

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**June 8, 2022**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Kathleen Kopseng, Thomas Hart, Andy Ebling, Glen Castore, Mike Little, Debbie Salaba, Frances Boehning

Introduction of Guests: Mark & Linda Thornton, Lori Williams, Dallas & Melanie Eldeen, Sunshine Grandahl, Dennis Luebbe.

**Approval of Agenda:** Glen Castore made a motion to approve the agenda, Andy Ebling seconded, all approved.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Lori Williams provided information to the Town Board regarding world concerns and food production.

**Discussion with Dennis Luebbe, Rice Cty Highway Engineer**

- Rice Cty projects
  - The road construction on Cty Rd 22 has begun. They will be doing a mill and overlay.
  - Future road projects in the northern part of Rice County were reviewed.
  - Mr. Luebbe reviewed that Baseline construction has begun. An aggregate layer will be placed and pavement will be placed next summer.
  - Concerns regarding the rebuilding of Cty Rd 20 in 2025 were discussed.
  - Andy Ebling reviewed the challenges with paving 115<sup>th</sup> Street and issues with the connection to Cty Rd 20.
  - Glen Castore asked what the threshold of cars on a gravel road is. Dennis Luebbe responded that the old threshold was 300 cars per day, but that the potential cost of a new road is considered also. Sometimes extra maintenance of a gravel road is less expensive than a paved road.
  - Andy Ebling reviewed that the township understands that the County will need assistance in maintaining the 8/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile of Baseline north of Cty Rd 1. Dennis Luebbe had offered to pay \$1,200 annually for this maintenance. The Township requested a 30% increase to cover the cost of rising fuel costs and equipment.
  - Dennis Luebbe noted that the City of Northfield is talking to MnDot and Dakota Cty regarding the Garrett/Decker Ave. connection to Hwy 19.

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- June Claims
  - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the June 2022 claims, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.
- May 11, and June 1, 2022, Meeting Minutes
  - Andy Ebling made a motion to approve the minutes of May 11<sup>th</sup>, and the minutes of June 1<sup>st</sup> as amended, Mike Little seconded, all approved as amended.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Treasurer's Report

- Glen Castore suggested that some funds from the Dundas annexation account be moved to the general fund. Supervisor Castore will review past invoices and funding in the Dundas annexation account and discuss at the July Board of Supervisors.
- IRS Reporting – the IRS payment receipt was provided to Kathleen Kopseng

#### **Clerk's Report-**

- Mail – the Clerk reviewed the 2022 state demographers letter noting the current population and households.

#### **Planning & Zoning-**

- Meeting update – the Planning Commission meeting of May 26<sup>th</sup> was reviewed. A special Planning Commission meeting was scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **New Business**

- Telemark Road brush pile
  - Mark Thornton, president of the Telemark HOA, reviewed that the brush pile at 4645 Telemark Rd has grown over the years to 10' in height and is very long. He noted that significant amounts were added after the 2018 tornadoes.
  - Sunshine Grandahl, resident of 4665 Telemark, reviewed that she and her husband have made multiple offers to pay for the removal of the brush and other offers to assist in the removal of the brush pile. Mr. Dokmo has refused all offers. She is concerned as rodents have made homes in the pile.
  - Glen Castore suggested that Peter Tiede be consulted and the homeowner of 4645 be requested to clean the property within a timeframe or the Township will assist and assess the amount to the property taxes.
  - There is concern regarding the rodents living in the piles and the fire hazard of the dry brush in-between houses.
  - Kathleen Kopseng will work with Peter Tiede regarding the letter.

#### **Old Business**

- Non-compliant property options
  - Andy Ebling expressed concern regarding the property at 10220 Dundas Blvd. Excessive garbage is evident around the property. The owner has been requested to clean the property in the past.
  - Glen Castore suggested that Peter Tiede send a letter to the resident requesting that the property be cleaned or the Township will clean and assess the amount to the taxes.
  - The Supervisors reviewed other properties on the non-compliant list and removed those that were resolved.
- Update from Town Law Conference
  - Kathleen Kopseng reviewed the May 25<sup>th</sup> conference and provided handouts to the other Supervisors to review.

- Rural Industrial update
  - Rice County Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The next meeting will be with the Rice County Board of Commissioners on June 14<sup>th</sup>.
  
- Wild Parsnip Program
  - Glen Castore reviewed that Steve Albers is working with the Township to spray existing wild parsnip. Glen and Steve are working with a possible new contractor that may be interested in working with the Township in the future.
  - Letters from the Township were sent to properties that had wild parsnip.
  - If people request assistance from the Township for spraying wild parsnip, a waiver form and cost estimate will be sent to them.
  
- Cartway process
  - Glen Castore reviewed the information provided by Peter Tiede regarding the cartway process. Following the meeting held on June 1<sup>st</sup>, additional legal questions will need to be answered.
  - A discussion was held regarding who will provide answers to the legal questions. Answers should come from the other lawyers, Adam Dowd and Mark Vyvyan. If answers are not provided, the Township can obtain answers with funding from the escrow account.
  - Peter Tiede will continue to advise the Township.
  
- Facility Improvements
  - The contractor information packets have been sent out to 4 local contractors for the Town Hall meeting room addition.
  - Glen Castore will look into when bids will be available to go out for the new shed.
  
- Roads
  - 140<sup>th</sup> Street
    - Glen Castore is working with Dennis Luebbe regarding possible funding avenues for upgrading 140<sup>th</sup> street.
  - A request was made to place a dead-end sign on Edgebrook Drive.
  - Dust control will be placed on Decker Ave., and near Wolf Creek Dairy on 120<sup>th</sup> street.
  - Duane Meliza is working with Mike Groth regarding dust control on a section of 115<sup>th</sup> street. Splitting the invoice with Dundas will be discussed and the section of dust control will be between the Otterdahl residence and Cty Rd 20.

Adjourn

Chair	
Clerk	