

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
May 13, 2015

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

On Wednesday, May 13, 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 4 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 Pflughhaar, Supervisor
 Larry Alfords, Supervisor
 Ken Warneke, Treasurer
 Laura Hayes, Clerk
 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 as presented. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All were in favor.

Supervisor Pflughhaar motioned to approve consent agenda items. The consent agenda consisted of: a) Regular Monthly Board Meeting 4-8-15, Board of Appeal & Equalization 4-16-15 & Second Monthly Board Meeting Minutes 4-22-15 b) Authorize Fire Chief Paul Nemes to Execute LG230 Lessor Form (Lease Agreement for Off-site lawful gambling activity) to allow the Big Lake Spud Fest Organization to conduct off-site lawful gambling a the 2015 Big Lake Fire Relief Association Dance, August 1, 2015 c) Approve Claims & Payroll; and, List of Claims & Payroll. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

**PUBLIC HEARING – REQUEST TO VACATE DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENTS
LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF LOTS 1, 2 & 3 BLOCK 1, ROSECREST
SECOND ADDITION**

Chairman Hofer opened the Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m. There was no one in the audience to speak on this item at this time. Chairman Hofer advised the Public Hearing would be held open until the Chairman's Report portion of tonight's meeting.

OPEN FORUM

David Stadden, 22577-147th Street, Elk River, Big Lake Township appeared before the Board advising he had reported a dead deer in the ditch near his home. When he called the Clerk's Office to report it needed to be picked up he was advised it would be treated with lime and covered in wood chips on site. He inquired with the Board if this was a new practice. Supervisor Alfords and Clerk Hayes advised deer carcasses have been treated with this method for approximately 10 years now and is the same method the County uses to handle these situations. Supervisor Leslie advised the DNR also uses this method. John Norgren advised the local landfills will not accept animal carcasses.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

Community Solar Energy Systems & Solar Farms/Comments on Proposed Ordinance Amendment – Jon Sevald, Sherburne County Planner was present to discuss the proposed solar energy system & solar farms ordinance amendments. The Board reviewed the zoning department's proposal. The Board agreed with most of the recommended prohibited areas with the exception of the areas within ½ miles of US Hwy 10 and MN Hwy 25. The Town Board advised they preferred this to be 1/8 of a mile. The Board also noted they are not in favor of solar farms being located in the A1 Agricultural zoned areas of the Township; and, recommends the approval of solar farms be as Interim Use Permits (IUP) rather than a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The Board mentioned concerns regarding: glare from panels, site maintenance including weed control; and, removal of all infrastructure at end of site lease. The Board inquired if a bond would be held at the County to ensure that all infrastructure is removed and the site is returned to its original condition.

Town Hall Floor Quote for Stripping & Waxing (5 coats) – Clerk Hayes advised one quote has been received to strip and wax the Town Hall floor with 5 coats of wax, in the amount of \$1,545. This is a process that would be done approximately every two years. Clerk Hayes advised it has been more than 8 months since the floor had any maintenance done to it. She advised the tiles are very porous and need to be cleaned and sealed very soon before the floor is damaged. Clerk Hayes further noted it has been difficult to find a company to do this maintenance noting most public and private buildings with this type of floor own their own equipment and have janitorial staff on hand to do the work. John Norgren advised he could provide information from another vendor for consideration. Supervisor Alfords motioned to have the work done and to let the Clerk's Office determine the best company to provide the service. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

Order Setting Forth Initial Descriptions and Setting Hearing Date for Vacation of a Portion of a Drainage and Utility Easement – Clerk Hayes presented a request on behalf of Justin & Jennifer Holland to set a hearing date to consider the vacation of a drainage and utility easement on Lots 1 & 2, Block 1 Berndt Pond Estates for the purpose of building a pole building. Chairman Hofer motioned to set the hearing date for Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All were in favor.

2015 Clean Up Day Event Review – Clerk Hayes presented initial information from the 2015 Clean Up Day Event. There were 647 vehicles through the gate, an increase of 25 vehicles from 2014. 305 appliances, an increase of 51 from 2014. The largest increase in material was e-waste at 25 tons total; and, demolition debris at 240 yards. There was discussion regarding the increasing amount of general junk and demolition debris, items that could be put out in weekly trash, and how to handle this increase. The increased volume of material and vehicles required the site be open past the 3:00 pm gate close and required police officers to assist with marking and enforcing “last cars in line at 3:00 p.m.” protocol.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Township Engineer, Ross Abel advised he spoke with 147th Street/Camp Cozy property owner, Jim Lindquist and a representative from Steinbreker Companies regarding the Township’s amount of participation at the site to complete drainage improvements.

2) Birch Lake Beach Area Water Control/Rain Garden Discussion with SWCD – Township Engineer, Ross Abel advised he is working on estimates following the Road Committee’s Meeting with Tiffany Determan, Sherburne SWCD regarding the possibility of installing rain gardens or other possible water control devices near Birch Lake. The Road committee recommended using an existing drainage pond to filter the water through prior to it entering the lake. Ross Abel is reviewing profile information to determine if this is feasible.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT - Chairman Hofer had nothing specific to report.

PUBLIC HEARING – REQUEST TO VACATE DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENTS LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF LOTS 1, 2 & 3 BLOCK 1, ROSECREST SECOND ADDITION

Supervisor Pflughhaar motioned to close the Public Hearing at 7:49 p.m. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All were in favor. Supervisor Pflughhaar motioned to adopt the Order Vacating a Portion of the Drainage Easement located within the boundaries of Lots 1,2 & 3 Block 1, Rosecrest Second Addition. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All were in favor.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Pflughhaar advised a graphics company with approximately 10 employees and additional seasonal employees has looked at a site in the industrial park.

Big Lake EDA manager, John Uphoff, WSB Associates presented information to the EDA on a “one stop experience” concept to expedite sales and development of

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property. The concept requires quick decision and onsite negotiations with interested buyers. The City of Big lake is eager to try this concept. Supervisor Alfords inquired if the Township EDA representatives were comfortable with this approach. Treasurer Warneke noted the Township wasn't invited to the last EDA meeting that major changes were discussed and implemented. He further inquired at what level does the City of Big Lake plan to have the Township included. Supervisor Leslie noted there needs to be a meeting between the City and Township to discuss.

Supervisor Leslie advised Mike Leverty, TW Hauling will be installing silt fence soon. Grading will start next week, as tentatively scheduled.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report –Treasurer Warneke reviewed the cash balance statement. He advised the recently cashed Certificate of Deposit is erroneously included twice in the Road fund. It is due to the way the accounting system tracks investments. Therefore the road fund has receipts of \$112,125.; and, an ending balance of \$603,413. Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Pflgebraar seconded. All were in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Supervisor Pflgebraar advised John Pfaff has the bench he purchased in memorial of his late wife. He inquired if a representative from the Board should be there to confirm it is placed in the correct area. Supervisor Alfords advised this would be a good idea.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Pflgebraar seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert Hofer, Chairman