

Second Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
April 24, 2013

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

On Wednesday, April 24, 2013, 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
 Larry Alfords, Supervisor
 Norm Leslie, Supervisor
 Bruce Aubol, Supervisor
 Ken Warneke, Treasurer
 Laura Hayes, Clerk
 Barb Krzmarcik, Deputy Clerk

Board Members Absent: Steve Pfliegaar, 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 Second Monthly Meeting agenda with the addition of a report from Commissioner Ewald Petersen under the Chairman’s Report. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as amended.

Supervisor Alfords motioned to approve consent agenda items: a) Resolution 2013-15 Accepting Donations to the Big Lake Fire Department. b) Approve List of Claims (disbursement list received at meeting). Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

Commander Steve Doran, Sherburne County Sheriff’s Department reported there have been more accidents this April than usual partially due to the number of snowstorms. There have been 12 accidents resulting in property damage and 5 injury reports. A printed monthly report was given to the Board. There were no issues or concerns to report by the Board.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Vince Pavkovich/Overnight Use of Cabin – ARRL Radio Event June 22 & 23 – Vince Pavkovich appeared before the Board to request overnight use of the cabin at Lion’s

Community Park for an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day event. Field Day is an on-air event held annually on the fourth Weekend of June. During the event emergency radios, 30' antennas and generators will be set up. Participants attempt to make as many contacts as possible around the world during the event. The event runs from 1:00 p.m. Saturday, June 22 to 1:00 p.m. Sunday, June 23. Honda 2,000 generators will be used and antennas may also be affixed in the trees during the event. There will be 4 to 6 radio operators. The public is welcomed and encouraged to attend. Signs would be posted in the park directing visitors to the cabin to observe. Supervisor Alford's motioned to allow the use as described from 1:00 p.m. Saturday, June 22 to 1:00 p.m. Sunday, June 23. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Meetings-Updates – Treasurer Warneke advised sweeping has started. Potholes have been repaired; refuse in ditches has been picked up and windfall trees in the road right-of-way have been cleaned up. Spring weight restrictions are still in effect. Bid opening for 2013 Road Improvements and Bituminous Patching & Overlay will be done May 8th. The Spring Road Tour will be conducted Monday, April 29th beginning at 7:30 a.m. and finished Wednesday, May 1st.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hofer had nothing to report on at this time.

Sherburne County Commissioner, Ewald Petersen gave several updates.

-Sherburne County is requesting Mn/DOT complete a study to determine the appropriate speed zone for CSAH 43 south. The County Engineer would like to see the speed reduced to 50 mph.

-Sherburne County Auditor advised the top tax payers in Sherburne County are the power companies.

-Tax Capacity rates have been determined. The City of Big Lake is \$6,090,000. and Big Lake Township is \$5,079,000.

-A major portion of Big Lake Township falls under the 5-year assessment review schedule by the County Assessor's Office and will begin next year.

-The Turnback of a portion of CSAH 14, in front of Bailey Station Cemetery has been approved by the Sherburne County Board of Commissioners.

-The County will be hiring approximately 7 additional employees in the Health and Human Services office to handle additional cases that will be a result of the changes to the health care system and insurance provisions under "MNsure".

-Planning and Zoning issued a letter soliciting comments on the Agricultural District definition of wooded and the requirements to split property under this definition.

-The DNR is conducting a free workshop regarding the Mt. Simon Aquifer recharge area on May 22, 2013 in Rogers. This aquifer supplies almost all of the ground water used by the Twin Cities metro area and is the aquifer for the Big Lake area.

- The 2012 Annual Elk River Watershed Association Report has been published.
- All County Road projects have been let for bid. Bids received were under the engineer's estimate.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1) Rail Park Meeting Update – Clerk Hayes advised Supervisor Alfords, Treasurer Warneke and she attended a meeting at the City of Big Lake on Tuesday, April 23 with Mayor Danielowski, City Administrator Todd Bodem and City Engineer, Brad DeWolfe to discuss additional questions from the meeting held with the City of Big Lake during their workshop on Wednesday, April 17. There was discussion regarding the shipping trends of the railroad since the 1970's, the percentage of projected businesses that would utilize a rail spur and the need for a zoning classification specific to the area to ensure rail use if an investment of this significance is made. There was also lengthy discussion regarding the need for the private sector to pay for half of the cost of the project. Supervisor Alfords motioned to provide the financial support equal to the amount of the Township's affected property in the OAA at a rate of \$4,000. Annually for 15 years; contingent upon the private sector paying for ½ of the project and successfully obtaining the 2013 Transportation Economic Development (TED) Grant. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. Clerk Hayes was directed to send a letter to the City of Big Lake advising of the action for inclusion with the TED grant application.

2) Legacy Foundation Meeting Update – Clerk Hayes advised the foundation met on April 16. All of the music in the park concert dates have been filled. \$17,000. in donations has been received so far. Present goals of the foundation were reviewed. They remain providing the concert in the park series, the walking history tour and the addition of a Christmas Tree and updated decorations for the City street lights on Hwy 10. The long term goal of the foundation remains ballfield/athletic complex. The next meeting of the Legacy Foundation will be Tuesday, April 30 at 10:00 a.m. at Big Lake City Hall.

3) Urban Town Short Course – Clerk Hayes, Treasurer Warneke, Chairman Hofer and Supervisors Alfords and Aubol attended. Clerk Hayes advised handouts from each of the speakers are available at the Clerk's Office. The meeting was informational and helpful to Urban Townships because topics covered address Urban Township issues specifically rather than greater Minnesota Township issues.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Other-Updates-Meetings – Treasurer Warneke advised as of tonight's snowplowing bills the snowplowing budget is \$55,000. over budget. This will use up carry over from last years surplus and will use some funds from the general road maintenance budget. Treasurer Warneke will review again prior to letting bids for road projects. The 101 fund budget is in line. Supervisor Aubol motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert Hofer, Chairman