

**Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors**  
**County of Rice, State of Minnesota**  
**April 9th, 2025, 4:00pm**  
**Official Minutes**

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introduction of Guests: Matt Stordahl, David Young

**Approval of Agenda**

- It was requested to add "Affordable Housing", "Landfill", "Weed Control", "Website" and "Steele Waseca petition" to Old Business.
- It was requested to add "Milwaukee Pit" to Planning & Zoning.
- Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Glen Castore seconded, all approved.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** N/A

**Approval of Minutes & Claims**

- March 12<sup>th</sup> & April 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting Minutes
  - Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the March 12<sup>th</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting Minutes, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
- April Claims
  - Larry Alderks questioned if the Township is going to keep it's Zoom subscription. After discussion the determination was yes. It has already been paid and the subscription is for one year.
  - Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the April 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 there was a deposit of approximately \$42K which was the Hwy Tax received.
  - It was noted that there were small interest changes in the dedicated accounts.
  - Debbie Salaba brought to the Board that the Holding Account CD that is at Community Bank is being moved to Frandsen Bank & Trust. It was decided to place the money into a 10 month/4% CD and name it Praver #1A.
  - There was a question as to why the amount is as high as it is under Economic Development on the Budget report. The Clerk explained that there were multiple invoices that were from work performed in 2024 that the Township did not receive until the end of December or into January in which those invoices were then paid in the beginning of 2025. Some of the amount has been covered by the Bond received in January.
- IRS Reporting
  - The Treasurer stated that the reporting has been completed and information will be provided to the Chair.

## **Roads**

- Asphalt Update
  - It was discussed that Stantec has been hired to assess the asphalt roads in the Township. It was noted that the assessment will be completed in the next month once all the frost is out of the ground. Once this is complete a report will be provided to the Board, most likely by the next Supervisor meeting.
- Improved Gravel Update
  - Larry Alderks questioned what the next steps will be in looking into the potential for an alternative “improved gravel” to some gravel roads in the Township.
    - It was discussed that the next steps will be to go and physically see a road that the product has been put down. Also to speak with a Township or City that has some of the road in their area and find out how it holds up.
    - Larry Alderks stated he will reach out to Tom Wood to set something up to go see a road. Glen Castore and Andrew Ebling mentioned they would also be interested in going along.
  - Dave Young stated he attended the meeting for an update on the status of this potential alternative.
  - Matt Stordahl mentioned that he has a project in another town that is looking into this as well and has gone to see a road. He has pictures and information that he will send to the Clerk to distribute to the Board.

## **Planning & Zoning**

- Compliance Report
  - The Compliance Report was reviewed by the Board. It was noted to remove “Jesse Jacobson Property” as the property has been sold and the new owners have cleaned up the property.
  - It was noted that a supervisor will reach out to Kathleen Doran-Norton regarding the Ackerman property and if anything has been done to clean it up.
- Milwaukee Pit
  - Glen Castore stated that Zach Timm is working on putting together the information needed to apply for an IUP on behalf of Don Redmon to submit in order to potentially mine the remaining viable area of his pit.

## **Old Business**

- Affordable Housing
  - Glen Castore discussed that the applications for the 2 MPCA grants were not granted to the Township. He stated that an application for another grant regarding energy efficiency for housing will be submitted.
  - Glen Castore stated that there has been discussion to have a solar garden for the housing.
  - It was noted that Charlie Kyte will be speaking with the Haan’s regarding purchasing the property for the Affordable Housing units.
- Landfill
  - Glen Castore stated that a decision has not been made on whom will receive the grant that was applied for

- It was noted that the University of Minnesota applied for a \$200K grant to work on the Landfill.
- It was discussed that the City of Northfield is trying to take action to put less into the Landfill and maybe the Township could work with Junk Truck like the City is currently doing to keep items out of the Landfill.
- It was noted that if the Township does this, there is a potential that it would be considered remediation and could use the Host Holding money to pay for it.
- It was discussed to speak with Malcom of Junk Truck and see if he would be interested in coming to a meeting to explain what can be done.
- Glen Castore stated that he spoke with Galen Malecha and asked to set up a work session with the County Board regarding the Landfill.
- Weed Control
  - Larry Alderks stated he attended a MAT training course and there was discussion regarding Noxious Weed applicators should be commercial applicators. He stated he received an email from MAT regarding Noxious Weed Control Applicators expressing that if the Township does not have an employee with an applicator license, they should use a contractor.
- Website
  - The question arose regarding the new website and when it will be live. The Clerk provided an update stating the new website would be live by the end of the week and the Clerk will have a training on how to use next week.
- Steele Waseca Petition Update
  - It was noted that the Township lost the petition to have Steele Waseca be the utility provider over Xcel Energy. The decision was based on the Public Utilities Commission not being comfortable with changing the boundaries without an extraneous reason.

## **New Business**

- MAT Meeting Update
  - Larry Alderks provided an update on the training course he attended. He stated he thought they do a good job, but presentation lacks in the classes.
- NAFRS Rate for 2025
  - Discussion was held that the NAFRS rates continue to go up each year. Glen Castore noted that if NAFRS became a taxing district the rates to the Township could improve. It was noted that the Rural Fire District passed a resolution regarding this and the City of Northfield has stated they plan on doing so as well.
  - Larry Alderks and Glen Castore decided to set a meeting with one another regarding the 2026 rate and forward.
- Keepsake Cidery Liquor License Renewal
  - The Liquor License Renewal was reviewed by the Board. Glen Castore made a motion to approve the Liquor License Renewal for Keepsake Cidery. Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
- Northfield Annexation Agreement
  - The Board reviewed the draft of the NOAA. It was noted that the draft is based off the agreement that was recently passed between Northfield Township and the City of Northfield.
  - It was noted that Kathleen Kopseng and Glen Castore have an upcoming meeting to review the draft with the City of Northfield. After discussion it

was decided that the current draft needs to be tailored more specifically to Bridgewater Township because of it having its own Planning & Zoning.

- It was discussed to have the Attorney, Peter Tiede, review the draft.
- Glen Castore stated that the meeting is a discussion and there will be no determination. Kathleen Kopseng and Glen Castore will bring what comes out of the discussion back to the Board at the next meeting.
- General Services Agreement with Stantec
  - Glen Castore stated that the agreement is for any work to be provided in 2025. It is the General Services Agreement between Bridgewater Township and Stantec.
    - Glen Castore made a motion to approve the General Services Agreement with Stantec, Thomas Hart seconded, all approved.

#### **Issues for future meetings**

- **Koktavy 5 Acre Parcel** – Is the Township still going to purchase the property.
- **Bond** – When should the Township pay back the bond.

Adjourn

Chair
Clerk