

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
October 12, 2011

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

On Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 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 5 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken by the Chairman.

Board Members Present: Bob Hofer, Chairman
 Larry Alfords, Supervisor
 Norm Leslie, Supervisor
 Mike Hayes, 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 Hayes motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Stahlmann motioned to approve consent agenda items with the correction of a typographical error on page 2 of the September 28, 2011 minutes. a) Approval of Minutes: Regular Monthly Board Meeting 9-14-11; and, Second Monthly Meeting 9-28-11. b) Adopt Resolution 2011-10 Resolution Adopting Amendments to the Big Lake Township Subdivision Ordinance. c) Approve List of Claims (Disbursement List Received at Meeting). Supervisor Alfords seconded. Each Supervisor abstained from approval of their payroll claim. Supervisor Hayes abstained from approval of Clerk Hayes payroll claim. All were in favor. The motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

Sherburne County Sheriff's Deputy, Captain Steve Doran appeared before the Board. He provided a statistics report to the Board. He mentioned the recent event of a Sheriff's Deputy delivering a baby on the side of the road. He advised he was aware of the recent damage to the river cabin and garage and will discuss this ongoing situation within the Sheriff's Department.

Sherburne County Commissioner, Ewald Petersen appeared before the Board and gave several updates from the County. He advised the loss of the Homestead Credit has more dire consequences than originally anticipated. He advised businesses will see a double digit property tax increase and homeowners will see some property tax increase. Additionally, the State of Minnesota has raised the State general tax rate on industrial, commercial and seasonal homes. He advised a meeting has been held regarding drainage and water issues in Bridgeview Addition. The County will be helping residents in the development. Test bores will be taken in the N/NW area of the easement to look at the drainage that comes off the plat. Becker Township has advised they have no funds to assist the residents. Supervisor Stahlmann commented that the County shouldering project on County Road 14 was a great safety improvement.

Big Lake Township New River Medical Center (formerly the Monticello Big Lake Community Hospital) Board Representative, Richard Helms appeared before the Board to give an update on Otsego Townships efforts to leave the hospital district. He reported on the change of governance plan under discussion. He advised a meeting was held Tuesday evening at Silver Creek with Monticello Township and City of Otsego residents to discuss the proposed changes. He advised that it is his understanding that if New River proceeds to form a hybrid 501c3 it will have a governing board and a 501c3 Board. The governing board can still come back and levy more taxes if they run into financial problems. He further noted the hospital district can't be dissolved before the general obligation bonds are paid, which will not be until 2016.

Supervisor Stahlmann, member of the New River Medical Center Education Committee, noted the elected board and the volunteer committee have spent a considerable amount of time reviewing the alternatives. He outlined the four options available: to do nothing, to agree to the change to the proposed 5013c hybrid model, to sell the hospital outright or to close it down. He noted there are only seven or eight of the original 40 hospital districts like ours left in the state. He further noted that financially sound, independent hospitals employ their doctors; and, that a not-for-profit board operating with no meeting pay and a sunset on the term would draw the most dedicated individuals from the community. Supervisor Stahlmann noted that all hospital board meetings and educational committee meetings are open to the public and are held on the second Thursday of each month.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

Clerk Hayes reminded the Board of the Sherburne County Association of Townships meeting Wednesday, October 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Palmer Town Hall.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Alford advised the fall road tour will be conducted within the next two weeks. He advised the fall mowing is full width mowing and includes removal of trees and brush in the right-of-way.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1) Other-Updates-Meetings –Chairman Hofer advised he had nothing to report at this time.

-Sherburne County Commissioner, Ewald Petersen advised NSP is expanding their ash dump in Becker over the next three years. He advised Great River Energy is in the process of getting a grinder that is capable of shredding mattresses and other things to further reduce the percentage of tonnage going to the landfills. Commissioner Petersen advised this could make it possible to take clean up day waste to the RDF plant.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS

1) There were no meetings to report on at this time.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report – Treasurer Warneke reviewed the cash balance statement. Total government funds are \$1,868,087.11 and total escrow funds are \$38,878.58 for a total of \$1,906,965.69. Treasurer Warneke reviewed the 101, 102, 103 and 402 funds. He advised the loan to Aspen Hills is down to \$173,084.32; and, there is still \$532,775.25 in the General Capital Fund for reserve funds. Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

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 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Bob Hofer, Chairman