

Second Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
January 23, 2013

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

On Wednesday, January 23, 2013 the Big Lake Board of Supervisors met at the Big Lake Town Hall located in the Big Lake Lions Park 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 12 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken by the chairperson.

Board Members Present:

- Bob Hofer, Chairman
- Norm Leslie, Supervisor
- Bruce Aubol, Supervisor
- Steve Pflighaar, Supervisor
- Ken Warneke, Treasurer
- Laura Hayes, Clerk
- Kristie Woolard, Deputy Clerk

Board Members Absent: Larry Alfords, Supervisor

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

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

Supervisor Aubol motioned to approve the consent agenda items a) Call Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting for Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at Big Lake Town Hall. b) Approve Participation in the March 3, 2013 Big Lake Chamber of Commerce Business Expo. c) Approve Resolution No. 2013-04 Appointing Absentee Ballot Board for March 12, 2013 Township Election. d) Approve Appointment of Election Judges for March 12, 2013 Township Election: Rita Petersen, Head Judge; Debbie Workman; Chris Dokkebakken; Joyce LeClaire. e) Approve List of Claims & Payroll. (Disbursement List will be Received at Meeting). Supervisor Leslie seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

Richard Helms, Big Lake Township Hospital Board Representative gave several updates to the Board including the recent resignation of Marshall Smith as CEO of the hospital and appointment of Mary Ellen Wells as interim CEO.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Roger Millner/Vision Enterprises, LLC – CUP for Seasonal Storage; Variance to Section 16, Subd. 2.26 (B) Requiring Conversion of an Ag. Bldg; Variance to Section 16, Subd. 2.26 (A) Requiring Minimum of 20 Acres. – Clerk Hayes advised Alex Wickstrom, representative for Roger Millner; and, Tom Berg, Visions Enterprises LLC were both present in the audience to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the three applications. Sherburne County Zoning Department staff members Jon Sevald and Marc Schneider were also present to answer Board questions and review the applications.

Request for Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Seasonal Storage - Jon Sevald reviewed the history of the CUP which was originally approved in 1987 for a school bus garage. The applicant would like to use the building for seasonal storage which is regulated under the County Zoning Ordinance and is a conditional use within the General Rural District. There was brief discussion. It was noted that seasonal storage would have less accessing traffic than a bus garage. The owners are not planning to create individual storage units within the building. It would be used for storage of seasonal recreational items such as boats and R.V.'s. Supervisor Pfliegaar motioned to recommend approval of the Conditional Use Permit for Seasonal Storage. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

Requesting a Variance to Section 16, Subdivision 2.26 (A) Requiring a Minimum of 20 Acres– Marc Schneider reviewed the requirements to operate a seasonal storage business advising that a minimum of 20 acres is a requirement. The Board inquired if variances are transferrable if the property is sold. Marc Schneider advised once a variance is granted, it stays with the property and is recorded on the deed. Supervisor Leslie motioned to recommend approval of the Variance Requiring a Minimum of 20 Acres and allow seasonal storage on 2.16 acres. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

Requesting a Variance to Section 16, Subdivision 2.26 (B) Requiring Conversion of an Agricultural Building – Marc Schneider reviewed the requirements to be able to operate a Seasonal Storage business from a building that was formerly a bus garage (not an agricultural building) a use variance is required. The Big Lake Town Board noted this was a suitable use for the property. Supervisor Pfliegaar motioned to recommend approval of the Variance Requiring conversion of an Agricultural Building to allow seasonal storage in it. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

b) Adam Steen & Rob Stromberg/Big Lake Youth Football @ Lion's Community Park – Rob Stromberg addressed the Board and distributed information for the Board to review. The Big Lake Youth Football program would like to improve a couple of playing field areas at Big Lake Lion's Community Park for the purposes of playing evening football games and tournaments. The football program would like to improve the field playing surface by installing sod and extending irrigation lines and install lighting for evening games. Confirmed cost of these improvements has not been completely explored. The ball association is working on finding a suitable location first. They hope to have a couple of additional improved fields available for use in summer 2013. There was lengthy discussion regarding

space needs, overlap of the season with other ball seasons, cost and funding of improvements, and volunteer and donated supplies and labor. Ongoing maintenance, utility costs and repairs were not addressed. Rob Stromberg advised a regulation field is 120' x 50'. Supervisor Leslie advised the soccer program will be using at least one of the fields for the summer of 2013 while four of the school ball fields are under maintenance and repair. The Board deferred any action to the building and grounds committee. Supervisor Leslie will measure the areas the football association is interested in using to determine if this is a viable location for further discussion. No action was taken by the Board at this time.

c) Sheriff Joel Brott, 2012 Annual Report - Sheriff Joel Brott presented the Sherburne County Sheriff's Department 2012 Annual Report to the Town Board and provided a handout for Board reference and review. Sheriff Brott reported a total of 2183 calls for service/arrests in 2012. Serious criminal activity was down in every area except DUI, which had increased slightly in 2012 compared to 2011. In 2012 the Sheriff's Department received the 2012 Outstanding Law Enforcement Agency award presented by Mother's Against Drunk Driving. Sergeant Chris Aleshire was presented Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the American Legion. Project Lifesaver has 6 registered participants within the County. Upcoming in 2013 the Sheriff's Office will be working on a substance use prevention coalition and a theft from auto prevention program designed to remind people to not leave valuables in their vehicles.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

Treasurer Warneke advised some road sanding has been done. No plowing has been necessary.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hofer advised he had nothing to report at this time.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Pflughhaar gave an update from the January 10th Fire Board Meeting. The 2013 budget was reviewed. Chief Miller presented a proposal for the addition of a fifth Captains position. The department is losing a couple of daytime firefighters. There was discussion regarding how fire departments compensate their fire fighters. There has not been any action to proceed with any improvements on the lot or well owned by the City and Township in Knick Knack Knoll. There was discussion regarding the existing extrication equipment. It is very old and needs to be replaced. Donation funds will be used for these purchases and the old equipment will be kept as spare.

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BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

Treasurer Warneke advised he had nothing to report. He is currently working on preparations for the Board of Audit.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Pflieger seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert L. Hofer, Chairman