

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
August 13th, 2025, 4:00pm
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Kathleen Kopseng, Thomas Hart, Larry Alderks, Glen Castore, Andrew Ebling, Debbie Salaba, Mike Groth, Lori Noreen

Introduction of Guests: Don Redman, Zach Timm, Jenelle Teppen, Matt Stordahl

Approval of Agenda

- It was requested to add “MAT August 12th Meeting” and “MAT” Legislative Research” to New Business and move “Contract for Milwaukee Pit Operation” from New Business to Planning & Zoning.
- Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: N/A

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- July 9th Meeting Minutes
 - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the July 9th Meeting Minutes, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.
- August Claims
 - Kathleen Kopseng questioned if the amount of the Stantec bill for the Road Feasibility Report was within the budgeted amount with the response to yes, it was.
 - Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve the August Claims, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report
 - Debbie Salaba reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the Board. She noted that the 2nd half of the 1st payment of property taxes was deposited into the operating account as well as \$1.1K from the State of Minnesota for state aid.
 - It was noted that the August Interest Payment for the current Economic Development Bond was made in the amount of \$31,840.48. This amount paid with Bond proceeds.
 - Debbie Salaba brought to the Boards attention that the Landfill Host Fee Holding CD is coming due on 8/15 and questioned if the Board would like to renew the CD for another 12-month term at 3.9% interest rate. After discussion it was determined to take \$15K from the CD upon renewal and place into the Host Fee Holding Checking Account as well as the CD Interest earned and place that amount into the Operating account, then renew the CD in the amount of \$625K for 12 months.
- IRS Reporting
 - The Treasurer stated that the reporting has been completed and information was provided to the Chair.

Roads

- Sprayer for Tractor
 - Mike Groth provided pictures of the Sprayer that he is interested in having the Board purchase for the tractor in order to spray noxious weeds. The cost of the sprayer is \$7500. It was noted that the sprayer set up on the tractor would eliminate the applicators from being in the elements of the chemicals being sprayed as the tractor has an enclosed cab. It was discussed that the 3pt sprayer would eliminate the need for the gator setup which the Township could potentially sell for approximately \$8K which could offset the cost of the sprayer.
 - Larry Alderks expressed his concern of how the tractor setup would be able to spray properties as well as the right of ways. It was discussed to possibly purchase a hose to be able to spray areas the booms cannot reach.
 - After discussion, Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve the purchase of a 3pt sprayer for \$7.5K, Larry Alderks seconded all approved.
- Asphalt Update
 - Andrew Ebling noted that Ebel Way received its 2nd lift on Friday 8/8 and it turned out well. Also noting that the Town Hall parking lot received its first lift on 8/13. The 2nd lift may be applied in the fall.
 - Mike Groth mentioned that the concrete pad in front of the shed will be poured yet this week, then the remainder of the area between the two sheds will receive its 1st lift of asphalt.
 - It was noted that there is a landscaper scheduled to replace the rocks in front of the hall as well.
- Improved Gravel Update / Debt Service
 - Larry Alderks noted that there was nothing new on the Improved Gravel status and will readdress at a later date after a decision is made on repaving the developments that were determined needed to be done.
 - Matt Stordahl noted that he is working on the RFPs for the two developments to have their roads redone and will have numbers to the Board by the September Meeting. It was noted that after the RFP's are received and reviewed the Township can send out for Bid's which would be received 30 days after.
 - It was determined that the Board will have another Work Session regarding Road Improvement and Debt Service on Wednesday October 1st at 4pm.

Planning & Zoning

- Contract for Milwaukee Pit Operation
 - Glen Castore stated that after discussion with the Attorney Peter Tiede a pit that is grandfathered in has rights to mine. It was noted that the Township also has recognized in the past that Mr. Redman has the right to mine the pit through numerous TEPP's.
 - It was noted that Peter Tiede put together a Settlement Agreement for the Milwaukee Pit to operate with the intent to make clear three points must be in place. The points being Hours of Operation, Reclamation and having a Driveway Easement intact. These are noted in the agreement and agreed upon with Mr. Redman.
 - After discussion Glen Castore made a motion to approve the Settlement Agreement for the Milwaukee Pit to operate, Larry Alderks seconded, all approved.

Old Business

- Closing the 132nd St at the Co. Rd 20 Intersection Resolution
 - Glen Castore stated that a resolution must be in place in order to have the closure of 132nd St at the Co Rd 20 intersection. The resolution is not ready to approve, but was provided to the Board to review. Before the Resolution can be approved notices must be sent to the homeowners on the road as well as a public hearing must be held. The documents in the Board packet are just for review at this time. The potential would be to have the public hearing at the October Board of Supervisors Meeting.
 - It was determined that the letter and waiver to be sent to the homeowners will be completed and sent out mid-September.
- Purchasing property in Industrial Park
 - The Clerk noted that the Lot Split documents have been prepared and are ready for signatures. The Clerk will contact Mr. Koktavy to have this completed and then recorded.
 - Once the Lot Split is recorded the property can and will be purchased for the amount of \$142,500.00. After payment is made the remainder of the bond money can be paid back.
- Review UMN Contract for Landfill Project
 - A Contract with UMN for the Landfill Project was reviewed by the Board. It was noted that the Research Agreement is for a fixed \$60K in which the Township would use the Landfill Remediation Holding Money to pay for.
 - Larry Alderks questioned what the benefit to the Township would be if the contract is signed, with the response that it would extend the life of the landfill in turn extending the income from the landfill to the Township.
 - After discussion, Glen Castore made a motion to approve signing the UMN Contract for the Landfill Project, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
- Weed Policy
 - Larry Alderks provided an update to the Board on spraying noxious weeds this year. It was noted that there has been more time and in return more money that will be spent this year as there was training a new employee in to take the place of Steve Albers upon his retiring from the position.
 - It was discussed if the Township should spray for noxious weeds along State and County Highways and a decision was made that, yes, it would help maintain the control of the noxious weeds reseeding onto other properties and roads.
 - After review, Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the Weed Policy, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
- Affordable Housing Update
 - Glen Castore provided a brief update on the work he has been doing on trying to have an Affordable Housing area built in the surrounding areas as the properties that would have worked in Bridgewater Township are not available to purchase.
 - It was noted that there is a property that is located in Northfield Township where an Affordable Housing Development could be built. Glen Castore stated that he spoke with the City of Northfield Mayor about this property and that the idea would be for the City of Northfield to purchase the land, but not annex it in to the City. It would remain in Northfield Township and the City could potentially lease the land to the homeowners.

- It was noted that Bridgewater Township has a grant with a modular home company that builds more energy efficient homes. Habitat for Humanity is buying one and will be “building” it in the City of Northfield as a test home. It will be delivered in October.
- It was discussed that Glen Castore has worked with a trust company that potentially could be a source of funding for the project.

New Business

- Thompson Cartway
 - Glen Castore stated that Peter Tiede has written a resolution to establish the Cartway. It was noted that the document needs to be signed by Mr. Thompson before the Board can act on the Resolution and he was not available to attend the meeting. It was noted that the Board will act on the Resolution at the September meeting.
- Dundas Annexation Agreement
 - It was noted that Cindy Nash was going to discuss with the City of Dundas a possibility of amending the current agreement so that the Township Zoning Administrator could work on certain projects. There has not been an update from Cindy. The Clerk will reach out to see the status on this.
- Northfield Annexation Agreement Meeting update
 - There was no update at this time.
- Bond Repayment
 - It was noted that once the property is purchased from Mr. Koktavy the remainder of the Bond can be paid back and a new repayment plan can be created.
- Intergovernmental Meeting 5/21 update
 - Kathleen Kopseng provided an update to the Board on the Intergovernmental Meeting held on May 21st. Topics discussed at the meeting were:
 - City of Dundas noted that the crosswalks at the Intersection of Hwy 3 and County Road 1 will be done this year.
 - Greenvale Township noted the dust and detour in their Township is beating up the roads.
 - Northfield Township noted that their Annexation Agreement with the City of Northfield has been completed.
 - Waterford Township is dealing with an ordinance for a quarry and it is not moving along and Sema Equipment will be moving into the Township.
 - Rice County stated that the Safety Center is nearly fully staffed.
- Township/Transportation Winter Meeting
 - Larry Alderks noted that he would be willing to attend the upcoming Township/Transportation Winter Meeting.
- MAT 8/12 Meeting
 - Larry Alderks provided a brief update to the Board on the MAT District 4 Meeting. It was noted that Diane Johnson will remain the District 4 Director.
- MAT’s Legislative Research
 - Larry Alderks mentioned he would like to attend some courses regarding the MAT’s Legislative Research to better understand it.

Issues for future meetings

Adjourn