

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
October 14, 2015

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

On Wednesday, October 14, 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.

Chairman Hofer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 8 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 Pflgebraar, Supervisor
 Ken Warneke, Treasurer
 Laura Hayes, Clerk
 Samantha Peterson, Deputy Clerk

Board Members Absent: Larry Alfords, Supervisor

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 Pflgebraar seconded. All were in favor.

Supervisor Pflgebraar motioned to approve consent agenda items. The consent agenda consisted of: a) Regular Monthly Board Meeting 9-9-15, & Second Monthly Board Meeting Minutes 9-23-15 b) Approve Claims & Payroll; and, List of Claims & Payroll. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

Jonathon & Nichole Holm / Amendment to County Zoning Map for Zoning Change to property from General Rural to Industrial – Jonathon & Nichole Holm appeared before the Board to request an amendment to rezone a 2.5 acre portion of land, currently part of the 39.48 acre parcel they are purchasing contract for deed, from general rural to industrial. Sherburne County Zoning Specialist, Marc Schneider appeared before the Board to answer general questions the Board may have regarding the history of the parcel and/or the request to rezone. He advised the County is not advocating for either a recommendation of approval or denial of the request by his presence at the meeting. He advised construction and use of the nearly 8,100 sq. ft. building for unpermitted business purposes occurred approximately 30 years ago. The building, by definition of Size, doesn’t comply with the terms of an interim use permit (IUP) therefore, the Holm’s

either need to secure rezoning of the property to industrial or move the business out of the building and off the location.

Jonathan & Nichole Holm advised they moved their family business, GC Iron, Inc. to this location in April 2014 from Sauk Rapids, MN. There is no retail sale. There are 2 employees. It is a machine and welding business. They manufacturer and machine tools used for making parts of all sizes and welding of heavy machinery.

Neighbors, Paul and Rose Welter, 20914 County Road 43, Big Lake Township appeared before the Board to advise they have filed complaints with the County Zoning Office regarding noise from the business. Rose Welter advised she and family members ride horses on their adjacent property and the noise makes it unsafe to ride, due to scaring the horses; and, a nuisance because the noise can be heard inside their home.

There was lengthy discussion regarding the noise complaints, past business practices at the location and spot zoning concerns. It was noted the County has been assessing the property as commercial and when the Holm's viewed the property before purchasing, there as a business located in the building and in operation. Therefore, when they were told by the owner they could operate their business there, they didn't question it. The Welter's advised they would be open to allowing the Holm's to continue to operate their business, for a reasonable and limited time, at this location if it is denied rezoning. Marc Schneider advised following receipt of the Township's recommendation, the rezoning request will be heard by the Sherburne County Planning Commission at a public hearing in November 2015. It will then move forward to the Sherburne County Board of Commissioners for final decision.

Supervisor Aubol motioned to not recommend the request to rezone from general rural to industrial. Supervisor Pflagher seconded. All present were in favor.

Other-Updates-Meetings – Annual Conference, Alexandria, MN Nov. 19-21. Clerk Hayes advised she will make reservations for anyone interested in attending.

Election Equipment County Cost Share Purchase – The Board requested additional information from Sherburne County Auditor, Diane Arnold following the September 23, 2015 Board discussion of the proposed cost share purchase. Supervisor Pflagher motioned to support the purchase of the election equipment and cost share proposal. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor.

O'Leary Addition Public Hearing for Vacation of Drainage and Utility Easement - Clerk Hayes noted Township Engineer, Ross Abel has advised the original plat of Wild Run, which is where the replat of O'Leary Addition is located, does not have side yard drainage and utility easements established. Therefore, there is nothing to vacate and a public hearing was not necessary tonight.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Township Engineer, Ross Abel advised overlay projects are finished and shoulders have been restored. Pay applications will be finalized and quantities verified. Patching will begin next week weather permitting and will take only a couple of days. A lower quote has been received for the 226th Avenue drainage improvement project from West Branch Construction. The project will begin next week. The Shoreland Restoration permit at Sherburne County has been updated with the new contractor's name. The lower quote saves both the property owner's Mark & Carol Nierman and the Township approximately \$10,000. each. Treasurer Warneke advised the Township attorney has prepared the legal documents for the easement.

Treasurer Warneke advised Jeff Rhodes mowed the industrial park and the City of Big Lake will bill invoiced for half of the cost. He further advised JME has requested a fuel increase under their current 3-year contract, which expires in 2017. Herbst Construction will begin the 182nd Street ditch drainage and culvert cleaning project next week.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hofer advised he had nothing specific to report.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Pflgebraar advised the October BLEDA meeting was held Tuesday due to Columbus Day holiday. He advised the former Shade Tree building has been purchased by SSI Visual and they will be occupying the site soon. The former Lily's Bar is now open as 3rd Rail Bar & Grill. There is interest in the former Amoco building for an auto repair business. The City continues to keep broadband improvement and expansion as a long term project.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report –Treasurer Warneke reviewed the cash balance statement totaling \$1,235,575.45 in government and escrow funds. He reviewed the 100 General Fund and 202 Road Funds. Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Pflgebraar seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert Hofer, Chairman