

Monthly Board Meeting  
Minutes  
June 10, 2015

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

On Wednesday, June 10, 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. The meeting was tape recorded for transcribing purposes only.

Chairman Hofer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 9 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  
                                      Larry Alfords, Supervisor  
                                      Ken Warneke, Treasurer  
                                      Laura Hayes, Clerk  
                                      LaDonna Hensel, Deputy Clerk

Board Members Absent:     Steve Pflgebraar, Supervisor

All present stood and recited the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Supervisor Alfords motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All were in favor.

Supervisor Aubol motioned to approve consent agenda items. The consent agenda consisted of: a) Regular Monthly Board Meeting 5-13-15, & Second Monthly Board Meeting Minutes 5-27-15 b) Approve Claims & Payroll; and, List of Claims & Payroll. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All were in favor.

**BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK**

a) Homes Plus Inc./Lot 1, Block 2 Hidden Rivers Edge – Mottled Soil Issue for Septic System – The builder and the owners of Lot 1, Block 2 Hidden Rivers Edge appeared before the Town Board to present information and request to locate the septic system in a portion of the drainage and utility easement. The builder advised the septic designer encounter mottled soils and clay pockets when trying to design where the typical gravity system would be placed. Township Engineer, Ross Abel brought plat file information and the final plat design for discussion. The Board reviewed the 100 year flood information, FEMA flood plain information available at the time of platting; and, updated information; and, soil boring information on file. Supervisor Alfords motioned to 1) Recommend approval of the septic system design encroachment into the drainage and

utility easement using current FEMA flood plain information, 2) Request Sherburne County Zoning Office determine which tank system be used; and, 3) No above ground structural encroachments be placed in the drainage and utility easement and no additional below ground be allowed other than the septic system components. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor. Clerk Hayes requested a written Township Engineer's recommendation also be drafted and sent to the County Zoning Office for their file documentation; and, that the Township be copied on the letter.

b) Other – Updates – Meetings / Big Lake Fire Chief, Paul Nemes – Chief Nemes advised there were 16 calls for service in May: 8 City of Big Lake, 7 Big Lake Township and 1 mutual aid/Monticello. Calls for June are 5 including a mutual aid house fire in Zimmerman and an oven fire in the City of Big Lake. June training drills are on auto extrication. Sherburne County EMS, Big Lake Police Department and Big Lake Fire Department Captain Charlie Stern conducted a youth safety program today for school age children staying at home alone this summer.

c) Sherburne County Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Allowing Higher Density Development In Shoreland District - Sherburne County Zoning Administrator, Nancy Riddle sent a letter and proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment regarding the current Shoreland District Ordinance. She advised the current ordinance has the shoreland district as an overlay district which means the underlying zoning district still applies when it is more restrictive than what is required under the State rules. The majority of land around the lakes is either zoned General Rural or Agricultural as the underlying zoning district. This requires a minimum lot size of 2.5 or 5 acres. In the letter, Administrator Riddle advised she was approached by one township with a request to consider small lot sizes, which are allowed by State rules. On a General Development or Recreational Development lake 40,000 square foot lots are allowed. Supervisor Alfords asked that in the future proposed amendment changes be more clearly marked to identify what is being proposed for removal and what is proposed to be added. The Board questioned how a house, primary and secondary septic system could be placed on a 40,000 sq. ft. lot; noting perhaps if it's a cluster style development it would be possible. The consensus of the Board was 40,000 sq. ft. is not enough useable room. Supervisor Alfords motioned to recommend a reduction to 1 acre. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All present were in favor.

- The Board took action to ratify appointment to the newly formed BLEDA Recommending Subcommittee as discussed at today's Joint Powers Board Meeting of the Big Lake City Council and Big Lake Township. Supervisor's Leslie or Pflieger will attend the meetings; and, Supervisor's Aubol or Alfords will attend.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

## TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – The road committee advised culvert repairs and smaller drainage improvements projects has been done. Clerk Hayes advised she received a report of thistles growing in the R-O-W on 214<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Clerk's Office should report these calls to Jeff Rhodes for spraying and weed control.

2) Birch Lake Beach Area Water Control/Rain Garden Discussion with SWCD – Township Engineer, Ross Abel presented a map and stormwater estimates following the Road Committee's Meeting with Tiffany Determan, Sherburne SWCD regarding the possibility of installing rain gardens or other possible water control devices near Birch Lake. The Road committee recommended using an existing drainage pond to filter the water through prior to it entering the lake. Ross Abel reviewed profile information and determined this is feasible; however, rain gardens would not be able to handle the amount of water. Supervisor Aubol motioned to continue to develop a plan utilizing culverts, brush clearing and holding areas; and, to prepare the information in a format suitable for Tiffany Determan to use it to apply for grants to do the project. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. There was brief discussion regarding the boat landing at 224<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 159<sup>th</sup> Street and installing storage chambers that would allow the first 1" rainfall to enter and hold to reduce the amount of sediment entering Birch Lake.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Chairman Hofer had nothing specific to report.

## SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Other-Updates-Meetings – Supervisor Leslie advised the City of Big Lake is creating a promotional brochure about the City. A digital printing company from Iowa is interested in locating to the Industrial Park. City of Big Lake Mayor RaeAnne Danielowski and EDA Manager John Uphoff may be going to visit the main site in Iowa.

Supervisor Leslie advised Mike Leverty, TW Hauling will be working this weekend and early next week to finish the ballfield grading project. The park committee and Treasurer Warneke met today to review irrigation and fence quotes. Additional information from one of the vendors will be requested. The park committee plans to be able to present information at the Board at the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report –Treasurer Warneke reviewed the cash balance statement; and, the 100 General Fund and 202 Road Fund receipts and disbursements to date. He advised the first half property tax collections should be received from the County soon. The street sweeping costs are approximately \$28,000. way over budget. Funds for snow removal may be able to be used to offset it; however, there will most likely be invoices for Nov. and Dec. 2015 snow removal coming. Supervisor Aubol motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All were in favor.

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Leslie to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Aubol seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert Hofer, Chairman