

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**August 9, 2023**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introduction of Guests: Jim Olds, Don Diehl

**Approval of Agenda**

- Kathleen Kopseng requested to amend the Agenda to add Ebel Way update under Roads
- Glen Castore requested to amend the Agenda to add Ebert Ct to New Business
- Mike Little made a motion to approve the amended Agenda, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.

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

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- July 12th Meeting Minutes
  - Kathleen Kopseng made a motion to approve the Minutes of July 12<sup>th</sup>, Mike Little seconded, all approved.
- August Claims
  - Thomas Hart made a motion to approve the August Claims, Kathleen Kopseng seconded, all approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Treasurer's Report
  - Debbie Salaba provided an update on the Township accounts noting all are holding strong.
  - The Escrow Checking will be updated to show the amount of Escrow funds the Township has separate from the Operating Account.
  - Glen Castore asked if we have paid for the gravel placed on roads in 2023, it was answered that the Township has yet to receive the bill.
  - The Operating Account balance is approximately at \$67K after paying the claims for the month.
- IRS Reporting
  - The Treasurer provided the report to Glen Castore.

**Clerk's Report - None**

**Roads**

- Wendwood road repairs
  - Glen Castore opened the dialogue stating that he and Andrew Ebling have been in contact with resident Don Diehl, who lives in the Wendwood Development, regarding the Township's Roads Policy and the possibility of the Township's participation in the repair of the road.
  - Don Diehl discussed with the Board that the residents living in the development are discussing the possibility of completely resurfacing the entire road as compared to only fixing the potholes and cracks. He has been

in contact with some companies for quotes to renovate the road with different options of what can/could be done.

- It was discussed that Endwood Trail is in poor condition and it is most likely due to be renovated.
- Glen Castore suggested to create a policy for maintenance and repair of the asphalted roads in the Township. It was discussed that each asphalted road be assessed and determine a timeline of which roads will be addressed in each upcoming year.
- It was decided that the Board will get a policy in place for asphalt maintenance.
- Don Diehl noted he will work on obtaining more estimates for the repair of Endwood Trail.
- Update re: Road Policy meeting with Dundas
  - Thomas Hart discussed that the meeting he and Kathleen Kopseng attended with the City of Dundas was productive. There was review of the policy and discussion to better understand the red lined items on the most current draft.
  - It was noted that Thomas Hart and Kathleen Kopseng have a meeting with the Attorney in the upcoming week to further discuss the policy.
- Ebel Way - update
  - An update of the road was given noting that it has been ground. An excavator will be arriving within the next few weeks to work on the problematic area. Once the excavator is done with its work, the grater will need to fill it in, then asphalt will be put down.
  - Mike Groth will call to schedule the excavator to perform the work needed.
  - It was noted the timeline for the project to be complete as either late this year or next spring/early summer. The hole needs to be definitely corrected before asphalt can be put down.

#### **Planning & Zoning-**

- Mike Little noted that the July meeting had been cancelled
- It was brought up as to why the Comp Plan is still not complete. It was decided that Kathleen Kopseng will reach out to Cindy Nash to discuss where the Comp Plan is at and try to obtain a completion date.

#### **Old Business**

- RLS Project
  - Glen Castore explained that the EAW package will go out for public comment on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. There will be 30 days for comment. At the end of the 30 days the Board will review. The approximate date is September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
  - Glen Castore noted that RLS has had a name change. The company's new name is Core X Partners.
  - Glen Castore stated that the letter of intent for Core X Partners to purchase the land from Ed Koktavy has been converted to a Purchase Agreement. This will be executed once the EAW is finished.
  - There was discussion on the status of the Rail Siding with it being noted that the company feels it is close enough to approval that they are willing to proceed with the purchase of the land.

- Glen Castore explained that the Township has signed a letter of intent to purchase 5.5 acres from Ed Koktavy.
- It was discussed if the decision was made on the electric utility company to be used. Core X Partners has agreed they would like to proceed with Steele Waseca. It was stated that the next step is the company will speak with Xcel to ask for an agreement to let Steele Waseca provide the service. If they do not agree the procedure to petition for Steele Waseca to be the provider will ensue. This process could take up to 6 months.
- There was discussion regarding obtaining an Escrow agreement with Core X Partners. It was stated that the company is working on drafting their own agreement for review.
- Glen Castore stated that he has sent a statement of expenses the Township has incurred to Core X Partners.
- It was discussed that the Township is looking at a 300K gallon Harvester to purchase for use as a water tower for the area.
- Keepsake Cidery
  - Glen Castore explained that he spoke with the Attorney regarding the grievances the neighbors have with Keepsake Cidery. The Attorney's assessment is that there is no hard evidence of non-compliance. It was noted that the Attorney will be writing a letter to the neighbor to state this.
  - Glen Castore noted that the Board will reevaluate the situation in 3 months' time. The neighbor needs to gather evidence of non-compliance.
  - It was noted that the Township does have the authority to revoke Keepsake's CUP if in fact they are not in compliance.
  - It was discussed that the neighbor expressed her frustration that her driveway was not treated with dust control. The reasoning it was not treated is the drive is a private drive shared by both Keepsake and the neighbor.
  - Glen Castore stated that he will reach out to Nate Watters regarding the dust to see if he would be willing to put some dust control treatment down on the private drive.
- Hollinger Residence – update
  - It was noted that the residence has been cleaned up to the satisfaction of the Township and has been resolved without the need of a service to provide the cleanup work.
  - Glen Castore stated that he had the Sheriff's Office deliver the court order which may have led to the clean up being performed by the resident.
- Facility Improvements
  - Mike Groth requested from the Board that they obtain an actual completion date of the shed. Glen Castore will reach out to Pro Con to obtain an end date of the project.
  - It was noted that the addition is tentatively scheduled to begin in the "next couple weeks" with the anticipation of the exterior work completed by mid-September.

## **New Business**

- Ebert Court
  - Glen Castore discussed that he went to speak with Sheriff Jesse Thomas regarding the issues brought to the Township's attention from some concerned neighbors. He stated that the Sheriff was out on vacation, but he did speak with a Deputy who agreed to patrol the location when he is in the

area. Glen noted that he will follow up with the Sheriff once he is back from vacation to see what can be done regarding the concerns.

- It was noted that the Clerk will relay to the neighbors what the Township's next steps are to keep them apprised of the situation.

#### **Issues for future meetings**

- Kathleen Kopseng noted that the topic of 2024 Gravel be discussed in the upcoming months.
- Landfill Fire – Kerry Barbetti and Andrew Ebling are working on forming a committee and meeting dates to continue the efforts of having a policy in tact regarding future Landfill fires. A date for a meeting has not been set.
- Road Policy Repair – Asphalt/Pavement Roads
- Jacobson Non-Compliant issue – this will be added to the next Agenda for Planning & Zoning Committee to review.

Adjourn