

Second Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
July 27, 2011

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

On Wednesday, July 27, 2011, 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 11 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
- Mike Hayes, Supervisor
- Ken Warneke, Treasurer
- Laura Hayes, Clerk
- Kristie Woolard, Deputy Clerk
- Todd McLouth, Township Engineer

Board Members Absent: Jim Stahlmann, Supervisor

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

Chairman Hofer advised the agenda would be amended to include Sherburne County Sheriff’s Deputy, Captain Steve Doran’s report to the Township. Clerk Hayes advised item 6b would not be presented tonight and would be heard at the August 10th Meeting. Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve the Second Monthly Meeting agenda as amended. Supervisor Alfords seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as amended.

Supervisor Hayes motioned to approve consent agenda items: a) Approve the 2011 Big Lake Fireman’s Dance to be held at the Big Lake Fire Station, August 20th. b) Approve List of Claims (Disbursement List will be Received at Meeting). Supervisor Leslie seconded. Supervisor Hayes abstained from approval of Clerk Hayes payroll claim. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

OPEN FORUM

Sherburne County Sheriff’s Deputy, Captain Steve Doran appeared before the Board. He advised he had nothing specific to report on. The Board advised they had no concerns to bring to the attention of the Sheriff’s Department.

Charles and Beth Gerth, 15956 – 225th Avenue, Elk River, Big Lake Township appeared before the Board in regard to washouts occurring on a platted street/driveway access north of 225th Avenue, Birch Lake Beach that have left utility lines exposed. Chairman Hofer advised he had been in contact with the Gerth's and viewed the situation. He advised class 5 gravel was placed in the washout areas this morning; and, there may need to be discussion regarding what to do in the future. Supervisor Alfords reminded all present that the washout occurred on a platted street/driveway access and therefore it is the resident's responsibility to maintain. Supervisor Alfords further noted the Township fixed it this time because it was a hazard. Charles Gerth advised he was told their driveway was a Township road when the house was purchased. He noted the Township's help today is appreciated, but he knows they will not be able to maintain the driveway long-term. He further recommended that the access be paved from the top of the hill to the bottom where the utilities are located. There was brief discussion regarding the situation. Treasurer Warneke reviewed the age of the plat and advised there are many platted streets in the Township that were never developed. He further noted that this access does not have enough right-of-way to be improved; but agreed that placing class 5 this time was necessary because the utility lines were exposed. Treasurer Warneke noted a spillway on the Gerth's property to re-direct the run-off may be an option. The Gerth's advised they are open to suggestions. The Road Committee will schedule a time to review the area.

Kent Halbenlieb, 17076 – 182nd Avenue, Big Lake, Big Lake Township appeared before the Board in regard to road improvements/drainage repair occurring on 170th Street. He advised the water was being brought from the East to the West and would flood onto a portion of his property each spring. The Board, Township Engineer Todd McLouth and Kent Halbenlieb reviewed the project plans, which include placement of a culvert under 170th Street. Supervisor Alfords advised the existing culvert is often plugged which causes the water to run over the road. There was discussion regarding alternatives to the current plan, including extending the new culvert an additional 10' feet. This may improve water flow and keep snow, from the road plowing, from getting packed into the ends of it. Supervisor Alfords motioned to increase the scope of the project to include an additional cross culvert on 182nd Avenue and to lengthen the three current culverts on the north side to the right-of-way line. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

Carol Nierman, 18778-226th Avenue NW, Eagle Lake Park appeared before the Board and inquired about the status of the drainage repair on 226th Avenue and 187th Street in Eagle Lake Park. Township Engineer, Todd McLouth advised Diversified was scheduled to start today, due to rain last night, they will start tomorrow.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Damon Rapozo/30' Variance in Setback from Road for a 2-stall Garage Addition – Damon Rapozo appeared before the Board to request a 30' foot variance in setback for a 2-stall garage addition. Clerk Hayes advised Mr. Rapozo had sent a letter to the County that had been shared with the Township. The letter was forwarded to the Board in their meeting packet. Clerk Hayes reviewed the following information from the letter: The current garage accommodates two cars and sits 100' from the centerline of the road. The applicant was prepared to add on to the south side of the garage making it an "L" shape; however, that

would require relocating the septic system, modifying the roofline, and eliminating most of the front yard. The practical difficulty involved has caused them to seek a variance instead. If the variance is granted, they can keep the same roofline, the same septic system and utilize the same driveway. They are the last house in the neighborhood at the end of the cul-de-sac. Due to vertical changes in lot elevation and a large wetland behind the house, it could not have been built further back on the property. Supervisor Hayes motioned to recommend approval of the 30' foot variance as requested. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Meetings-Updates – Township Engineer, Todd McLouth advised 214th Avenue, 150th Street, 152nd Street, and 156th Street patches have all been paved. Shouldering and seeding will be done soon. 226th Avenue will be paved next. 205th Avenue (East) extension has been paved. The spillway and settling pond have been constructed. 170th Street is being graded. 221st Avenue class 5 has been put down. It will be paved at the same time as 205th Avenue.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Chairman Hofer advised he had nothing specific to report on.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1) Other-Meetings-Updates – The Supervisor's had nothing specific to report on.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

Review of Year Ended 12-31-2010 Financial Audit of the Town of Big Lake - Treasurer Ken Warneke presented copies of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Year Ended December 31, 2010 to all Board Members at the July 13, 2011 meeting for their review. He inquired if the Board had any questions regarding the audit. Treasurer Warneke advised Big Lake Township has received a clean opinion. The audit and State Auditor's Report have been forwarded to the State Auditor's Office. Supervisor Alfords motioned to acknowledge receipt of and approve the 2010 annual financial audit. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Sherburne County Commissioner, Ewald Petersen gave several county updates. He advised a county road located in the Santiago, Clear Lake area will have the asphalt surface removed and be returned to gravel. He advised the road has only 100 trips per day on it, therefore, it is cost prohibitive to fix the subgrade and repave.

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He advised the County Road 11 mill and overlay project was scheduled to begin August 1. Due to the State government shutdown, the contractor, Hardrives were on a MNDOT project that must be finished before they can move to the County Road 11 site. There is 8" of asphalt that will have to be milled off the road. County Road 17 will be the detour. The County Road 11 project will now start around Labor Day.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Hayes to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk

Robert L. Hofer, Chairman