

# Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors

## September 1, 2010

### Avon City Hall

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

**Pledge:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

**Approval of Agenda:** Merdan moved to approve the agenda. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Minutes:** Gondringer moved to approve the minutes of the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting as written. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried. Gondringer moved to approve the minutes of the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting as written. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Martini presented the Treasurer’s Report for approval (below). Merdan moved to accept the Treasurer’s report. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried.

	General Revenue	Road & Bridge	Fire	Road Damage Deposit	Capital Improvement Fund	Total
<b>Balance from 06/30/10</b>	362,504.65	349,544.20	36,836.12	400.00	129,706.32	878,991.29
<b>Receipts</b>	726.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	726.56
<b>Total</b>	363,231.21	349,544.20	36,836.12	400.00	129,706.32	879,717.85
<b>Disbursements</b>	113,357.30	101,763.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	215,121.02
<b>Ending balance 07/31/10</b>	249,873.91	247,780.48	36,836.12	400.00	129,706.32	664,596.83

**Claims:** Martini presented claims (1414 – 1441; 1436 void) for the approval of the Supervisors. Included in the claims were: (a) our first bill from Excel Energy for electrical service at the new facility; (b) bill for fire protection services for \$48,000 to the City of Avon; (c) snowplow purchase. Gondringer noted that approval of the claims indicated approval of the purchase of the snowplow. Merdan moved to approve the claims. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Road Report:** The following topics were discussed: (a) Brush obstructing stop sign on Lower Spunk Lake Road – Roger Nelson will remove the brush; (b) Salt/Sand Quote - Gondringer reported that J Scepaniak and J Lange will provide quotes for salt sand; (c) Two Rivers Road – C Bardson will complete culvert work on Two Rivers Road this week, depending on weather. Bardson provided a copy of his liability insurance.

**Planning Board Report:** Chair Ken Mergen presented the Planning Board Report:

- (a) **Eibensteiner Conditional Use Permit & Driveway Permit**– Matt & Janel Eibensteiner are seeking a CUP to build a home on their property that has a LESA score greater than 65. The Planning Board held a site inspection on August 25<sup>th</sup> and it was followed by a Public Hearing. As a consequence, the Planning Board concluded that the building site selected by the Eibensteiner’s was logical. Merdan moved to approve the CUP with the condition that they meet all County Guidelines and that the building remain within the staked envelope. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried. Since the CUP is

only valid for six months, the Supervisors suggested that the Eibensteiner's could return to renew the permit. Merdan moved to approve the driveway permit for the Eibensteiner's with the conditions that it have aprons and that a culvert is likely to be necessary. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried. The Eibensteiner's will need to obtain a 911 sign from Treasurer Martini (\$75.00).

- (b) **Pre-Opening Facility Tour for the Building Committee** – The Planning Board recommended a pre-opening tour of the facility for members of the Building Committee. Mergen suggested that it occur before the next planning board meeting.

Merdan moved to approve the Planning Board report. Gondringer second. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Public Hearings:** none.

**New Business:**

1. **Avon Parks Board** – Avon City Councilman Hugh Knox reported on City efforts to improve the swimming beach, which is one of about five public swimming beaches in the County. The City is looking to partner with local entities to raise funds for needed renovations. The City requested a contribution from the Township and suggested approximately \$560, which is the discretionary portion of funds designated for parks by the County. When asked if the City was considering selling the beach, Mr. Knox replied, “we are committed to keeping it public.” Mr. John Grutsch, Avon City Mayor, who was also in attendance agreed. The Supervisors were not certain that the funds identified by Mr. Knox could be used for this purpose, but if so, are favorable to the request. Saupe will contact Mr. Chuck Wocken to learn more about this fund source and this item will be placed on the September 15<sup>th</sup> agenda. The City was also advised to contact the Central Minnesota Initiative Foundation and Avon Hills Initiative.
2. **Facility Use** – Martini reported that a local Girl Scout leader had contacted her about using the new facility for meetings. The Supervisors were favorable to working something out.
3. **Johnson Variance Request** – Mr. Alan Johnson was scheduled to appear, but did not, to discuss a variance for constructing a shed on his property on Upper Spunk Lake Road. If the variance is to construct the shed closer to the lake he should contact the County; if the variance is to construct the shed closer to the road it is a township issue.
4. **Baker Plat** – Ms. Lisa Baker inquired about approval for a plat for a 15-acre property she purchased on County Road 9. She plans to build a barn with a shower stall for fewer than eight animal units. She said that she did not plan to build living quarters on the property. The Supervisors requested that she present the proposal to the Planning Board at their September 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mergen reported that the Planning Board recommends drafting a letter to the County to remind them that the parcel is not ‘buildable.’ The Supervisors requested Saupe to draft this letter to Don Adams or Angie Berg.
5. **Eichers Accident** – Mr. Dan Eichers was injured in a bicycle accident on the Lake Wobegon trail. The Township Attorney, Mr. Adam Ripple, recommended sending a letter stating that the Township does not maintain the trail and takes no liability. Gondringer moved to send to Mr. Eichers a letter proposed by Mr. Ripple. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. **Nuisance Dog** – A resident asked what to do if a neighbor dog threatens you or your family. Is it legal to shoot the dog? The answer was not known. If contacted, The Sheriff will contact the County, which in turn, calls the Township to pick up the dog.

7. **CAPX2020** – There have apparently been no recent updates. A resident thought that the Township Attorney had not yet signed up for the “intervener” list. This is required in order to have the right to speak at a future hearing. Bresnahan will be asked to follow up on this.
8. **Ditch on Upper Spunk Lake Road** – Mr. Jeff Lange and neighbors (and representatives) will attend the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to sort out issues related to the ditch. Mr. Ripple has suggested that the residents should sign a release form if the Township is involved.
9. **Snow Plow Applications** – Two applicants attended the meeting to obtain an application to plow snow. They were asked to complete the form and return it to the Clerk. Two others couldn’t attend the meeting but were sent an application by Saupe. Mergen will chair the hiring committee and set up an interview schedule. Mr. Linus Koopmeiners will be asked to participate since he has experience with trucking. The committee will develop a series of five to ten questions for each candidate.
10. **Facility Update** – Construction Manager Stephen Plantenberg, RA Morton, provided an update on the building project and finances. The building is near completion; depending on weather it should be finished in about two weeks. Saupe will obtain a quote on insurance for the building and snowplow from Mahowald Insurance. Martini has already obtained a quote from the Township insurance carrier. Mr. Plantenberg suggested a plan for keying the building. After much discussion everyone seemed to support the general features of the plan and will direct specific comments/suggestions to Mr. Plantenberg. We need to start thinking about furniture, chairs, office supplies, etc. We should get a time clock for monitoring the plowtruck driver hours. We will discuss a possible PO box or township address at the next meeting.
11. **Brushing Issues** – The Township has spent lots of money on brushing to date. It has been a good growth year and many areas have grown over since the April road inspection. Supervisors Gondringer and Merdan will inspect the roads to see what brushing is critical. Mr. Roger Nelson clarified his billing for brushing. Mr. Luke Johnson suggested that the Township not spray aspen trees with Tordon because the chemical can travel through the roots to kill neighboring trees.
12. **Snowplow Purchase** – the Township has purchased a plow from a dealer in St. Cloud. The Township is very grateful to Mr. Koopmeiners who provided advice. The maintenance building won’t be ready for the plow for a few weeks. Plus, we will need insurance for it before it is delivered.
13. **Township Newsletter** – to be discussed at the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.
14. **Fire Service Contract** – Mayor Grutsch contacted Gondringer to question why the Township had not yet paid for fire service. The Township had only recently gotten the bill and was waiting until receiving a contract for service. Mr. Gondringer reported he had just received the contract, the claim was being processed and that he will contact Mr. Ripple to examine the contract.
15. **New Claims Form** – Martini created a new claims form/time card and presented it for approval by the Supervisors. The general agreement is that it was good.
16. **Voting** – Saupe will contact the Church to request using the Gymnasium for the November election. He will see if the Church wants payment (\$75.00) for the Primary now, or after the General Election.

#### **Reports/Announcements:**

- **County Meeting** – The County is planning a joint meeting with Colleeville Township to discuss the revised Land Use Ordinance #439. The meeting will on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 PM at the

Collegetown Township Hall. Supervisors encouraged Planning Board members to attend.

- **Fifth Monday** – the Supervisors reported that one of the plans was to create a community center. The organizers were looking for donations from local entities including the township.

**Adjournment:** Gondringer moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 PM. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is September 15, 2010 at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen G. Saupe, Clerk

Minutes approved: October 6, 2010