



Regular Board Meeting  
Wednesday September 22, 2021 6:00 PM

The Town of Big Lake Board of Supervisors met in regular session, at 6:02 PM, on Wednesday September 22, 2021 at the Town of Big Lake Town Hall, located in the Big Lake Township's Lions Park Community Center, at 21960 County Road 5 NW, Big Lake Township, Sherburne County, State of Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Chair Bruce Aubol and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. In attendance were Supervisor Larry Alford, Supervisor Norm Leslie, Supervisor Mark Hedstrom were in attendance. Vice-Chair Dean Brenteson was absent. Staff members present were Treasurer Kenneth Warneke, Clerk Brenda Kimberly-Maas and Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson. Sergeant Luke McLean, Fire Chief Seth Hansen, guests, and newspaper reporter were in attendance.

### **Approval of Meeting Agenda**

Motion/Second to accept the presented Agenda by: Leslie/Hedstrom. Approved by: Alford, Aubol, Hedstrom, and Leslie. Motion Prevailed. The meeting proceeded in accordance with presented Agenda.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

The Consent Agenda consisted of: A) Approval of Minutes; Joint Powers Board Meeting 09/08/2021 and Regular Meeting 09/08/2021. B) Approve List of Claims & Payroll paid 09/22/2021. Motion/Second to Approve Consent Agenda by: Hedstrom/Alford. Approved by: Alford, Aubol, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None Opposed. Motion Prevailed.

### **Sheriff's Department Report**

Sergeant Luke McLean presented the incident report for the month of August to the Board. There were 30 more traffic stops than the same time-period, in 2020. Of note were a vehicle stop which the driver had fled from authorities and ultimately crashed into a parked county squad car. The driver was from Minneapolis.

### **Big Lake Fire Department Report**

Chief Seth Hansen reported 48 total calls for service in August 2021: City of Big Lake had twenty-nine (29), Big Lake Township had eleven (11), two (2) in Orrock Township, three (3) mutual aid calls, and three (3) calls where only department officers responded. The Department responded to three (2) fires, of which one (1) was a grass fire, and the other was a mutual aid/structure fire. Seven (7) hazardous conditions, ten (10) medical assists, and eight (8) motor vehicle accidents were also included in the responses. The members participated in online training learning about health and safety. Hands-on training included wildland refresher – pump and roll procedures. The department participated in the annual Night to Unite activities, a block party held at McPete's, as well as a block party held on Ridge Road.

## **Open Forum**

*None brought forth.*

## **Regular Business**

### **Presentation of DRAFT Reconvened Annual Meeting Minutes**

The clerk presented to the Board the DRAFT of the Reconvened Annual Meeting Minutes. The Minutes will be approved during the 2022 Annual Meeting, by the electorate.

### **Hofdahl Rezone and IUP Request – PID# 10-323-1401 and 10-323-1406**

Sarah Hafdal was present to request a rezoning of from industrial to commercial use of the properties located at 20110 W. Hwy 20, Big Lake, MN 55309 – PID#s 10-323-1401 and 10-323-1406. As well as a request for an Interim Use Permit at the same location. The property had previously been used to sell used cars and auto parts. The property had been zoned commercial during the previous owner was operating his business. The proposed plan of Ms. Hafdal is to operate a similar business. However, she will have multiple dealers selling from the location, rather than only one.

The board felt the request to rezone and allow for the new business model to operate from this location, was appropriate.

Motion/second to recommend approval to rezone parcels 10-323-1401 and 10-323-1406 from industrial use to commercial use by: Alfords/Leslie. Approved by: Alfords, Aubol, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None opposed. Motion prevailed.

### **Rusher Variance Requests – PID# 10-401-1555 and 10-401-1560**

Tony Rusher was present to request three variances. 1) A 62-foot (62') variance to town road right-of-way (ROW) - placing the home five feet (5') from the ROW. 2) A six-foot (6') variance from property line - placing the home four feet from the north property line. 3) A 21-foot (21') variance from the top of the bluff – placing the septic tank nine feet (9') from the top of the bluff.

The board felt the request for the 62' variance from the town road placed the structure extremely close to 191<sup>st</sup> St NW and would create a snow storage issue. It was recommended a 47' variance – placing the structure 15' from the ROW, would be amenable. They also suggested the septic location could be modified to accommodate this change and still be within the requested bluff variance and was doable. There were no concerns with the property line variance request.

The Board's comment the of 62' variance from the road right-of-way places the structure too close to the road. Board would allow a 47' variance request which would place the structure 15' from the right-of-way, for PID#s 10-401-1555 & 10-401-1560.

Motion/second to make comment that the septic location should be adjusted, based on the recommendation to allow a 47' variance to the right-of-way and approval of the bluff setback variance, if this can be accomplished, for PID#s 10-401-1555 & 10-401-1560 by: Aubol/Leslie. Approved by: Alfords, Aubol, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None opposed. Motion prevailed.

Motion/second to make recommendation for approval of the request of a 6' variance from the north property line for PID# 10-401-1555 by: Hedstrom/Alfords. Approved by: Alfords, Aubol, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None opposed. Motion prevailed.

### **Ordinance 1150 – Installation and Replacement of Mailbox Supports**

The Board reviewed Ordinance 1150. The current mailbox ordinance 2009-1 was

revised to address the style of mailbox supports to be used within the township. The proposed supports are swing style. They will need to be installed at the USPS recommended height and distance from the road edge. This style of support is made from galvanized metal - so they will last a long time, will allow for snowplow equipment to remove snow without damaging the supports, and postal workers can easily deliver mail. The plan is to start the implementation with residents who need to replace dilapidated supports and new home/driveway construction. Future road maintenance work, like overlays and reconstruction, may include replacement of existing supports with the swing away style supports. Sherburne County requires this style of support on county roads and other area townships also adopting the swing away style supports as their approved mailbox support. If residents wish to install other styles, the town and plow vendors will not be responsible for any damage which might occur during snow removal or other road maintenance.

Motion/second to adopt Ordinance 1150 – Installation and Replacement of Mailbox Supports by: Alford/Leslie. Approved by: Alford, Aubol, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None opposed. Motion prevailed.

The Ordinance will be recorded and a summary will be published in the Town's official newspapers.

### **Roads**

The clerk presented Resolution 2021-15 – Accepting Roads for Maintenance. Clerk Kimberly-Maas explained the roads have been inspected by Town Engineer, Wes Davis and he recommends they be accepted into the town's road inventory.

Motion/second to adopt Resolution 2021-15 – Accepting Roads for Maintenance – Wheat Fields development by: Alford/Hedstrom. Approved by: Alford, Aubol, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None opposed. Motion prevailed.

The resolution will be recorded.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Warneke reviewed the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements with the Board. The town treasury ending balance (less escrows) was \$ 2,031,163.45. The total balance of the escrow funds was \$ 452,662.87. The ARPA funds are included in this total and he has no concerns with balances in the treasury. *Financial Reports are retained as part of the official Minutes and available in the Clerk's Office.* Motion/Second to approve the Treasurer's report by: Brentson/Alford. Approved by: Aubol, Alford, Hedstrom and Leslie. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Treasurer Warneke informed the Board that the 2022 proposed tax capacity values were received from the County Auditor/Treasurer's office. The preliminary net tax capacity (NTC), for Big Lake Township is \$ 10,657,046. This is roughly \$500,000 more than Ken had thought it would be. This should meet the 12% increase in the 2022 town levy, approved by the electorate at the reconvened annual meeting. Making the tax rate of 21.25 which is decrease of roughly 9%. The report was favorable.

### **Business from the Board – Committee Reports/Updates**

Supervisor Aubol attended the Planning & Zoning Meeting and he reported the meeting went smoothly.

### **Announcements:**

~ Dog Vaccination Clinic & Well Water Nitrate Testing – Saturday September 25<sup>th</sup> @ 9AM –

NOON.

~ Big Lake Community Food Shelf – Last Produce Distribution for 2021 – Monday 10/18/2021, from 3:30PM – 5:00PM, in the Big Lake Township’s Lions Park, parking lot.

**Adjournment:**

Motion/Second to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:03 PM by: Leslie/Hedstrom. All Supervisors present approved. Motion Prevailed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Kimberly-Maas, Clerk and Jayme Swenson, Deputy Clerk

Accepted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021, by the Town of Big Lake Board of Supervisors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Aubol, Board Chair

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Kimberly-Maas, Town Clerk