



Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday July 13, 2022 6:00 PM

The Town of Big Lake Board of Supervisors met in regular session, at 6:00 PM, on Wednesday July 13, 2022. The meeting was held at the Town of Big Lake Town Hall, located in the Big Lake Township's Lions Park Community Center - 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. Vice-Chair Dean Brenteson, Supervisor Larry Alford, Supervisor Norm Leslie, Supervisor Mark Hedstrom, Treasurer Kenneth Warneke, Clerk Brenda Kimberly-Maas, Deputy Clerk Jayme Cannon, Sergeant Luke McLean - Sherburne County Sheriff's Department, Ashley Meagher – Schlenner, Wenner & Associates, a news reporter, and public were in attendance.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda consists of: A) Approval of Minutes; Regular meeting on 06/23/2022. B) Approve List of Claims & Payroll paid 06/09/2022 – 07/13/2022, Resolution RES 2022-11 Appointment of Election Judges for 2022 Primary Election. Motion/Second to Approve consent agenda by: Alford/Brenteson. Approved by: Alford, Aubol, Brenteson, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None Abstained. None Opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Sheriff's Report

Sherburne County Sergeant Luke McLean reported to the Board 283 calls of service, in the month of June. A report of high rates of speed on CSAH14 was reported to the department and Sgt. McLean reported this road is normally heavily patrolled, for this reason. The theft of copper and equipment is occurring at communication towers in the region. Additional patrols are occurring at these facilities. He has also had conversations with park visitors about the need to have their dog(s) leashed unless they are in the dog park area. *Full report is included as part of the official minutes.*

Open Forum

Resident Bret Collier was present to address the Board. He informed them he was in attendance at the July 12, 2022 County Commissioners meeting where Rick Wiebold spoke about issues with the certification of the Dominion 5.5 vote tabulating system, used to count election ballots in Sherburne County. He requested the following statement be read into the official record.

"If you are the driver of the getaway car, it doesn't make any difference that you were not the person inside the bank with the gun robbing it. . . . you are complicit in the crime. If you allow the County Auditor-Treasurer to authorize the use of an electronic voting system that is not correctly certified, and is capable of being hacked, you are complicit in the removal of voter integrity. I also want to remind you that the "accuracy test", described by Ms. Arnold to the board on May 17 of this year, does nothing in showing that the system cannot be hacked or programmed to sway the final vote count. Running a test deck of predetermined ballots only verifies whether or not random errors are generated

and the ability of the optical scanning function. If I were to hack the system, I know that this accuracy test is performed and my hack would not affect this test. My hack would only affect the actual election day ballots, either applying a “weight”, to or the transferring of votes from one candidate to another. So again, these “accuracy test”, have no bearing on whether the equipment can or can not be hacked, has been hacked or has been maliciously programed to sway a specific race. In both the May 17th and July 2, Patriot letter to the editor, Ms. Arnold states Sherburne County has not purchased new voting equipment. Voting Equipment, or in other words, “Electronic Voting Systems”, under MN Statute 206.56 (Definitions), includes, “software used to program automatic tabulators and layout ballot; computer programs used to accumulate precinct results”. Her “software update”, is by definition new voter equipment. Do not be complicit.”

Bret also informed the Board he sent information to the Clerk and asked it be forwarded to them’ for review. The Clerk will forward the email to the Board. No further action taken.

Regular Business

Annual Audit Review - Schlenner, Wenner

Ashley Meagher, Lead Auditor from Schlenner, Wenner & Co. was present to review the financial statements, from Town's 2021 annual audit. Much of the fieldwork was done via electronic means prior to the team being onsite June 2, 2022. Ashley reported the audit went smoothly as there is a positive working relationship with the audit team and town staff. There were no unusual recorded transactions or accounting policies/treatments, noted. The areas reviewed included contracting and bidding, depositories of public funds, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions. There were no findings, and the Town received a unmodified or clean opinion. A copy of the full audit is retained and available for public viewing. Motion to accept the 2021 Annual Audit Report as presented by: Hedstrom/Brenteson. Approved by: Alfords, Aubol, Brenteson, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None opposed. Motion prevailed.

Bailey Cemetery Fence Painting

Chair Aubol reported he and Supervisor Leslie met with the owner of Two Guys Painting to discuss the process they plan to use for painting the cemetery fence and the effectiveness of using an electrostatic process would be beneficial. Two Guys Painting has used electrostatic methods for other projects, but their professional opinion is the paint and process planned for this project will be as effective. The blasting process will use cold slag and will be done the same day as the painting. The weather will be taken into consideration when scheduling the project, ie. low wind and low humidity Bruce also spoke with other paint professionals and learned most are booked for the season and not submitting estimates for additional work. He stated that Two Guys Painting comes highly regarded and is comfortable with moving forward with awarding the contract to High Performance Coatings and Two Guys Painting. Supervisor Alfords made one recommendation to have the mill thickness tested after the blasting process and between each coat of paint, to ensure coverage at the paint manufacturer’s specifications.

Motion/Second to award contract for preparation and painting of the Bailey Cemetery fence to High Performance Coatings and Two Guys Painting, with mill thickness testing done after prep work and between paint coatings, to ensure adequate coverage and meet manufacturer specifications. Cost not to exceed \$11,000.00 by: Alfords/Leslie. Approved by: Alfords, Aubol, Brenteson, Hedstrom, and Leslie. None abstained. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Roads

180th Street NW

The project to connect 180th Street NW between Knick Knack Knoll and Rivercrest Farms is pretty much completed. The project went well.

Overlays

The 2022 overlay projects are mostly wrapped up. There are a few minor concerns which Wes Davis will add to his punch list, for the vendor – Knife River. Supervisor Alfords stated he thinks the shouldering work done is some of the best he's seen, throughout his years on the board.

Supervisor Updates

Supervisor Leslie informed everyone there has been an offer received for the purchase of the jointly owned Knick Knack Knoll parcel. The offer will be presented for to the Board and City Council at their respective meetings on July 27, 2022, for approval.

Chair Aubol met with Liam and Franny Gerde, pollinator garden specialist from Sherburne County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) to get updates on the pollinator garden, Liam's Eagle Scout project. The 5000 sq foot garden will be planted in an open field area, under the high-tension wires. It will be near the trail system, so park visitors can enjoy it. Prepping of the area will begin the upcoming weekend with mowing and raking of the soil. Seeding will follow and the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of August. Liam has lined up other Scouts and volunteers to help with his project. The garden will need to be mown 1 or 2 times annually to keep weeds from germinating and going to seed. It can take 2 -3 years for the native plants to germinate and become established. The SWCD will direct the township, on the garden's future mowing needs.

Supervisor Brenteson told the board that CMRP group met with MNDOT, and Federal Highway Department and are in the process of updating the CMRP work plan to correlate a new bridge crossing. He is also going to meet with Layne Otteson, City of Big Lake engineer, to discuss what improvements/modifications need to be done to correct water drainage in the fire station's parking lot.

Supervisor Alfords reported the City of Big Lake compost facility is being well-used. The funds donated by the Town toward the bituminous surface was a good investment, as it is holding up very well.

Treasurer's Business

Treasurer Warneke reviewed the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements with the Board. The town received the last 30% of the first property tax settlement as well as an additional \$437,800 from ARPA. The town has until 2026 to spend the ARPA money - \$875,678.57. General Fund and Road & Bridge fund revenues are within budget. Third quarter fire coverage advance and voluntary contribution of \$4000.00 to the BLFD relief Association were paid in the claims batch approved as part of the meetings consent agenda. Ken has moved money from the First Bank account into the 4M fund, which is paying 1.2% interest. Sherburne State Bank has stated they will match the 4M fund interest. Ken will be looking at investing in CDs or government funds, as well. The Fire Capital fund reflects the pre-payment of the new fire engine. The budget may need to be adjusted to account for the roof replacement project. The cemetery fund is sitting at \$40,000 and FD#1 fund (Elk River District coverage, is at \$14, 000. The general fund balance equaled \$255,886.20 and road & bridge fund had \$1,494,432.46 in it. The town treasury ending balance (less escrows) as of 07/13/2022 was \$3,169,396.46. Escrows totaled \$457,728.83. Total town treasury 3,627,129.29. *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: Hedstrom/Brenteson. Approved by: Alfords, Aubol, Brenteson, Hedstrom and Leslie. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Announcement

- ~ Big Lake Community Food Shelf distribution Monday July 18, 2022 from 3:30PM – 5:30PM at the Town's Lions park.
- ~ 24th Annual Senior Day Ou Thursday August 4th 8AM – Noon at the Elk River Furniture and Things Event Center.
- ~ Primary Elections – Tuesday August 9th. Polls open 7AM – 8PM.

- ~ Hazardous Waste Collection Tuesday August 16th 2PM – 5PM, Sherburne County Public Works, Zimmerman location.
- ~ Problem Materials Recycling – Saturday September 10th 9AM – 1PM at VONCO II, Becker
- ~ Next Regular Board Meeting Wednesday July 27th at 6PM.

Adjournment

Motion/Second to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:04 PM by: Leslie/Hedstrom. All Supervisors present approved. Motion Prevailed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Kimberly-Maas, Clerk

Accepted this 27th day of July 2022, by the Town of Big Lake Board of Supervisors.

Bruce Aubol, Chair

Attest: _____
Brenda Kimberly-Maas, Town Clerk