

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
August 12, 2015

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

On Wednesday, August 12, 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 13 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
 Larry Alfords, Supervisor
 Steve Pflieghaar, 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 Pflieghaar seconded. All were in favor.

Supervisor Aubol motioned to approve consent agenda items. The consent agenda consisted of: a) Regular Monthly Board Meeting 7-8-15, & Second Monthly Board Meeting Minutes 7-20-15 b) Approve Supervisors and Staff to attend the District 7 MAT Meeting, Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at Anoka Ramsey Community College, Cambridge Campus. c) Approve Claims & Payroll; and, List of Claims & Payroll. Supervisor Pflieghaar seconded. All were in favor.

OPEN FORUM

Ann Mrdutt, 22274 – 183rd Street NW, Meadowlands, Big Lake Township appeared before the Board to discuss a previous inquiry to build a park on the Township/City owned lot in Knick Knack Knoll by the former owner of her home in Meadowlands. She advised she received a lot of information from the Deputy Clerk and was advised she should inquire with the Board about several specific items she still had questions about. Ann Mrdutt asked which neighborhood(s) of residents need to be included in a petition to build a park; what % of these required residents need to accept tax assessment for the

construction and ongoing maintenance of the park; and, what is the cost to purchase the City's half of the lot. There was discussion by the board. It was determined that the Big Lake Park Committee would be the contact for Ann Mrdutt for further questions. Treasurer Warneke advised he has a contact for the River Crest Farms Homeowner's Association, which may be helpful for information regarding how to organize a homeowner's association in Meadowlands, which will be required if a park is constructed.

Kathy Poslusny, 1320 Powell Street N, Big Lake, appeared before the Board to inquire if the "Beyond the Yellow Ribbon" group could hold a veteran's dinner at the Town Hall in conjunction with Lord of Glory's Pumpkinfest. She advised Marty Straw, committee member for both Beyond the Yellow Ribbon and Pumpkinfest advised her that proceeds from this year's Pumpkinfest would be donated to Beyond the Yellow Ribbon and therefore, it was permissible with Lord of Glory to hold the dinner in conjunction with their rental use of the park facilities. Kathy Poslusny further inquired if the rental fee could be waived by the Township. Clerk Hayes was instructed to contact Marty Straw to confirm this was the agreement. Supervisor Leslie motioned to waive the rental fee for the veteran's dinner and approve the joint use contingent on agreement by Lord of Glory/Marty Straw. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

John Bogart, Bogart Pederson & Associates Inc. appeared before the Board with Tom Pallansch to ask for the Board's direction regarding a concept plan to create a 2 lot simple plat on the Pallansch family property on County Road 30, Elk River, Big Lake Township. John Bogart inquired if the Board would be supportive of a request to rezone the property from agricultural to general rural; and, if alternative soil standards could be used. Supervisor Alfords recommended the concept move forward as proposed. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Kevin & Tina Otto/After the Fact Variance Applications for Gazebo & Deck – Kevin Otto appeared before the Board with his realtor to present his requests for a 7' Variance in setback for an existing gazebo to remain in its current location; and, a 4' Variance in setback for an existing deck attached to the house. The Town Board reviewed Assistant Zoning Administrator Lynn Waytashek's review letter which included an outline of the history of the requests to add these items to the property. Supervisor Alfords inquired how the deck and gazebo were constructed after the County determined they did not meet setback requirements as proposed. Kevin Otto advised it was a breakdown in communication. Supervisor Alfords motioned no comment on the request; and recommended the request continue through the County Board of Adjustment process and procedures to determine if the variances meet the criteria set forth in County Ordinances. Supervisor Pflieger seconded. All were in favor.

b) Sherburne County Interim Use Permit for Contractor's Yard Amendment Request Discussion – The Board read through the proposed amendment request. Comments have been requested by the County by August 28th. Supervisor Pfliegaar motioned to table action to the August 26, 2015 Town Board Meeting. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

c) Other-Updates-Meetings –

- 1) Cleaning/Replacement of Clerk's Office Carpet – The Clerk's office will be having the office carpet cleaned and will update the board if it needs to be considered for replacement.
- 2) Clerk's Office Computer / Email Changes – Clerk Hayes advised the Clerk's Office has gone back to a Windstream email account. All County offices, local government agencies and office contacts are being advised of this change.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Carol Nierman – 226th Avenue, Eagle Lake Park Drainage Concerns – Carol Nierman, 18778 226th Avenue appeared before the Board to discuss drainage issues on 226th Avenue affecting her property. She inquired if the conversation in 2007 about establishing an easement was still an option. There was discussion by the Board and it was determined the road committee would visit the site with the Township engineer and review the situation, the file information from the drainage work done in 2007 and the option of an easement onto the Nierman's property to do additional drainage work.

2) Mike Buckley, 18340-182nd Street NW, Buckshot Hollow/Request to Remove Red Diamond Sign – Mike Buckley appeared before the Board to request the red diamond sign be removed at the end of the cul de sac, near his driveway. The Board requested he place a flag in a place near the original placement of the sign that would be a compromised placement, noting it is state law that the cul de sac be marked with a red diamond for safety reasons.

3) 2015 Bituminous Patching & Overlay; Seal Coating & Bituminous Patching Quote Review – Township Engineer, Ross Abel reviewed the summary letters and bid tabulations for 2015 road projects.

Two bids were received for the bituminous patching and overlay project. Rum River Contracting in the amount of \$231,007.10 and Hardrives, Inc. in the amount of \$250,445.00. The engineer's estimate, based on the plans, was \$200,425.00. The Township Engineer recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Rum River Contracting in the amount of \$231,007.10

Four bids were received for the bituminous patching. The low bid was Omann Brothers Paving in the amount of \$37,050.00 and the high bid was Hardrives, Inc. in the amount of \$67,388.20. The engineer's estimate, based on the plans, was \$95,270.00. The Township Engineer recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Omann Brothers Paving Inc. in the amount of \$37,050.00

Three bids were received for the seal coat improvements. The low bid was Pearson Brothers Inc. in the amount of \$91,072.00 and the high bid was Caldwell Asphalt Co. Inc. in the amount of \$139,183.90. The engineer's estimate, based on the plans, was \$100,932.00. The Township Engineer recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Pearson Brothers Inc. in the amount of \$91,072.00

Supervisor Alford's motioned to award the bids as recommended by the Township Engineer, to Rum River Contracting in the amount of \$231,007.10; Omann Brothers Paving in the amount of \$37,050.00; and, Pearson Brothers Inc. in the amount of \$91,072.00 and to allow the Chairman and Clerk to sign the contract documents. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

4) Other-Updates-Meetings –

a) Discuss other Small Road Projects/Advertise for Quotes/Bids February 2016 – Supervisor Alford's advised following the fall 2015 road tour the road committee needs to develop a list of road projects for 2016 and use the winter to draft the specifications for the projects so that bidding can be let earlier in the season, February/March.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Chairman Hofer advised he had nothing specific to report.

Big Lake Fire Chief, Paul Nemes provided an update to the Board. July was a busy month with 20 calls. He advised Big Lake Fire Department provided mutual aid to the Becker coal fire, which lasted 7 days. The first 10 hours of mutual aid is free. Big Lake Fire will submit an invoice for manpower and supplies used. Several sets of new turn out gear were worn to respond to the coal fire. Turn out gear will be sent back to the manufacturer for cleaning, inspection and recertification. If any of it fails, replacement cost will be included in the invoice for responding to the coal fire. There have been 5 calls so far in August. August drills will be search and rescue conducted at the former Big Lake Police Department building; and, Northstar Commuter Rail rescue at the Metro Transit site in Big Lake.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1) EDA Update – Supervisor Pflieger advised the Kwik Trip purchase has closed and ground breaking is scheduled for 2016.

2) Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Aubol advised Acucraft, a fireplace business which was displaced from its site in the Township due to a fire will be reopening in the former Hull produce building on 172nd Street.

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Supervisor Leslie advised washouts have occurred on the new ballfield due to the rain. Fencing is nearly complete. Irrigation is installed. The backstop will be installed Friday. Michael Jardine's Eagle Scout project/horseshoe pits have been installed. Verizon Wireless has installed the base and fence for the cell tower site. The tower is anticipated to be coming soon.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report –Treasurer Warneke reviewed the cash balance statement totaling \$1,611,501.35 in government and escrow funds. He reviewed the 100 General Fund and 202 Road Fund and several government funds receipts and disbursements to date. He advised the 2nd quarter entry for the Township's half of the fire bill has not been done. Supervisor Pflughaar motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Pflughaar seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert Hofer, Chairman