

Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors

November 7, 2012

Avon Township Hall; 16881 Queens Road, Avon, MN

Call to Order: Chairman Gondringer called the meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors to order at 7:30 P.M.

Pledge: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Approval of Agenda: It was suggested to move the Road Report and Planning Commission reports after Scheduled Business. Bresnahan moved to approve the revised agenda. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes: Merdan moved to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2012 meeting with the correction of #7 in the Road Report stating that Gondringer was authorized to contact Avon Lime to order salt/sand. Bresnahan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Martini read the Treasurer's Report and provided the Cash Control Statement for the period 10/1/2012 to 10/31/2012 (*below*). Martini indicated that there would be some large claims next month (i.e., Knife River roadwork, US Bank bond payment). Bresnahan moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

For the Period 10/01/2012 to 10/31/2012

Name of Fund	Beginning Balance	Total Receipts	Total Disbursed	Ending Balance
General Revenue	\$64,389.44	\$3,588.82	\$2,953.43	\$65,024.83
Road and Bridge	\$337,923.26	\$261.35	\$782.44	\$337,402.17
Fire	(\$21,533.19)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$21,533.19)
Road Damage Deposit	\$600.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$600.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$77,206.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$77,206.13
Total	\$458,585.64	\$4,050.17	\$3,935.87	\$458,699.94

Claims

Claims & Payroll: Martini presented claims 1923 – 1939. Merdan moved to approve the payroll and the claims. Bresnahan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Road Report: The following items were discussed:

1. No Spray List – Next year the Town will alert residents to ditch spraying by publishing a notice in the *Enterprise*, on the website, in a newspaper column, and/or in a Towns newsletter.
2. Tree Trimming Complaint – a resident called to complain that a Town work crew cut a limb from a tree and it fell on a boat they were towing damaging a light. The work crew was alerted to the complaint. The driver apparently drove around cones in the road and stopped beneath the tree. The Town will reevaluate traffic control at work sites.
3. 180th Ave. Sign – Bresnahan moved to order and install a “Private Drive” sign on 180th Avenue that the Town vacated at the previous meeting. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

4. Two Rivers Road Complaint – a complaint was received about shouldering work on Two Rivers Road. The resident was informed that a two foot apron was included in the project because it helps to protect the integrity of the road surface.
5. Alerting Residents to Roadwork – To minimize potential complaints about road projects and to keep residents informed of activity in the Town, in the future the Clerk will send a notice to resident affected by a major project. The Town will also attempt to include this information in a Town newsletter or column in the newspaper.
6. Flail Mower – Mr. Roger Nelson suggested the Town purchase a flail mower to help with brushing. One problem was cited; it does a ragged job.
7. Spraying – the possibility of residents opting out of having their property sprayed was discussed.
8. Two Rivers Road Work – There is some concern about the quality of the work by Knife River. Nelson noticed that some of the pavement is already cracking on the new roadwork near the Holding Town line. Further, Knife River didn't start the job until late fall although they were asked to the project before the beginning of school. Unfortunately it wasn't in writing, but this will be a lesson for future bids.
9. Salt/Sand – About 100 yards are in the shed.
10. 360th St. – Gondringer and Merdan with Mr. August Preusser concerning issues with the road. This will be reexamined in the spring.
11. Massoletti Property (Norway Road) – trees are being cut on the property which seems to be increasing erosion and runoff onto Norway Road and the Martini property. The Town will monitor this situation.

Bresnahan moved to approve the Road Report. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Hearing: *none scheduled*

Planning Commission Report: Mr. Ken Mergen, Planning Commission Chair, presented the Planning Commission report. Mergen reported that there was no official business. However, the Planning Commission discussed logistics for the upcoming election, roadwork issues and a plat revision for Jim & Mary Wunderlich.

Bresnahan moved to approve the Planning Commission report. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Scheduled Business

1. Closed Landfill Use Plan – Jean Hanson and Michelle Sutherland from the MN Pollution Control Agency attended the meeting to give a presentation on the closed landfill use program. They presented on Beuckers #1 & 2 landfills, though only Beuckers #2 landfill is in the Town. The risk level from this site is low (rated 110 of 112).
2. Jeanne Woods & Meadowview Road – Ms. Mary Adriens appeared to discuss access to their 156-acre property. She said it has been in her family since the 1920's to 1930's. She also said that it is a

sedge meadow and still has four original building credits. The family uses the property for hiking and snowmobiling and for hay. She said that access became an issue in 2011 when they had trouble removing hay. Ms. Adriens stated that her family wants unrestricted legal access to the property without a gate. She argued that it is a Town road because (a) her research suggests that the Town spent money on the maintenance of this road; and (b) Mr. Earl Sadlowsky, a former Town employee, was asked to work on this road. The Supervisors countered that this has never been a Town road and was not recorded as a Town road.

3. Wunderlich Plat – The surveyor made a mistake on the plat for Jim & Mary Wunderlich that was approved at the October meeting. The plat was corrected to show the dedication on the north side of the road. Bresnahan moved to approve the amended plat for Jim & Mary Wunderlich. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried. The plat was signed.
4. Lampert Plat – Merdan moved to approve the Queens View preliminary plat for Ms. Deborah Lampert. Bresnahan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
5. Key Distribution – The Town custodian, Dolores Pilarski, also distributes keys for groups using the Town Hall. Merdan moved to pay Ms. Pilarski one-hour salary per month for this work until the summer when this will be reassessed. Bresnahan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. Noxious Weed Report - Merdan will complete the report.
7. Election Report/Update – Saupe and Martini reported that everything went smoothly. This was the first General Election in the Town Hall and it worked well, especially considering the large voter turnout (79.4%). We received no complaints and heard quite a few compliments. There was a short wait when the election began at 7:00 AM but otherwise voters were able to vote quickly. Because of the redistricting process the Town is now divided into two precincts with five different ballots. The greeter judge met voters at the entrance and directed the voter to the appropriate station for voting. The only glitch was that the County had listed the incorrect precinct for a few voters, which meant that it took awhile to sort out which precinct they should vote in. At the end of the night, all the ballot tallies/summary statements for the two precincts came out perfectly which was a relief. The Town should consider installing lights on the flagpole. Lights on the maintenance shed should have been turned on earlier to help illuminate the parking lot.

There were 14 election judges and they did a terrific job. On a given shift there were two roster judges and two ballot judges (one for each precinct), a registration judge, greeter judge, machine judge and two head judges. The judges were Sharon Beach, Richard Beach, Shirley Cox, Marion Gondringer, Zoe Graul, Marcy Heinen, Eleanor Kraemer, Kelly Martini, Jane Merdan, Ken Mergen, Idella Moore, Bev Nathe, LaDonna Reisdorf, Sue Rushmeyer, and Stephen Saupe. There was a Kids Voting area set up also which was popular.

An *unofficial* summary of the results for key races from both precincts follows: President: Romney & Ryan – 766 vs. Obama & Biden – 443; US Senate: Klobuchar – 569 vs. Bills – 451; US House: Bachmann – 671 vs. Graves – 543; MN Senate: Fischbach – 423 vs. Boeck – 167; Amendment 1: Yes – 413 vs. no – 175; Amendment 2: Yes – 370 vs. No – 216.

Other/Old Business

1. Fire Levy – The Avon Fire Department has not been able to collect for services from a Township resident who had an illegal fire in 2011. The FD wants the Town to put a levy on the property taxes.

The Clerk will look into this process and how we insure that we get any levied monies.

- 2. Newsletter – we will consider publishing a newsletter before the annual meeting. Possible topics include the option to receive email updates from the Town, no-spray list, brushing issues and the compost facility.

Reports/Announcements

- 1. *MSA Today* – the Fall 2012 issue was received.
- 2. The confirmation of taxes payable was received (\$424,100) from the County.
- 3. Comments on the Water Management Plan (available Stearns County website; CLWP2008-2017) are due November 15th.
- 4. The MBA Scholarship program brochure for 2013 HS grads and enrolled post-secondary students was received.
- 5. Certificate of Real Estate Values – Scott Andreasen (32002 Narnia Lane; \$186,000); M & S Andreasen (32000 Narnia Lane; \$90,000); P & M Jacobson-Schulte (\$292,000; 15578 Parkwood Circle)
- 6. Construction Site Permits – Koop (14127 Norway Road, hermitage & deck)
- 7. The MAT annual conference will be held November 15 – 17 in St. Cloud.

Adjournment: Bresnahan moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:45 PM. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Announcement of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen G. Saupe, Clerk

Supervisor Approval:

Richard Bresnahan

LeRoy Gondringer

John Merdan

Attest

date