

Monthly Board Meeting  
Minutes  
May 8, 2013

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

On Wednesday, May 8, 2013, 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 nine 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  
                                  Steve Pflieghaar, Supervisor  
                                  Bruce Aubol, Supervisor  
                                  Ken Warneke, Treasurer  
                                  Laura Hayes, Clerk

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. Supervisor Pflieghaar seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Alfords motioned to approve consent agenda items. The consent agenda consisted of: a) Approval of Minutes: Regular Monthly Board Meeting 4-10-13 and Second Monthly Board Meeting 4-24-13. b) Adopt Resolutions 2013-16 Accepting Donations to the Big Lake Fire Department. c) Approve List of Claims (Disbursement List Received at Meeting). Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

#### OPEN FORUM

Phil Rondeau appeared before the Board to gather the Board's feedback on a concept plan to form a Big Lake Sportsman Club in Big Lake Township, on 80 acres located near 211<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He advised he has a tentative agreement to purchase 80 acres from Bob Eddy. He advised he had talked about this proposal with City Administrator Todd Bodem, City of Big Lake Mayor RaeAnne Danielowski and City Police Chief Joel Scharff. Chairman Hofer advised if he decides to pursue the plan, he will need to begin the process at the County by applying for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The process will involve a review and comment by the County and the Township and a public hearing at the County. Supervisor Alfords commented that the property is very low and flat and has no natural berms that would be necessary for such a use. Phil Rondeau advised the

concept is to offer four trap houses for use by the Big Lake High School trap shooting team; a skeet range, five short range pistol lanes and an archery component on site. All ranges would be under 100 yards. Phil Rondeau acknowledged the property is not suitable for long range rifle discharge. Supervisor Alford's recommended he speak with representatives from Del Tone Gun Range near St. Cloud regarding requirements and compliance issues they have been required to adhere to in order to operate their range in Sherburne County.

Loren Butterfield and Lynn Swanson appeared before the Board to continue researching access questions for the 72 acres owned by Loren Butterfield off 205<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Big Lake Township. The Town Board again advised the legal opinion received by the Township from the Minnesota Association of Townships Attorney's Office is that as long as there is at least a single point of contact for the property and the Township Road (205<sup>th</sup> Avenue) the property is not landlocked; and, the Township can't force the neighbor to give up any of his property for an access or easement. The Board recommended that Loren Butterfield either contact an attorney and see if a state statute can be located to substantiate a claim that the property is landlocked; or, that he work with his neighbor, Tom Stegora to gain either additional property or an easement to meet the 66' foot right of way requirement for an improved access to the property.

#### BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Tiffany Determan, Sherburne SWCD Water Plan Coordinator/Request for Donation to Support Shoreland Workshop for Elected Officials – Tiffany Determan appeared before the Board to request consideration of a \$100. contribution from Big Lake Township to defray the cost of hosting a workshop designed for local elected and appointed officials. The workshops focus is land use impacts on water resources in Sherburne County. Supervisor Pflughhaar motioned to participate in sponsorship of the program by contributing \$100. towards the preregistration fee. Supervisor Aubol seconded. It was questioned if other Townships choose not to participate with a preregistration contribution, would there be a registration fee. Tiffany Determan advised the SWCD will need to set up an individual registration fee per attendee.

b) Tiffany Determan, Sherburne SWCD Water Plan Coordinator/Update on Birch Lake Beach Stormwater Assessment Project Update - Tiffany Determan advised the SWCD will provide cost effective treatment to protect Birch Lake from Stormwater Runoff. Birch Lake is listed as an impaired water. Supervisor Alford's advised the road committee members will meet with Tiffany Determan to discuss and provide information to her regarding the Township's MSW/SWPPP plan and mapping information.

c) Mark Hedstrom, Big Lake Fire Department/Request to Use Big Lake Fire Hall 4 Times Annually for Bingo – Big Lake Fireman, Mark Hedstrom appeared before the Board to request use of the Big Lake Fire Hall by the Big Lake Fire Relief Association to conduct bingo activities at the BLFD in an effort to add an additional revenue stream to the general account. Specific dates have not been set, the games will be held at 6:00 p.m. If cover-all games are conducted, the total prizes per bingo occasion may not exceed \$3,800. Mark Hedstrom advised the City of Big Lake did approve this request at their

meeting tonight. The Relief Association needs to approve conducting Bingo. Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve the Big Lake Fire Department Relief Association conducting Bingo at the Big Lake Fire Department. Supervisor Pflughaar seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

d) Jim Sanford/Jenna Sanford/James Sanford Jr. /Requesting 2 Variances for 16.5' x 2,000' Driveway Accesses each off 205<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Jim Sanford appeared before the Board to request 2 variances from the Sherburne County Zoning Ordinance, Section 8, General Rural District Subd 6.3 – minimum lot dimensions: width 200' (measured at the setback line). For proposed lot 1 – 183.5' variance in lot width from the setback line on Lot 1; and, for proposed lot 2 – 183.5' variance in lot width from the setback line on Lot 2. The Board noted this is a unique situation in that the wooded area where the lots are proposed is at the back of the property; and, the productive agricultural land is located in the front. It was noted the driveway is proposed as it is to avoid the need to alter the centerpivot irrigation system in place. John Norgren recommended a friendly amendment to the request, suggesting the applicant request 2 one-rod wide easements onto 205<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This would offer the opportunity to ghost plat with a 66' (2 - 33') driveway access onto the Township road. Supervisor Alfords motioned to recommend approval of the variance request with the friendly amendment of a 66' right of way (2 – 33'). Supervisor Leslie seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

e) Workshop: Mt. Simon Aquifer Recharge Area, Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. – The Department of Natural Resources is conducting a free workshop regarding the Mt. Simon Aquifer recharge area. The aquifer supplies ground water in Big Lake Township. The entire aquifer supplies ground water from an area north of Hwy 95, southwesterly to Monticello, MN. Supervisors Alfords, Pflughaar and Chairman Hofer advised they would attend. Clerk Hayes will post notice of the meeting.

## BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

### TOWN ROADS

1) Award Bids for 2013 Road Improvement Projects/Bituminous Patching & Overlay – Two bids were received and opened at 10:00 a.m. on May 8, 2013 for the 2013 Road Improvements. The Engineer's estimate was \$348,000. total for schedules A through F. The high bid received was from Knife River Corporation-North Central in the amount of \$324,558.00. The low bid received was from Hardrives, Inc. in the amount of \$306,682.29. It was the Engineer's recommendation that the contract be awarded to the low bidder, Hardrives, Inc. Supervisor Alfords recommended accepting the bids and allowing the road committee to determine which schedules will be contracted. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

2) Other-Updates-Meetings – Treasurer Warneke advised the road tour has been completed. The roads wintered well. Sweeping is nearly half completed. The road committee members are working on maps from the road tour. Spring road weight restrictions go off at midnight on Sunday.

Monthly Board Meeting  
May 8, 2013  
Page 4

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Chairman Hofer advised he has arranged for the track hoe for clean up day from Brenteson Construction.

#### SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

2) Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Pflgebraar advised the library building is moving toward receivership. The church will be moving out of the building. The city is working on a creating a purchase proposal package and is looking forward to the Township's continued financial support of the library.

#### BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report – Treasurer Warneke advised government and escrow funds are \$2,158,228.63 He reviewed the 101, 102, 103 and 402 funds. One of the Certificates of Deposit have matured; and, it was put into the general savings account because that is earning the best interest rate currently. Additional deposits will require the bank to provide additional collateral, which they are willing to do. Supervisor Aubol motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Pflgebraar seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Aubol to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Bob Hofer, Chairman