

Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors
September 15, 2010
Avon City Hall

Call to Order: Chair Gondringer called the meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors to order at 8:00 P.M.

Pledge: Clerk Saupe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present – LeRoy Gondringer, Kelly Martini, John Merdan, and Stephen Saupe. Absent – Richard Bresnahan.

Approval of Agenda: There were no formal additions to the agenda. Gondringer moved to approve the agenda. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes: Minutes will be examined at the October 6th meeting.

Claims: Claims will be presented at the October 6th meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report will be presented at the October 6th meeting.

Road Report: The regular Road Report will be presented at the October 6th meeting.

Planning Board Report: The Planning Board report will be presented at the October 6th meeting.

Public Hearings: There were no public hearings.

Business:

1. **Heurung Ditch/Culvert** – Marge Heurung appeared to represent Francis and Elaine Heurung. In May, Lange Excavating Co. repaired the damaged culvert behind the Heurung's garage and invoiced the Heurung's for \$2,800. The Heurung's have still not paid the invoice. The Heurung's want the Township to pay half of the bill (\$1,400). Because the culvert is on private property the Township never authorized the repair and considers the repair the responsibility of the property owner. All parties will attend the October 6th meeting to resolve the issue.
2. **CAPX2020** – Mr. John Kolb, Township Attorney, reported that the draft EIS was released last week. The preferred route runs through the Township and is the same as in previous documents. The EIS provides data concerning cost, impacts, etc. There is not a significant cost difference between the route proposed through the township (\$254 million) versus one to the north (\$294 m) or south (\$253 m). Mr. Kolb stated that the township needs to make some quick decisions: (1) do we want to intervene which allows the township to appeal the decision of the administrative judge and become a party to a contested case; (2) do we hire a consultant to analyze the EIS and various route options; (3) should we contact Albany and Brockway townships to see if they are interested in participating. Gondringer moved to start the process for intervening in the case. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Kolb indicated that any challenge must be on the merits of the one route versus another. Mr. Kolb will contact some consultants to see who would be willing to work on the project and cost. Saupe will provide Mr. Kolb with the name of a consultant he knows. Mr. Brent Schmitt stated that the line was cutting through approximately 8.25 miles of Avon Township and it proliferating on 5 miles or 60.6% of the route. He stated that

100% of the route was proliferated in Brockway township, less so in Albany. Residents who opt for a “buy-out” may escalate the cost of the route decreasing its feasibility. Sections of the documents that are particularly important to read include 1.3.3, Chapter 7 and Appendix H. Mr. Kolb will return to the October 6th meeting to provide an update.

3. **Avon Beach Project** – Mr. Hugh Knox appeared to ask if the Township had considered donating to the Avon Beach renovation project. Saupe reported on his conversation with Mr. Chuck Wocken, Stearns County Parks Director. There is currently \$1250 in our County Parkland Dedication Account and we can use 75%, or \$937.50 of it for local projects. The funds can be used outside the township for projects of regional significance only if approved by a resolution of the township. Merdan moved to pass a resolution to allocate the Avon Township Parkland Dedication funds of \$937.50 for the Avon Beach project. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried. Saupe will draft a resolution and bring it to the next meeting for approval and signatures. A copy with a supporting letter will be sent to the City.
4. **Flagpole** – Gondringer reported that Mr. Gerald Sand would build and paint a 25-foot flagpole for the township for \$200. The township will still need to purchase a ball for the top. Merdan moved to authorize Mr. Sand to construct the flagpole for the new township facility. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried.
5. **Snow Plows** – Merdan reported that the township has purchased one plow (\$33K) that is approximately 12 years old with 33K miles. He has a deal pending for a second truck that is 14 years old with 55K miles and will cost \$29,895. Merdan moved to approve the purchase of this truck from Nuss Equipment. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried. We are grateful to Mr. Linus Koopmeiners for his assistance in evaluating the trucks prior to purchases.
6. **Plow Drivers** – Mr. Ken Mergen and Saupe are part of the Committee to hire drivers for our snowplows. Earlier in the evening they had interviews with several applicants for the position and reported that there were good candidates. The applicants will need to sign a consent form to obtain a background check and license check.
7. **Town Hall Insurance** – The Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) has provided a quote for insurance and we are waiting for Mahowald for another. Martini is also looking into Farmer’s Insurance. Because both trucks are on site and because the building will soon be complete, we need to have insurance in place for both soon. Gondringer moved to insure the trucks and building with MAT for the quoted rates. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
8. **Fire Contract** – Gondringer met with Avon Mayor John Grutsch to discuss the fire contract. The Township doesn’t like some of the language in the contract but is willing to sign and then work on cleaning up the contract language by amending the contract. Gondringer moved to approve the Fire Contract with the City of Avon with the understanding that we will work to amend the contract to include a statement indicating ‘unanimous’ approval of governmental units and defining what a ‘capital purchase’ is. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
9. **Office Equipment** – Mergen reported on his shopping expeditions to search for office furnishings for the new township hall. Martini has also been looking. There are lots of possibility. Marco seems to have the best quality, though it isn’t cheap. We will initially require six tables, 25-30 chairs, and some cleaning supplies.

10. **Use Policy for the Township Hall** – We will need to set a policy for use of the building by Scouts and other groups. There is a concern about messy projects. We received an application for a housekeeper for the Township Hall building.

Announcements:

- There will be a meeting with County representatives about the new 439 Ordinance at Collegeville Township Hall on Wednesday September 22nd at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: Gondringer moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 PM. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is October 6, 2010 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Saupe, Clerk

Minutes amended and approved: October 6, 2010