

Second Monthly Board Meeting  
Minutes  
August 25, 2010

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

On Wednesday, August 25, 2010 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 5 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken by the chairperson.

Board Members Present:

- Bob Hofer, Chairman
- Mike Hayes, Supervisor
- Larry Alfords, Supervisor
- Norm Leslie, Supervisor
- Jim Stahlmann, Supervisor
- Ken Warneke, Treasurer
- Laura Hayes, Clerk
- Kristie Woolard, Deputy Clerk

All present stood and recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Supervisor Stahlmann motioned to approve the Second Monthly Meeting agenda. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Alfords motioned to approve consent agenda items: a) Approve List of Election Judges for State General Election November 2, 2010. b) Accept \$200. Donation from Connexus Energy to Big Lake Fire Department. c) Approve List of Claims (Disbursement List will be Received at Meeting). Supervisor Leslie seconded. Supervisor Hayes abstained from approval of Clerk Hayes payroll claim. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

**OPEN FORUM**

Rick Stearns, 22777 171<sup>st</sup> Street NW, Big Lake Township commented on the Municipal Recycling Program. He thanked Commissioner Petersen for his efforts to keep the composting program going and the cost to residents down. He noted concern with the \$100. fee for commercial businesses and commented that this may be too low. He further thanked the County Board for approving additional funding noting there is a lot of tree damage from storms, Oak Wilt and the potential for more with Emerald Ash Bore. Rick Stearns further brought to the Board’s attention that on the corner of 229<sup>th</sup> Avenue and County Road 43 there is a tent from a local fireworks vendor who sold fireworks near Big Lake Coborn’s and Audio Communications. He questioned where the remaining fireworks inventory may be stored and perhaps the Big Lake Fire Chief should be advised.

**BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK**

a) Jeff Randall, 2010 Spudfest Committee President-Halloween Activity at Lion’s Park – Jeff Randall appeared before the Board to present an overview of two Halloween activities being considered as a joint project between the Spudfest Committee and the Big Lake Lion’s Club with the Big Lake Cub and Boy Scouts. A trail of terror “Spud Spooktacular” designed for 12 year olds and older would take place on the trail system at Lion’s Community Park. Participants would be in a guided tour group, walking on

the trails to provide minimum impact to the environment. There would be cider and popcorn for sale and a bonfire at the designated fire ring near the building. The Lion's Club and Scouts are proposing an afternoon event consisting of a costume parade and contest and trick-or-treating and entertainment suitable for young children. Jeff Randall advised this a concept plan he has discussed with Big Lake Lion's Club President, Brandon Nau. He advised he is looking for direction from the Town Board in regard to whether or not it is possible to have the event like this at Lion's Park before the groups involved continue to pursue this activity. Supervisor Leslie inquired which area of the park this would involve and what the admission cost is. Jeff Randall advised it would utilize all of the outdoor areas of the park and the admission being considered is \$5. to \$8. Supervisor Leslie advised the park closes at 10 p.m. and therefore, the time of event would need to be adjusted or the Sheriff's Office notified of the adjustment made to the park hours for this event. Clerk Hayes and Lion's Club Member Brad Betland advised the Board that they have both had contact with Lion's President Brandon Nau to confirm Lion's Club participation in the event. It was confirmed that this would be a joint project; however, to what extent of Lion's Club participation there would be is unknown. Jeff Randall advised he will be attending and presenting this activity to the Lion's Club on August 26, 2010 contingent upon the Town Board approving that they move ahead with activity planning. Supervisor Hayes recommended moving forward with the plan; and, designated that the Building and Grounds Committee as the contact with the Spudfest, Lion's and Scouting groups. The Board was unanimous in support of the recommendation.

b) Other-Updates-Meetings - Clerk Hayes advised John and Jan Sjostrand, 17350 211<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Big Lake Township had left a message with the Clerk's Office thanking the Town Board and Road Committee for the road improvements made on 211<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

-Clerk Hayes advised the Minnesota Association of Township's District 7 Meeting has been scheduled for September 23, 2010 in Cambridge, Minnesota. Anyone interested in attending should contact the Clerk, car-pooling can be arranged. The meeting notice will be provided to all Board Members.

## **BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **TOWN ROADS**

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Treasurer Warneke advised paving was completed yesterday. The start date of shouldering will be confirmed with the Township Engineer.

-Seal Coating has begun. The Township Engineer has been monitoring road projects.

-Treasurer advised report of a sign down was received. Before the sign was picked up the top (street signs) were stolen off the post.

Supervisor Alfords advised that the seal coating process on County Roads 43 and 5 was new this year. He advised routing/cracksealing and patching were done as usual followed by a coat of oil and rock. The road was swept very soon afterward and then another coat of oil was put down leaving the road surface black and sealed. Supervisor Alfords recommended the road committee inquire what this material is and how much it costs. John Norgren advised the added process is a MNDOT method and the final coat is a quick drying sealant that locks in the rock. Supervisor Alfords suggested if the material is a cost effective approach to add longevity to Township roads, that it be put on highly traveled Township roads. He further suggested having a black road surface may reduce winter ice build up on the roads. Commissioner Petersen recommended contacting Sherburne County Highway Engineer, Rhonda Lewis regarding this.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Chairman Hofer advised he looked at the paving projects today. He further advised the paving looks good and he received a call from a resident who was pleased with the work.

### **SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – The Supervisors advised they had not attended any meetings since the last Town Board Meeting. Supervisor Leslie advised Big Lake Town Hall building improvements have been completed, including installation of a venting fan in the garage area.

### **BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER**

a) Other-Updates-Meetings – Treasurer Warneke presented 2010 budget and 2011 proposed levy information. He advised the Township has lost the majority of its Market Value Credit in the amount of \$45,000. He further advised he didn't anticipate receiving any in 2010 or 2011; therefore, receiving \$9,000. was unexpected. He further advised the repairs to the Aspen Hills Wastewater Treatment Facility were slightly higher than anticipated. General Capital Fund reserves will be drawn down to cover this cost. Furthermore, there have been no new lot sales in the Industrial Park Expansion area; therefore, the City and Township are paying special assessments on the lots. Treasurer Warneke proposed an increase of \$50,000. in this fund as a result of this. He further noted the last time the Township levied for the Economic Development fund was 2006. Treasurer Warneke advised the Township is spending down its reserves more than anticipated in March. He noted since our long range plans, which are the 229<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge crossing and the purchase of additional park land, aren't imminent it is not a problem to draw down these reserves. The reserves can be built back up when the economy recovers. If necessary, the Township could borrow funds for projects.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Supervisor Hayes to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.  
Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk