

Second Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
May 28, 2014

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

On Wednesday, May 28, 2014, 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 4 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
- Steve Pflieger, Supervisor
- Bruce Aubol, Supervisor
- Larry Alfords, Supervisor
- Ken Warneke, Treasurer
- Laura Hayes, Clerk
- LaDonna Braun, Deputy Clerk (arrived at 7:10)

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 noting there will be an update from Sherburne County Sheriff’s Department, Commander Steve Doran. Supervisor Pflieger seconded. All were in favor. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Aubol motioned to approve consent agenda items: a) Approved appointment of five (5) new fire fighters to the Big Lake Fire Department Effective 6-1-14. b) Approve List of Claims (disbursement list received at meeting). Supervisor Alfords seconded. All were in favor.

Commander Steve Doran, Sherburne County Sheriff’s Department was present. He provided the Board with the previous month call report. He advised there was nothing notable to report. Next month, the Board will receive a 6 month cumulative call report.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) David & Sandra Clauer/Variance for Home Addition-Use of Existing Foundation Footprint – Sandra Clauer appeared before the Board to request a 53.7' variance from the OHWL of the Mississippi River and a 25' Variance from the top of the bluff for an addition on the existing house. The addition will not be any closer to the Mississippi River than the existing house but is considered an expansion of the structure. The Town Board noted no concerns regarding the request. Supervisor Pflighaar motioned to recommend approval of the variance request as presented. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

b) Township Comments on Scenic & Recreational Use District Home Businesses & Allowing Outbuildings on Parcels without a Primary Home – The Board reviewed the February 24, 2014 letter from Nancy Riddle, Sherburne County Zoning Administrator. Nancy Riddle attended the Big Lake Town Board Meeting April 9, 2014 to discuss these items further. Clerk Hayes presented the Board with the Comment Form regarding these two issues. The Board discussed and recommended the County allow home businesses on residential lots located in the Scenic and Recreational Use District with a restrictive list of uses allowed; and, the County should allow outbuildings without a home but only on larger acreage parcels. Supervisor Aubol recommended that if an outbuilding becomes a home without a building permit issued then the County should require that the structure be put back into an outbuilding at the owner's expense. Supervisor Alfords motioned to submit these recommendations to the County Zoning Department. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

c) Regional Transportation System Task Force Mtg/City of Monticello (WSB Engineering) Tuesday, June 24 at 7 p.m. Big Lake City Hall – Clerk Hayes advised the City of Monticello contacted the Town Clerk's office immediately upon receipt of the letter sent May 19, 2014. It was clarified that the meeting has been called at the request of the City of Monticello. Supervisor Alfords recommended the Road Committee attend the meeting. Supervisor Alfords motioned that attendees be Chairman Hofer, Treasurer Warneke and himself. Supervisor Pflighaar seconded. All were in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Meetings-Updates – Treasurer Warneke advised street sweeping is continuing. Jeff Rhodes/Driveway Services received the pothole map today and will begin repairs soon. Road culvert replaced in a couple of areas will be done next week. Treasurer Warneke advised he will be creating the seal coat map soon. Treasurer Warneke advised he received an email today from City of Big Lake Public Works Director, Mike Goebel regarding the need to seal coat 198th Avenue. Quotes have been received from two vendors. Treasurer Warneke advised he will clarify the cost per yard and will work this into the Township road budget.

The Town Road Committee met with County Public Works Director, John Menter and County Highway Engineer, Rhonda Lewis regarding the County Road 68 turnback and Sherburne County Long Range Transportation Plan. A letter was sent following the meeting restating the Town Road Committee's positions that there are only two Township residents on the road; and, that it is already partially under City of Big Lake jurisdiction. It was discussed there are no immediate plans for turnback; and, that the Township should wait and see how the City of Big Lake develops in the future, if and when in the future it makes sense the Town will consider accepting the turnback. The Road Committee also agreed with the proposed revisions to the Sherburne County Long Range Transportation Plan dated March 2014, as they relate to Big Lake Township.

County Road construction is scheduled to begin on July 15 on County Road 15. Supervisor Alford's looked at the drainage issues in Eagle Lake Park noted by Carol Nierman at the May 14 meeting. Supervisor Alford's determined the sand runoff is coming from a new home being constructed across the street. Clerk Hayes was directed to contact Sherburne County Zoning regarding the lack of sediment control at the construction site.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1) Cargill 5-20-14 Meeting Review – Supervisor Leslie advised he attended the meeting. Cargill is interested in supporting local charitable organizations and being a community partner. Facilitators of the meeting gathered input from attendees on how Cargill can support community projects and be an involved partner in the Big Lake community. Cargill has 81 employees at the Big Lake facility and is currently expanding their building; and, Cargill Kitchen Solutions in Monticello has 421 employees.

Supervisor Leslie advised the EDA Business Retention and Expansion Committee met with owners of the Dairy Queen to advise them of the development of the lots to the west with the arrival of Kwik Trip. Dairy Queen has experienced an increase in sales over the last year. They are also concerned with a lack of sign visibility from the Northwest.

Treasurer Warneke advised Verizon/Pyramid Network Systems has assigned a new representative contact for the Township. Andy Loberg will be gathering topographical information and preparing for the site review visit.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Other-Updates-Meetings – Treasurer Warneke advised the 101 fund budget is in line. The 102 fund snowplowing fund shortfall continues to be reflected in the budget. The May/June tax settlement will be received at the end of June. Also, a certificate of deposit will mature at the end of June. Supervisor Pflieger motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Supervisor Aubol inquired if the Board needs to take action to set the 2015 Clean up Day event. It was determined that the event will continue to be the first Saturday in May.

Big Lake Fire Chief, Paul Nemes (arrived at 7:45 p.m.) inquired if the Board had any questions regarding the appointment of the five (5) new fire fighters. The roster is authorized for 35, the new hiring will bring that to 37. This is being done with the impending retirement of Pete Ahrens in August. Having a roster of 36/37 will not affect the pension plan. 19 applications were received, 16 attended orientation, 8 took the written and physical tests. 5 were offered conditional positions on the department. The Big Lake City Council unanimously approved hiring the 5 candidates at their meeting tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert Hofer, Chairman