

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
November 12, 2014

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

On Wednesday, November 12, 2014 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.

Chairman Hofer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 11 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present: Bob Hofer, Chairman
 Larry Alfords, Supervisor
 Norm Leslie, Supervisor
 Bruce Aubol, Supervisor
 Ken Warneke, Treasurer
 Laura Hayes, Clerk
 LaDonna Braun, Deputy Clerk

Board Members Absent: Steve Pflgebraar, 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 agenda. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All present were in favor. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Alfords motioned to approve the consent agenda consisting of: a) Approval of Minutes: Regular Monthly Board Meeting 10-8-14; and, Second Monthly Board Meeting 10-22-14. b) Approve List of Claims (Disbursement List Received at Meeting) & remainder of claims through November 2014. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

OPEN FORUM

Paul Perovich, 21500 203rd Street, Big Lake Township appeared before the Board to report that his neighbor, Bryan Kodet, was not committing to promises he made at the October 8, 2014 Town Board meeting regarding idling of a semi-truck and hauling of farm related products onto his property. Paul Perovich estimated the truck idles often at 4:30 a.m. and that ammonia fertilizer has been brought onto the property. He noted concern about possible ground water contamination because area wells are only 80' deep. Paul Perovich advised he obtained a soil sample from Bryan Kodet's property regarding the ammonia spill; and, has contacted the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to ask for an investigation. The Town Board advised the concerns fall under the jurisdiction of the Sherburne County Planning & Zoning Department and the Department of Agriculture to handle.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Robert Godar – Requesting a 63' Variance in setback from the centerline of Hwy 10 for 6 add'l self-storage buildings (required setback 200'); and, requesting a Variance to the Shoreland Ordinance (impervious surface limited to 25% of the lot) – Robert Godar appeared before the Board to request the setback and shoreland ordinance variances. He advised none of the water on the property will go into Preusse Lake. There was discussion regarding the setback request from Hwy 10. The Board advised they had no opposition to the variance requests, but felt that it could be an issue that building dimensions or placement could be altered to reduce the amount of setback being requested. Supervisor Leslie motioned to recommend approval of the variances as requested. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All present were in favor.

b) David Sperling – Requesting a 65' Variance in setback from Wood Lake for driveway access (required setback from Nat'l Environment Lake is 150'); and, requesting a 50' Variance in setback from Wood Lake for a pole building (required setback from Nat'l Environment Lake is 150') – David Sperling appeared before the Board to request the setbacks. He advised part of the hardship causing the need for the variances is the abrupt 10' change in elevation to the back portion of the lot. He advised a retaining wall could be removed to reduce the setback variance needed for construction of the pole building; however, several large mature trees would still need to be removed. Supervisor Alfords motioned to recommend approval of the variances as requested. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor.

c) Big Lake Fire Chief, Paul Nemes – Chief Nemes appeared before the Board to give department updates. The department has responded to 10 calls in October: 5 Big Lake Township, 4 City of Big Lake, 1 mutual aid. Fire Prevention week was October 6-10 and ended with the annual open house on Sunday, Oct. 12th with approximately 2,200 visitors to the fire station. Fire fighter, Pete Ahrens grew and donated 1,600 pumpkins which were given away in 45 minutes. November training is ice water rescue and electric vehicle rescue & extrication. A subcommittee has been meeting with representatives of CentraCare Ambulance service to discuss updates to the ambulance bay and fire station lease agreement.

-Sherburne County Commissioner District 2, Ewald Petersen gave several County updates to the Board including his re-election for another 4 year term on the County Board of Commissioners.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

Supervisor Alfords advised there needs to be more salt/sand on the Township roads following Monday's first snowfall of the year. 11' of snow was received in less than 12 hours. Treasurer Warneke advised because there is no frost in the ground the plow wings could not be used. As the snow pack melts, it will be plowed off the road. There were 49 phone calls received between Monday and Tuesday. An invoice for crackfilling

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and sign installation is in tonight's claims. Township Engineer, Ross Abel advised subgrade corrections were necessary for the 152nd Street & 215th Avenue project.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hofer advised he had nothing specific to report.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The November 10th EDA meeting was post poned to November 18 due to the weather. Supervisor Aubol advised the Community Education Meeting was cancelled due to the light agenda. The next meeting will be January 2015.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report –Treasurer Warneke advised the clerk's balance as of tonight's claims was approximately \$1,187,364. The November/December Settlement will arrive at the end of 2014. The fund transfer approved at the last meeting has not been done yet. The last higher interest bearing CD will mature on December 5, 2014. The updated CTAS accounting system requires upgrading Township computers to at least Windows 7 prior to installation. January 2015 will the start date for the new CTAS. Treasurer Warneke advised the Township has spent \$600,000. so far this year. All funds are positive. Treasurer Warneke reviewed the 101, 102 and 103 accounts. Supervisor Alford's motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Bob Hofer, Chairman