

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
February 11, 2015

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

On Wednesday, February 11, 2015 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 8 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken by the Chairman.

Board Members Present: Bob Hofer, Chairman
 Norm Leslie, Supervisor
 Bruce Aubol, Supervisor
 Steve Pfliegaar, Supervisor
 Ken Warneke, Treasurer
 Laura Hayes, Clerk

Board Members Absent: Larry Alfords, Supervisor
 LaDonna Hensel, Deputy Clerk

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 Aubol seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Pfliegaar motioned to approve consent agenda items. The consent agenda consisted of: a) Approval of Minutes: Regular Monthly Board Meeting 1-14-15 & Second Monthly Board Meeting 1-28-15. b) Approve Claims & List of Claims. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Steve & Luann Smith/Sandhill Acres Preliminary Plat (Review 1 of 2) - Steve & Luann Smith appeared before the Board with their proposed standard plat of Sandhill Acres. Clerk Hayes advised the plat consists of 4 lots with no new roads proposed; therefore a grading and drainage plan is not required by the Township. The property is located at the intersection of 172nd Street and 205th Avenue. Steve Smith advised two lots will access 205th Avenue and 2 will access 172nd Street. It was noted in the Township Engineer's letter that although City of Big Lake sanitary sewer and water service are available at the site, the applicant has chosen not to seek connection to these services. Supervisor Aubol motioned to recommend approval of Sandhill Acres as presented. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor.

b) Dean Leischow/Sunrise Energy Ventures-Solar Energy Generation Concept – Dean Leischow appeared before the Board providing a powerpoint introduction and review of Sunrise Energy Ventures Solar Farm concept. He reviewed the history of Sunrise Energy, Founded in 2009; the proposed 240 acre site on the West end of Big Lake Township, South Side of TH Hwy 10; the logistical and geographical needs for a solar farm; the infrastructure and life expectancy of a solar farm; and, its impact on the environment and neighboring properties. There was discussion following the presentation. The Board Members; and, Sherburne County Zoning Administrator, Nancy Riddle asked several questions following the presentation.

c) Sherburne County Draft Solar Ordinance /Comments from the Town Board – This item was covered during the Sunrise Energy Ventures discussion. The Town Board had nothing to add to the draft ordinance at this time.

d) Keith Josewski/Multi-Use Athletic Facility Concept - Keith Josewski appeared before the Board to ask for the Board's support for a community-wide effort to construct more athletic facilities for youth. He advised he has formed a group and has met with city and school officials to outline a plan to coordinate all the groups and make a formal multi-use athletic facility. The name of the organization is the Big Lake Sports-Athletic Association. He advised the organization is in the process of becoming a charitable non-profit 501c3 operation. Mr. Josewski advised he has four children playing in Big Lake association sports, noting they travel to communities as far away as Cambridge and Isanti to play tournaments because Big Lake doesn't have enough or adequate fields to host the tournament games. Mr. Josewski advised he has made contact with a representative from each of the Big Lake Youth Ball Associations and representatives from Big Lake School District and the City of Big Lake to join the newly formed sports-athletic association. Mr. Josewski was adamant that Big Lake Township also have a representative on the committee.

e) Clean Up Day May 2, 2015 Plans/Discussion – Clerk Hayes advised plans are underway and finalizing with Republic Services to provide containers, trucks and drivers for the event. She advised the costs are anticipated to be close to the same as last year and therefore, changes to gate prices aren't anticipated. Clerk Hayes advised there will need to be some changes to what is accepted at Clean Up Day, noting tires must be off the rims now. Rims will be accepted, but not on the tires. Clerk Hayes also recommended the Board not allow oversized items, such as truck toppers, slide in campers, boats, trailers, etc., noting these items could be brought in cut up or in a prepared/manageable size. Truck design, top loading versus rear loading, will make it nearly impossible to breakdown the items on-site. It is also a safety issue to crush such a large object with people in close proximity. The Board agreed with this recommendation. There was also discussion regarding designing the lot layout to accommodate an electronic/appliance only drop off lane. Clerk Hayes advised she will work with Republic Services to see what can be done.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) 205th Avenue Discussion with Property Owners - Chairman Hofer advised the Road Committee met with property owners regarding their petition for 205th Avenue off County Road 15. Several issues were discussed; all were listed in the petition and were resolved with the exception of the misplaced asphalt issue. The petitioners and Road Committee agreed to a \$3,500. Payment by the Township to have the easement description revised and list a portion of the road in the right of way. A motion was made by Chairman Hofer to authorize the expenditure of \$3,500. by the Township to make this easement revision. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. Township Engineer, Ross Abel was present in the audience and presented a drawing created for this meeting, describing the proposed changes to 205th easement adjustment.

2) Other-Updates-Meetings – Treasurer Warneke presented the 2015 Road Fund Allotment. Big Lake Township will receive \$46,826.38.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Leslie commented on the February 9 EDA Meeting, which most of the Town Board & staff attended. The cost to develop and lack of business locations into the Industrial Park Expansion area were discussed at length during the EDA meeting. Supervisor Leslie recommended the Town Board hold a meeting to discuss, amongst themselves, how to proceed with the situation. Supervisor Pflieger advised Lupelin Brewing is planning a March 2015 opening. The Kwik Trip is planning to break ground 2016.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Presentation of Engagement Letter/Tom Kaliher of Peterson Company LTD – Treasurer Warneke advised an engagement letter from Peterson Company LTD has been received. This is the same accountant, Tom Kaliher the Township has used for many years, the Company name has changed. The engagement letter is for the annual outside audit, production of a general ledger and filing the appropriate documents with the Minnesota State Auditor's Office. The cost of the audit has increased by \$1,700. to \$7,400. Supervisor Pflieger motioned to accept the quote and to sign the engagement letter for services as described. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor.

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b) Monthly Report –Treasurer Warneke reviewed the cash control statement noting there have been total receipts of \$105,862. as of tonight’s meeting; and, total disbursements of \$229,393. He reviewed the interim financial reports for the general and road funds. Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Supervisor Leslie inquired if the Board was prepared to name a representative to the Big Lake Sports-Athletic Association as requested by Keith Josewski. Supervisor Aubol advised he would be the representative. Supervisor Pfliegerhaa advised he would serve as alternate.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Pfliegerhaa seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert Hofer, Chairman