

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
June 10, 2009

TOWN of BIG LAKE
"Sherburne County's First 5-Member Township Board"
P.O. Box 75, Big Lake, Minnesota 55309

On Wednesday, June 10, 2009, the Big Lake Board of Supervisors met at the Big Lake Town Hall located in the Big Lake Lions Park Community Center at 21960 County Road #5, Big Lake Township, Sherburne County, State of Minnesota. The meeting was tape recorded for transcribing purposes only.

Chairman Hofer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 2 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken by the Chairman.

Board Members Present: Bob Hofer, Chairman
 Mike Hayes, Supervisor
 Norm Leslie, Supervisor
 Jim Stahlmann, Supervisor
 Larry Alfords, Supervisor
 Ken Warneke, Treasurer
 Laura Hayes, Clerk

Todd McLouth, Township Engineer

All present stood and recited the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Supervisor Hayes motioned to approve the agenda. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Stahlmann motioned to approve consent agenda items: a) Approval of Minutes: Regular Monthly Meeting 5-13-09, & Second Monthly Meeting 5-27-09. b) Approve Resignation of Troy Enebak from Big Lake Fire Department. c) Approve List of Claims (Disbursement List will be Received at Meeting). Supervisor Hayes seconded. Each Supervisor abstained from approval of their payroll claim. Supervisor Hayes abstained from approval of Clerk Hayes payroll claim. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Award 2009 Seal Coat & Road Improvements – Township Engineer, Todd McLouth presented the bid tabulations for the 2009 Seal Coat Improvements & 2009 Road Improvements. The engineer's estimate for seal coat projects was \$225,000.00 three bids were received. The low bidder was ASTECH Corp., with a bid of \$215,850.00. It was noted that ASTECH Corp. has done satisfactory work for the Township in the past.

The other two bids received were from Pearson Brothers Inc. and Allied Blacktop Co. Supervisor Alfords motioned to award the 2009 Seal Coat Bid to ASTECH Corporation; and, to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract. Supervisor Stahlmann seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

The engineer's estimate for Road Improvements was \$350,000.00 five bids were received. The low bidder was Knife River Corp., with a bid of \$328,636.26. It was noted that Knife River Corp. has done satisfactory work for the Township in the past. The other four bids received were from Rum River Const. Co., Hardrives, Inc., ASTECH Corp. and W. B. Miller Inc. Supervisor Leslie motioned to award the 2009 Road Improvements bid to Knife River Corp.; and, to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Treasurer Warneke advised that during the spring road tour, it was noted that 172nd Street, south of TH10 needs to be overlaid. This particular section of road has a lot of truck traffic. Treasurer Warneke advised the budget could be adjusted to include this repair with the 2009 Road Improvements. He noted in March the road budget had been proposed at \$900,000. Increasing the budget now to \$1,019,000. would still leave the road fund balance at \$1,000,000. at year end. Treasurer Warneke noted that most likely, the price of oil will not be going down and therefore, this is a good time to make improvements to the road. He further noted that it would not be necessary to recommend a change to the 2010 tax levy.

b) Contribution to Sherburne County Historical Society – Clerk Hayes advised the Township has been a patron member at the \$150. level for at least the past nine years, perhaps longer. Supervisor Stahlmann motioned to renew the Township's patron membership for \$150. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

c) Other-Updates-Meetings -

Clint Corrow/C.R. Development-Requesting a 2-year extension on the Preliminary Cluster Residential Plat of Rivercrest Farms (3rd) Addition – Clint Corrow appeared before the Board to request a 2-year extension on the preliminary plat of River Crest Farms. Clerk Hayes advised Mr. Corrow had requested and received plat extension in 2007. The Board reviewed the May 17, 2007 Sherburne County Planning Commission Minutes regarding the extension request. It was noted that the surrounding developments are tied into the design of Rivercrest Farms 3rd Addition to provide future road connection. Supervisor Alfords noted there is an unfinished stub road connecting to Knick Knack Knoll and inquired what the plans were for the road. Clint Corrow advised at the time he was developing the property, this piece of property was owned by Jamie Jacobs. He further advised that it is his intention to finish the road and to connect the entire RiverCrest Farms development to Knick Knack Knoll. Supervisor Alfords motioned to recommend approval of a 2-year extension on the Preliminary Cluster Residential Plat of Rivercrest Farms (3rd) Addition. Supervisor Hayes seconded the motion. All present voted in favor. The motion carried.

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Clerk Hayes advised Minnesota Association of Township Membership cards would be given to all Board Members and staff.

Clerk Hayes advised Supervisors Hayes and Leslie completed Local Board of Appeal and Equalization (LBAE) training in 2008. This training is effective until July 18, 2012. Supervisor Stahlmann advised he would be able to attend the LBAE training offered at the Minnesota Association of Townships Summer Short Course in St. Cloud on July 13.

Clerk Hayes advised there would be a grand opening of the Santiago Public Safety Building on Wednesday, June 24th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Alford advised that a section of 221st Avenue would be filled and elevated where it crosses the wetland. Members of the road committee and the Township Engineer met with the residents at 14917 221st Avenue regarding their driveway and matching it to the new road elevation.

-Supervisor Alford spoke with Jeff Rhodes regarding ditch mowing. Mowing is scheduled to begin the first of July. If spot mowing is necessary prior to that date, it will be considered.

-Treasurer Warneke advised the streetlight at the corner of Hwy 25 and County Road 17 had been re-installed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Chairman Hofer advised that in the Minnesota Association of Townships newspaper there is an article regarding proposed bills that did not move through the house or senate. One of those specific bills was SF 913/HF 1035, which placed restriction on Township and county zoning while strengthening a city's ability to annex township property under the disguise of being a bill about greenhouse gas emissions.

-Chairman Hofer advised there was new information regarding the contribution to the Big Lake Community Lake Association invasive weed program and a question regarding when it would be appropriate to release a contribution check. Supervisor Hayes advised he understood the Minnesota DNR was fully funding invasive weed control in Big Lake. Treasurer Warneke advised that City Administrator, Scott Johnson, had confirmed that information. He further noted that since the Town Board has not received a request from the Lake Association at a Town Board meeting, they should make a request in person. It was noted that the Lake Association was scheduled on the March 11, 2009 meeting agenda and did not attend the meeting to represent their request. Supervisor Leslie advised he has been in contact with Jim Ridgeway regarding the contribution.

Supervisor Leslie advised he felt the Lake Association would work toward reducing the parking fee, and will discuss this with the City of Big Lake sometime, but it won't happen this year. Treasurer Warneke inquired if the Lake Association were given the \$500. contribution, what would they do with it. Supervisor Stahlmann noted their original request was for \$2,500. Supervisor Hayes motioned to rescind the previous motion to contribute \$500. to the association; and, to request that Mr. Ridgeway appear before the Board with specific information regarding the Lake Association's use of contribution funds requested. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

1) EDA – Supervisor Hayes and Supervisor Leslie attended the June EDA meeting. The main topic of discussion was the senior citizen center. Supervisor Leslie advised that several representatives from the senior citizens group attended the EDA to request action on getting them a permanent site. The seniors advised they meet once a month. The EDA advised that since public funds would be used for this, they would be prefer that the site be used at least two or three times per week by the seniors; and, that the area be available for other groups to meet in. The City of Big Lake is inquiring if the Township will consider contributing financial to this project. Supervisor Hayes noted that thanks to the Big Lake Lion's Club, the town hall could be a facility for their use; however, the seniors are looking for a private facility with the ability to keep their own stocked refrigerator and recreation, such as a pool table. There was discussion regarding whether or not the Township can legally participate financially in the remodeling of a City owned building. Supervisor Leslie advised the seniors are a small group now, but if they had their own facility, they would most likely gain participants. He noted they used to meet at Keller Lake Commons and was unsure if they still utilize facilities there. He further noted, it was unsure if all the seniors meet together, or if there are several different groups. The City of Big Lake is asking the Township to consider participating, noting that most likely some of the seniors participating are Big Lake Township residents. The estimated cost to remodel the senior citizen area in the former library area at Big Lake City Hall is \$42,500. Supervisor Stahlmann advised he would like to see a strong recommendation from City Staff regarding anticipated use, remodeling plans and cost. Supervisor Hayes noted that having the senior center centrally located in town could be advantageous. Supervisor Alfords recommended participating at the same percentage we used to participate in the library project. Treasurer Warneke advised this would require a joint powers agreement with the City of Big Lake. Supervisor Alfords motioned to support the senior citizens center, to use the same percentage of participation that was used for the library and to enter into a Joint Powers Agreement to be drafted by the EDA or City of Big Lake. Supervisor Stahlmann seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

-Supervisor Hayes advised there was some conversation regarding a rail park proposal between County Road 15 and TH10. The first source of funding won't be from the Federal government.

-Supervisor Hayes advised the EDA is recommending de-certifying the TIF II District and returning it to the tax roles to be shared between the City and Township 50/50 in perpetuity. Supervisor Hayes motioned to de-certify the TIF II District and return it to the tax roles to be shared between the City and Township 50/50 in perpetuity. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

-Northstar Land LLC may be requesting an annexation if a rail spur is installed.

2) Lion's Park Building & Grounds Committee Updates – Supervisor Leslie advised there had been vandalism at Lion's Park on June 3rd or 4th. One of the items vandalized was a vertical 6"x6" wooden beam on the tire swing that had been knocked over. It was found that the base of the beam, where the wood chips meet, was rotten and therefore the vandals were able to push it over. Damage was also done to the barrel roll, posts were broken off. Cement benches around the fire pit were broken and the handicapped accessible swings were wrapped up to the horizontal bar they hang from. Overtime, all the 6"x6" wooden beams will need to be replaced. The Sheriff's Office is also requesting that the Township barricade the new walking trail from driving access. Lion's Club Member, Gene Earney and Supervisor Leslie discussed installing a gate at the edge of the pavement. Supervisor Hayes advised he could help build a gate system and can work with Supervisor Leslie on this.

-Supervisor Leslie advised the ballfield grading is done. The area is large enough to accommodate a regulation baseball field, which can also be used for softball, soccer and football. It has been determined that the field will be seeded in the fall.

-Both footbridges have been installed.

-An Eagle Scout Project may possibly start in July.

- Eleven trail marking signs were installed June 9th.

3) Big Lake Community Lake Association Contribution Update – This item was covered by Chairman Hofer under the Chairman's report.

4) Other – Updates – Meetings -

-Supervisor Hayes advised that Northstar is on track for November 1st Start-up. Two cars arrived yesterday and practice runs to Minneapolis will begin soon.

-Big Lake Fire Chief, Tony Eisinger brought the new 2,000 GPM fire pumper engine to show to the Board following the meeting. The new skid for the grass-rig will be arriving the end of next week.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report – Treasurer Warneke presented the Board with a revised budget for the 102-road fund as reported at the beginning of the meeting. Supervisor Stahlmann

motioned to adopt the 102-fund budget revision as discussed and presented. Supervisor Leslie seconded. Supervisor Hayes abstained in regard to adjusting the budget and adding 172nd Street to the 2009 Road Improvements. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Treasurer Warneke reviewed the cash balance statement. Total government funds of \$2,256,347.05 and escrow accounts of \$56,493.83 totaling \$2,312,840.88. Treasurer Warneke reviewed the 101,102, 103, 402 and 403 funds. He advised two mature CD's have been cashed and were used toward tonight's claims. The 1st half of the property taxes will be arriving June 22nd. Some of this will be placed into the checking account. He noted that the Township is limited to \$25,000. daily Treasury Bill purchases. The Town has several CD's that will be maturing in the upcoming weeks. The FDIC has extended insurable funds up to \$250,000. to 2013. Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

-Treasurer Warneke advised he had received correspondence from Corey Boyer, City of Big Lake Finance Director regarding the sharing of police services in the 1992 OAA area. The police services were calculated at ½ hour per day of patrol at \$50. per hour, which totals \$9,100. annually (\$4,550. shared). There was inquiry from the board if this includes the industrial park. Supervisor Alfords motioned to pay 50%, which equals \$4,550. annually contingent upon these police services including the entire industrial park. Supervisor Stahlmann seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Chairman Hofer advised that following the first of two annual inspections of the Girl Scout storage building shared by the Big Lake Jaycees and the Big Lake Girl Scouts, several violations of the lease agreement by the Jaycee's were noted, including the absence of a representative from the Jaycees attending the inspection. A letter drafted by the Clerk following the inspection and discussion with Supervisor Leslie was presented to the Board for review. Supervisor Hayes motioned to send the letter as presented to the Jaycee's president and to support the items and requested action outlined in the letter. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Hayes to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk