30th went well. The Committee was joined by Drew Greenberg to discuss the RLS project.
 - Mike Little stated that the St Olaf Plat resolution and the Third-Party Fee Ordinance was reviewed and approved to send along to the Board for review.
 - Mike Little discussed that the date of the next P&Z Meeting will be Tuesday, April 25 as there was a conflict on the originally scheduled date of Thursday April 27th.

Roads

- 125th Street – Minimum Maintenance Road
 - Glen Castore expressed that he received a phone call from the Sheriff that a car and town truck were stuck on 125th St. and asked for a plow truck to come help get them out.
 - Glen explained that he spoke with Mike Groth that evening who stated that the plow truck is not able to make it down that road to help.
 - There was discussion as to how to solve the issue of people getting stuck on this road.
 - It was suggested to possibly place cement barriers at the entrances of the road during the winter month to prohibit drivers from entering the road.
 - It was suggested to possibly place posts and chains at the entrances of the road as a solution.
 - It was suggested to update the signage to reinforce the fact the road is a Minimum Maintenance Road.
- Fawn Court – Snowplowing & speeding
 - There was a call from a resident that the snowplow hit and damaged trees with its wing during one of the plowing sessions.
 - Andrew Ebling stated that he would go take a look to see if this was in fact the plow that damaged the trees or snow coming from the plow that hit the branches.
- Fox Ave
 - A resident placed a call stating that the plow damaged an area of grass during this past winter season and would like it replaced by the Township.
 - It was stated to add this area to the Road Superintendent’s list to grade the area.
 - It was decided to respond to the resident that this issue will be added to the list of items to work on for the Road Department.

- 147th St.
 - It was brought to a Supervisor's attention that during the last snow fall and plowing there was a significant amount of gravel that was thrown into the grass. It was enough that it was needed to be cleaned professionally. The resident requested to be reimbursed for the cleanup.
 - It was determined that a Supervisor will go and review the area and if it is significant the Township will reimburse the resident for the work done to clean up the area.
- 115th St / Ebel Way
 - Kathleen Kopseng asked if there was an update regarding 115th St.
 - It was answered that there has been no update at this time.
 - Kathleen Kopseng asked if there was an update on the cost of grinding Ebel Way.
 - It was answered that the estimate has not yet been received.

Old Business

- Hollinger Residence – update
 - Andrew Ebling stated that he will be going Friday April 14th to do a physical walk around at the residence to see if any progress has been made.
 - It was discussed that Peter Tiede is requesting current pictures for the next hearing which is in 2 weeks from the meeting.
 - Mike Little stated that from his prospective by driving by the property had not made much change or improvement.
- Facility Improvements – Contract Change Order
 - The contract change order was reviewed by the Supervisors for Storm Water control.
 - It was discussed and decided that there is some clarification needed if this pertains to the new building or the hall addition.
 - Glen Castore stated that he will contact Steve at ProCon to clarify before approving the change order.
 - It was decided that the change order could be signed upon obtaining clarification of the Change order.
 - Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve signing the change order upon clarification with ProCon, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.

New Business

- Fee Schedule Public Hearing
 - The Public Hearing was opened at 7:48pm with no comments or discussion. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:49pm.
 - Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-02 Fee Schedule, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.
- Third Party Consultant Fees
 - The Planning & Zoning Commission approved the Third-Party Consultant Fees Ordinance 2023-03 at the March 30th meeting to send to the Board for approval.
 - It was discussed that the purpose of this Ordinance is to provide relief in extra time spent than expected on larger projects.
 - It was discussed upon approval to post this ordinance to the public so businesses are aware of possible fees that could be incurred to them.
 - Mike Little made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-03 Third-Party Consultant Fees, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.

- Central Pond – Phosphorus Abatement
 - Glen Castore discussed that he spoke with Jim Gill regarding the Central Pond and Phosphorus Abatement. It was stated that currently the Cannon River is receiving the overflow. It was suggested if the current barrier was removed the water would flow to the pond instead of the Cannon River and would benefit from it.
 - Glen Castore explained that a possible group of volunteers (Becca Carlson, Anne Sawyer, Jim Gill) could work on this with the DNR to approve the idea to clean up the water.
 - Andrew Ebling mentioned that this is a good idea but the Township must ensure it is foolproof before doing it to avoid substantial fines.
 - Glen Castore will reach out to Jim Gill to pursue the potential project.
- Industrial District
 - Name: Comus Industrial Park
 - Glen Castore suggested to name the Rural Industrial Area Comus Industrial Park. It was agreed upon by the Board.
 - Kathleen Kopseng suggested signage for the area when the time comes. Possibly on the area of land the Township will potentially own.
 - Area for Utilities
 - Glen Castore discussed the idea of purchasing a parcel of land in the Rural Industrial Area for utilities owned by the Township. i.e., Well, Water Storage, Power, Fiber Optic, etc.
 - It was discussed the parcel in mind is owned by Ed Koktavy.
 - It was discussed the size of the parcel with the suggestion of 5 acres in case of future improvements by the Township.
 - It was stated that Glen Castore will reach out to Stantec what is needed for space and then speak with Mr. Koktavy to purchase the land in a closed meeting.
 - Rezoning parcel behind R&D Automotive
 - It was discussed that the 2.5 acre piece is currently zoned agricultural.
 - RLS is in need of this area for setback purposes therefore there is a possibility it will need to be rezoned.
 - It was discussed that if this is in fact needed the Township will pay the application fee.
- Resolution to Change Township Election Polling Hours
 - It was approved at the March 8th meeting to change the polling hours of the Township Election from 10am-8pm to 2pm-8pm.
 - Thomas Hart made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-003 Change Polling Hours for municipal elections, Mike Little seconded, all approved.
- Rice County Fair Donation Request Letter
 - The letter requesting a donation to the Rice County Fair was reviewed and decided that the Township will donate \$500.00.
 - Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve donating \$500.00 to the Rice County Fair, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.
- Web Site – Business Permits
 - It was discussed that the permitting applications are not easily found on the Township’s website.
 - It was decided that the Clerk will work with the Website to add a Permit Page easily maneuvered by people so that they can be found.
- Old Head Table

- The new tables arrived, and Andrew Ebling put them together prior to the meeting.
- It was discussed as to what to do with the old head table.
- It was agreed that the table will be refinished and could be placed in the Hall after the addition is complete for use and posterity.
- It was also discussed that the voting booths be replaced with newer ones for the 2024 Presidential Election.
 - The Clerk will investigate new voting booths.
- Township History
 - Kathleen Kopseng provided a sheet for the Board for review revisiting the 2023 Reorganization Meeting held April 5th, 2023.
 - Kathleen Kopseng expressed concern regarding how the Supervisor responsibilities were assigned.
 - There was discussion between the Supervisors as to how the decisions were made at the meeting.
 - It was decided that the responsibilities will be disbursed over all 5 Supervisors with Kathleen Kopseng taking the spot of Andrew Ebling in regards to meetings, discussions and working to complete the NOAA. Other areas of responsibility will be working with the City of Dundas, City of Northfield, 115th St, Decker Ave and helping Mike Little in regards to Roads when he is unable to address issues.

Issues for future meetings

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	