

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 4:00pm**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introduction of Guests: Dennis Luebbe, Jesse Thomas, Amanda Novotny, Matt Stordahl

**Approval of Agenda**

- It was requested to add "Blacktop/Hoop Building" to Old Business.
- Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

- Amanda Novotny expressed her concerns to the Board on the difficulty of obtaining information from the Zoning Administrator regarding the process she is trying to take in building an ADU on her property.
- The Clerk suggested to submit a permit application for the ADU so that it can be reviewed so the next steps can be taken. It was noted that Amanda will reach out to the Clerk for additional help.

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- September 10<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting Minutes
  - Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the September 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.
  - Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the October 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting Minutes, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
- October Claims
  - Larry Alderks questioned what the invoice was for to Stonebrook with the response that it was for engineering services regarding asphalt roads.
  - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the October Claims, Larry Alderks seconded, all approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Treasurer's Report
  - Debbie Salaba reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the Board. She noted that there have been some changes to the dedicated operating funds due to CD's maturing. The amounts of the CD's were deposited into the corresponding operating accounts upon their maturity date. It was noted that the CDs earned approximately \$7.5K in interest.
  - It was questioned if the Board would like to take some of the funds and place them back into CDs. The current rate would be 3.35% for a 6- or 12-month term. It was determined to place \$75K of the Equipment Savings and \$140K of the Dundas Annexation Savings into CDs.
  - It was noted that \$30K was transferred from the Annexation Account to the General Equipment Savings per direction at the previous meeting.
  - It was noted that the Comus Bond will be acted on at this meeting.
  - It was noted that Check #10899 has been voided.

- IRS Reporting
  - The Treasurer stated that the reporting has been completed and information was provided to the Chair.

## **Roads**

- Dennis Luebbe – County Road 20 and related transportation update
  - Dennis Luebbe provided an update to the Board on the County Road 20 project and that he was looking for feedback from the Board after review. He noted that the first part of the project will not affect much of any land in Bridgewater Township.
  - It was stated that the plan is to create intersections of other roads be as close to a 90-degree angle as possible for better visibility, grade ditches to lessen the steep sides, turn and bypass lanes will be installed and a potential pedestrian trail installed along the road.
  - It was noted that the project will be done in 3 phases.
  - It was stated that there will be an Open House on the project. Date will potentially be November 18<sup>th</sup>. It was questioned if the Bridgewater Town Hall could be used for the Open House. It was stated that the date is available if they wish to host the Open House at the Town Hall.
  - Dennis Luebbe provided an update on the Cannon River Wilderness Park. He noted that the County is working to purchase some land in Bridgewater Township which would be part of the park.
- 2025 Local Road Improvement Program Application
  - It was discussed if Decker Ave would be a good candidate for the Local Road Improvement Grant.
  - It was noted that the program is deeply competitive.
  - It was noted that if the Township applies the County would need to be their official host in which the County would do. The Township would have to pass a resolution as well as the County.
  - It was determined to discuss the idea of applying for the grant at a meeting in the future. The date is yet to be set. The application deadline is December 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Decker Ave – 10-year plan
  - It was noted that the potential of having Decker become a County Road is something that would not occur in the near future. It would be a long-term plan.
  - It was noted that the Township is looking into an improved gravel option for Decker if it were to stay a Township Road for the next 10-20 years.
  - It was stated that there will be a separate meeting potentially in October yet to discuss Decker Ave further between the Township and the County.
- Asphalt Update
  - Matt Stordahl provided a Master Client Agreement and Work Order for the Board to review and act on regarding releasing Stonbrooke to proceed with preparing the construction documents for Timberlane and Bittersweet to be resurfaced.
  - Larry Alderks made it known that he is not in favor of moving forward at the cost provided on the work order.
  - It was noted that approving the agreement and work order at this time allows Stonebrooke to proceed with the contract documents at this time.

- The process can cease before the bidding assistance commences. It must be a Board action to move on to the next step in the work order.
  - Kathleen Kopseng questioned how the Township will be paying for this. The Treasurer stated that there are funds available to pay for the costs.
  - After discussion, Glen Castore made a motion to approve the Master Client Agreement with Stonebrooke to provide services. Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
  - After the approval of the Master Client Agreement, Glen Castore made a motion to approve the Master Client Agreement Work Order with Stonebrooke to begin preparing the Construction Documents for Timberlane and Bittersweet Developments asphalt roads. Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.
- Road Maintenance Policy
  - It was discussed at the October 1<sup>st</sup> work session on Roads that the Board should create a policy for residents to better understand the process of the reconstruction/maintenance/assessments of roads in the Township.
  - Glen Castore stated he spoke with Peter Tiede who told him that the Township should work with Matt Stordahl/Stonebrooke on assessments, drafting resolutions and a policy.
- Billing for Spraying Weeds
  - Larry Alderks suggested that the Township could start billing for spraying weeds on private property. He questioned what the rate should be for invoicing.
  - After discussion it was determined to charge \$100 per hour for areas sprayed with the Gator, and \$200 per hour for areas sprayed with the Tractor plus \$25 per hour for labor and the cost of chemical used.
  - Larry Alderks stated he would work on putting something together regarding billing for spraying weeds and bring it back to the Board at a future meeting. He noted that once decided, it will be in the policy book for future reference.

## **Old Business**

- Closing the 132<sup>nd</sup> St at the Co. Rd 20 Intersection Resolution
  - Glen Castore suggested to table acting on the Resolution regarding closing the 132<sup>nd</sup> St intersection at County Road 20 as not all the waivers from the homeowners on the road have been returned.
  - Dennis Luebbe suggested not to take any action until after the County awards the contract for the work to be performed on County Rd 20.
  - It was determined to table the topic until after the contract for the project has been awarded.
- Northfield Annexation Agreement update
  - It was noted that there has not been a meeting therefore there is no update.
  - Glen Castore stated that he has contacted Northfield asking to set a meeting so that the Annexation Agreement can be completed. It was noted that there was hope a meeting could be set in the next month.
- Blacktop / Hoop Building
  - Andrew Ebling noted that the first layer of asphalt was poured between the shed and the hall today. He stated that Mike Groth did a lot of work in preparing the area for asphalt.

- Mike Groth stated that the area where the Hoop Building will be installed is ready. The installation will be done in the near future.

### **New Business**

- Bond Repayment – Resolution to “Call In” the Bonds
  - The Board reviewed the Resolution to “Call In” the Comus Junction Bond. It was determined that the Township will pay back \$880K leaving a \$300 note.
  - The Clerk will reach out to Dan Scheffler at Frandsen Bank to complete the call in and set up a new payment schedule on the \$300K note.

### **Issues for future meetings**

- Glen Castore stated that he updated the '25 – '29 Budget Spreadsheet he created showing road bonding and debt support. He noted that he will send the spreadsheet to the Clerk who will distribute to the Board for comments. It was noted that the Supervisors will individually send their comments to the Clerk who will collect and provide an update at the November meeting.

### **Adjourn**

Chair
Clerk