

Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors October 1, 2014

Call to Order: Chairman Bresnahan called the meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors to order at 7:30 P.M. in the Main Chamber of the Avon Township Hall, 16881 Queens Road, Avon (MN).

Pledge: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Present – Richard Bresnahan, Kelly Martini, John Merdan, Roger Nelson, and Stephen Saupe. Also present – Ken Mergen (*Planning Commission Chair*), Joe Koopmeiners (*maintenance*), Marion Gondringer (*Deputy Clerk*).

Approval of Agenda: Added to the meeting were discussions of an IUP request from Knife River, consideration of a water test, and an update about obstructions in the road right-of-ways. Merdan moved to approve the agenda as amended. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes: Nelson moved to approve the minutes from the September 3, 2014 meeting as presented. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Martini read the Treasurer's Report and provided the Cash Control Statement for the period 09/01/2014 to 09/30/2014 (*below*). Martini appointed Mr. Paul Buttweiler to serve as Deputy Treasurer. Buttweiler took the oath of office at the completion of the meeting. Martini reported that she sent the 2013 Financial Report to Standard & Poor's as per request. Merdan moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

For the Period 09/01/2014 to 09/30/2014

Name of Fund	Beginning Balance	Total Receipts	Total Disbursed	Ending Balance
General Revenue	\$108,573.44	\$633.80	\$5,964.97	\$103,242.27
Road and Bridge	\$469,574.90	\$0.00	\$5,159.57	\$464,415.33
Fire	(\$20,712.23)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$20,712.23)
Road Damage Deposit	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$48,474.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$48,474.75
Total	\$606,710.86	\$633.80	\$11,124.54	\$596,220.12

Approval of Claims & Payroll: Martini presented claims 2391 – 2402. Claims #2389 and 2390 were for PERA in September. Martini reported that the Coordinated Plan for PERA will increased from 6.25 to 6.5% effective January 1st. Merdan moved to pay a claim from CenturyLink that was received after the checks were written. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried. Bresnahan and Saupe will need to stop and sign the check. Claim 2352 was inadvertently not reported last month; it was a check to CloudNet (\$30, check #7958). Merdan moved to approve the payroll and the claims. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Road & Maintenance Report:

1. **Plow Driver** – only one application has been received. Another round of ads will be run in the *Peach* and *Enterprise*.
2. **Salt/Sand** – Nelson moved to accept a quote from Mr. Jeff Lange for salt/sand for \$68.60 per yard plus \$3.10 per yard to include #2 granite sand. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. **Plows** – Koopmeiners reported that the plows are ready for the snow season.
4. **Upper Spunk Lake Road** – Knife River has contacted residents and prep work has begun. Mr. Eric Linn suggested that trees and brush needed to be removed along the road.
5. **2014 Local Road Improvement Program Solicitation** – the Township will apply for funds to improve Norway Road, which is a major trunk road.
6. **Road Hazards** – Nelson requested a ‘thank you’ be sent to Mr. Tim Bloch for removing a split rail fence in the road right-of-way. He also requested a letter sent to Mr. T. Behrend to remove concrete posts in the road right-of-way and to Ms. Debra Paulsen to remove a basketball hoop from the road right-of-way. A tank in the road right-of-way on 154th has been removed.
7. **Road Mileage** – the County is requesting that the Township confirms that we have 44.5 miles of public roads. A form will be examined at the next meeting.
8. **Speed Limit Sign** – a request was received to place a 25 mph speed limit sign on Pelican Lake Road. The residents were directed to contact the County.
9. **Anderson Driveway** – Merdan moved for the Township to plow the driveway of Ms. Rosemary Anderson for the winter of 2014 – 2015 as per agreement when the land for the Town Hall was purchased. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.
10. **Groups Using Hall** – Koopmeiners will be the first contact for opening the Hall during business hours. At other times, users will contact the housekeeper or clerk.
11. **Gondringer Driveway** – the Gondringer driveway is completed. Nelson moved to return the damage deposit after inspection by Koopmeiners. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Report: Mr. Ken Mergen, Planning Commission Chair, presented the Planning Commission report. Mergen reported:

1. **Ramler Variance & Driveway** – The Planning Commission held a public hearing to consider a request from Greg & Sue Ramler for a variance to construct an addition to their home that would be eight feet closer to the road than is currently permitted and to enlarge their driveway from 34 feet to 54 feet which is not permitted by Resolution 08-06-14. The Planning Commission recommends approval of both. Merdan moved to approve a variance for Greg & Sue Ramler to construct an addition to their home that would be eight feet closer to the road than is currently permitted. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried. Nelson moved to approve a driveway permit for the Ramler’s to enlarge their existing driveway to 54 feet, which is larger than currently allowed by Resolution 08-06-14. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. **Woitalla Property Access** – Mr. Ray Woitalla appeared to discuss access to his landlocked property that is adjacent to property owned by the family of Ms. Deb Angulski. No action was necessary.
3. **Driveway Standards** – The Planning Commission recommends holding a public hearing to consider requests that do not conform to the standards outlined in Resolution 08-06-14. Merdan moved that driveways more than 40 feet wide will require a variance hearing for approval and those driveways between 24 – 40 feet will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and a recommendation

forwarded to the Supervisors. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

4. **Dehn Driveway** – Mr. Kurt Dehn appeared to discuss adding another driveway to his property. Because the proposed driveway will be closer to his existing driveway than is currently permitted by Resolution 08-06-14, Mr. Dehn was told that it would likely require a variance. Mr. Dehn stated that he would not pursue a variance.
5. **Truck Parking** – a complaint was received about a neighbor who regularly parks an 18-wheeler on a township road and leaves it running all night long in winter.
6. **Binsfield Driveway** – Merdan moved to approve a driveway permit for Mr. Daniel Binsfield for a 40-foot wide driveway, which is wider than allowed by Resolution 08-06-14. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried. No culvert or aprons are required.
7. **Eichers CUP** – They require a Conditional Use Permit for their business but have not appeared at the Township to request one.
8. **Jungles Driveway Permit** – A Construction Site Permit was received from Stearns County for Dean & Melany Jungles (37533 Riley Court) to construct a 20 x 32 accessory building. The permit stated the residents should “see township for driveway access permit.” When contacted by the Clerk, Mr. Jungles stated that no new driveway was being constructed nor was an existing driveway being enlarged. Koopmeiners will inspect.

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

Public Hearings: *none scheduled*

Business:

1. **Order of Meeting** – The Planning Commission Report will be moved after “Claims & Payroll” in future meetings.
2. **Ramler / Pierskalla Gravel Mine IUP** – Knife River Corporation submitted an application for an Interim Use Permit to place a temporary asphalt plant at the Ramler/Pierskalla site on County Road 155. Merdan moved to set a public hearing on October 29, 2014 at 7:45 PM. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried. Merdan moved to set a site inspection of the property at 6:00 PM on October 29, 2014. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. **Local Government Innovation Awards** – no action was taken.
4. **Shorewood Drive Dispute** – a complaint was received from a resident on Shorewood Drive about a sign another resident placed on the road. The resident was advised to contact the Sheriff.
5. **Eurasian Watermilfoil** – the committee has successfully raised funds for the first treatment. Two committees have been established (Finance, Communications) to work on fund raising and public awareness, respectively. The group will meet on the fourth Sunday of the month in the Avon City Hall through 2015.
6. **Water Testing** – the water will be tested at a later date.

- 7. **Elections** – The Public Accuracy Test will be held on Saturday, November 1st at 11:00 AM. A judge listing was received from the Auditor’s office. Martini and Mergen will take additional Head Judge training.

Other/Old Business

- 1. **Township Logo** – no action.
- 2. **Snow & Ice Control Policy** – to be discussed at the November meeting.

Reports/Announcements

- 1. No Certificates of Real Estate Value were received.
- 2. Construction Site Permits were received for Weber (36999 Co Rd 9) for a steel pole barn, Jungles (37533 Riley Ct;) for a 20 x 32 accessory structure, Stang & Walz (14411 325th St.) for a 22 x 22 storage shed, and Eichers (3692 160th Ave).
- 3. Special Assessment Searches were performed for Fruth (33208 154th Ave), Braun (37143 185th Ave), and a residence at 17679 Upper Spunk Lake Road, which was an update from a previous request.
- 4. No requests for 911 signs were received.
- 5. No Feedlot Permits were received.
- 6. Mr. Bob Simon, Collegeville Township, contacted the Township to inquire about the construction of the salt shed.
- 7. Board of Appeals Training will be held October 29, 2014. Bresnahan is registered.
- 8. Stearns County approved variances for Schwalbe and Kurtz.
- 9. A quote of \$1.899/gallon for propane was received from AmeriGas.
- 10. The Auditor’s office will send correspondence to the Town Hall except for materials that require direct receipt.
- 11. The annual Township Association meeting will be held in Freeport, October 30th at 8:00 PM.

Announcement of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be November 5, 2014 at 7:30 PM in Avon Township Hall.

Adjournment: Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 PM. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Saupe, Clerk

Supervisor Approval

Richard Bresnahan

John Merdan

Roger Nelson

Attest

date