

Second Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
May 22, 2013

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

On Wednesday, May 22, 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 approximately 100 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken by the chairperson.

Board Members Present:

- Bob Hofer, Chairman
- Steve Pfliegaar, Supervisor
- Larry Alfords, Supervisor
- Norm Leslie, Supervisor
- Ken Warneke, Treasurer
- Laura Hayes, Clerk
- LaDonna Braun, Deputy Clerk

Board Members Absent: Bruce Aubol, 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. Supervisor Pfliegaar seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Pfliegaar motioned to approve consent agenda items: a) Approve List of Claims (disbursement list received at meeting). Supervisor Alfords seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Sherburne County Sheriff's Department, Commander Steve Doran/Quarterly Updates – Commander Doran provided the Board with a list of call responses for the previous month. The Board had no questions for Commander Doran.

b) Loren Butterfield, Attorney Opinion on Access – Loren Butterfield appeared before the Town Board and gave an overview of the history of use and ownership of his property. He referenced three Minnesota §106.05; 541.02; 507.161 and referenced adverse possession statute. The Board reiterated to Loren Butterfield and his son and daughter, who were also present, that he will have to take action to obtain the property needed for the additional access right of way. It was noted this is a civil matter between property owners and does not involve the Township.

c) Dale Lais, Deb Gappen & Frank Barger Comments on Shooting Range Concept – Big Lake Police Chief, Joel Scharf addressed the audience and Board in regard to statements made quoting him in the May 11, 2013 Edition of the West Sherburne Tribune. Chief Scharf advised he fully supports looking for a range site, he is an outdoors enthusiast himself and encourages the safe operation and education of gun use. He further advised that Big Lake Township is not in his jurisdiction and he is aware it is not his place to make statements in regard to Township only issues. In closing he requested his name be removed from this issue.

Chairman Hofer advised that he would allow one additional speaker at tonight's meeting regarding this issue. Jane Toleno was granted an opportunity to address the audience and Board in addition to the three residents listed on the agenda. Chairman Hofer advised the audience of the following: 1) The Township has not received an application from anyone or any group to operate a sportsman's club or a gun range in Big Lake Township. 2) This is not a public hearing. 3) Four residents have asked to be on the agenda and address the board. They will each be allowed approximately 10 minutes to make their presentation. Dale Lais advised it is his opinion 80 acres south of 211th Avenue is not the correct area for a gun range. Deb Gappen advised she was concerned neighbors were not made aware of this prior to the newspaper publication on May 11, 2013. Frank Bargar quoted several county zoning ordinances. Jane Toleno mentioned disability concerns such as (PTSD) Post Traumatic Stress Disorder).

The Board recessed the meeting at 8:00 p.m. for 5 minutes allowing the audience to leave if they so desired.

The meeting reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

d) Sale of Tax Forfeited Parcels/Big Lake Township – Treasurer Warneke advised he reviewed the list of properties and determined that none of them appear to be useful for road use by the Township and therefore it would not be necessary to reserve any from the tax forfeit land sale. Supervisor Pfliegaar motioned to approve the classification of properties as tax forfeit and to approve the sale of these properties. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

e) Minnesota Association of Township's Summer Short Course, Monday, June 17 St. Cloud, MN, Holiday Inn. Recommendation from Clerk All Supervisors and Staff Attend – Clerk Hayes advised Chairman Hofer and Supervisors Alfords, Aubol and Pfliegaar should attend and take the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization (LBAE) Training. Clerk Hayes advised that all Supervisors and Staff should plan to attend the Summer Short Course. The Clerk's Office will register all for the appropriate trainings.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) 211th Avenue Cul De Sac Construction by Sherburne County – Supervisor Alfords advised the road committee met onsite today to review the proposed cul de sac construction on 211th

Avenue. The road committee recommended approval of the plans as prepared by the County. Supervisor Alfords motioned to approve the CSAH 15 Improvements as presented; and, to appoint the Sherburne County Engineer to represent the Township in acquiring the necessary right of way for 211th Avenue and 201st Avenue; and, that the Sherburne County Attorney would be the Township's representative legal counsel if condemnation is necessary. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

Other-Meetings-Updates – Chairman Hofer advised road improvements at the intersection of 156th Street and 201st Avenue have been reviewed and is ready to proceed. Treasurer Warneke advised sweeping is finishing up and repairs to snowplow damaged areas are being done.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Hofer advised he attended the Mt. Simon Aquifer Recharge Area presentation this morning with Supervisor Alfords and Pflieghaar. He advised it was very interesting and educational. Supervisor Alfords reviewed highlight information from the presentation.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1) EDA update – Supervisor Leslie advised Monday's EDA meeting was a presentation from WSB & Associates, Inc. The same presentation was given to the City, EDA and Township today at 4:30 p.m. It was noted that in the future if the City of Big Lake contracts with WSB & Associates, Inc. the Township will need to consider what part, if any, is affected or assisted with an economic development assistance contract. Supervisor Leslie mentioned WSB & Associates, Inc. already has a contract with the City of Monticello and questioned how this would affect their impartiality in representing the City of Big Lake.

2) Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Leslie advised Lion's Community Park has been prepared for summer use. Very little maintenance was necessary. A few posts around the parking area were replaced. Quotes are being solicited for expansion of the irrigation system.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Other-Updates-Meetings – Treasurer Warneke advised he had nothing specific to report at this time. One Certificate of Deposit will mature soon. It will be cashed and put into savings.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Pflieghaar seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert Hofer, Chairman