

# **Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors**

**May 22, 2013**

**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, John Merdan Kelly Martini and Stephen Saupe.

**Approval of Agenda:** Discussion about purchasing a pickup for snow plowing was added to the agenda. Bresnahan moved to approve the agenda as amended. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Minutes:** Merdan moved to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2013 meeting as presented. Gondringer second. Two in favor. Bresnahan abstain. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Martini will present the Treasurer's report at the next meeting. Our SCORE grant payment was received from Stearns County.

**Claims & Payroll:** Martini will present the Claims and Payroll at the next meeting.

**Road Report:** The following items were discussed:

1. Road Inspection – The road inspection results were examined and Supervisors made decisions on roadwork during the coming year. The decisions are summarized in the Road Inspection Report for 2013 document. The Supervisors tentatively set a five-year plan for major roadwork:  
  
2013 – prep work for Norway Rd. overlay  
2014 – Norway Rd overlay  
2015 – Upper Spunk Road Lake overlay  
2016 – 190<sup>th</sup> / Two Rivers Road overlay  
2017 – Tower Road / 145<sup>th</sup> overlay
2. Snow Plowing – Ethan will not plow snow for the Town next winter. We will need to hire a new driver. Gondringer, Mergen and Saupe were appointed as a subcommittee to conduct a performance review of our drivers.
3. Potholes – Merdan has been filling potholes. He has used approximately 28 bags of patch material.
4. Pick Up for Plowing – Bresnahan is working with a local dealer to look for a pickup with a blade. He is hoping to find a used ¾ ton truck with extended cab for \$10 – 15K. If necessary we can add a plow (*i.e.*, Boss plow.). Dean Martini will contact a relative to help find a possible vehicle. No final decision will be made until more accurate costs for the truck/plow and for the planned salt shed are known.
5. Signs – Martini will look into purchasing the following signs: (a) Road Closed signs in the event we have a need to close a road. We will need at least two; (b) Private Drive sign – for Yurczyk's

driveway; (c) Worker's Ahead – to be used when brushing or doing other roadwork. At least two are necessary; and (d) 911 sign for Forster at 19497 Co Rd 154.

6. Two Rivers Road – a complaint about problems with Two Rivers Road was received. The road was inspected but no work was deemed necessary at this time.
7. Yellow Plow – Joe will take to Farming for repair.
8. 145<sup>th</sup> Hill – Bresnahan moved to allow Saint John's to removed approximately 12 – 18 inches from the ridge for ease of access by farm equipment with the condition that Merdan is present during the roadwork. Merdan second. Two in favor; Bresnahan abstain. Motion carried.

**Public Hearing:** *none scheduled*

**Planning Commission Report:** Mr. Ken Mergen, Planning Commission Chair, presented the unfinished business from the Planning Commission report. He reported that the Planning Commission addressed the following:

1. Merdan Conditional Use Permit – The Planning Commission recommends approval. Bresnahan moved to approve a Conditional Use Permit for Jane and John Merdan. Gondringer second. Two in favor; Merdan abstain. Motion carried.
2. Chickens – A new Stearns County ordinance permits chickens in R1 & R5 zoning. There is some concern about potential problems, but the Supervisors will take no action at this time.

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

**Scheduled/Other Business**

1. Resolutions authorizing contracts with Town employees – Bresnahan moved to approve Resolution 05-22-13-1. Merdan second. Two in favor; Gondringer abstain. Motion carried. Gondringer moved to approve Resolution 05-22-13-2. Merdan second. Two in favor; Bresnahan abstain. Motion carried. Bresnahan moved to approve Resolution 05-22-13-3. Gondringer second. Two in favor; Merdan abstain. Motion carried. Bresnahan moved to approve Resolution 05-22-13-4. Gondringer second. Two in favor; Merdan abstain. Motion carried. Bresnahan moved to approve Resolution 05-22-13-5. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. Tax-Advantage Bond – we received notice that our payment will be processed.
3. Liquor License – Bresnahan moved to approve a liquor license for the Pelican Lake Ballroom. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
4. Pocket Gopher Complaint – a resident complained about damage by pocket gophers on his property in the road right-of-way. The resident was informed that the Town has a bounty on pocket gophers to encourage residents to trap problematic pocket gophers. However, the Town doesn't conduct trapping on private property including the road right-of-way.

5. Land Sale – two inquiries were received about the Town land for sale. A copy of the survey was sent to the interested parties and it is also available at the Town website.
6. Archiving Records – The Stearns County History Museum is willing to serve as a repository for Town records and documents. The documents would be loaned to the Museum. They would be maintained under controlled conditions and available to the public. A decision will be made at a future meeting.
7. Salt Shed – Gondringer is looking into cost of a new salt shed. Wurms in New Munich estimated that a 36 x 60 foot building with 8-foot concrete sidewalls, no electric, 6 inch thick floors, 4000 psi concrete, service door, and 14 x 16 access door would cost about \$100,000. This is more than anticipated. Gondringer will seek another estimate if the building is scaled back in size (36 x 40) and without doors.
8. Garbage – Merdan hired a dumpster for a month. It is nearly full from accumulated trash. The plan is to bring it in twice a year.
9. MAT Short Course – Bresnahan moved to authorize board member to attend the MAT summer short course. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
10. Special Assessment Searches – an invoice for \$25 is sent to companies requesting a special assessment search.
11. Restrictions on removing water from lakes for sprinkler system – A resident who inquired about removing water from a Town lake for use in a sprinkler system was told to contact Stearns County Environmental Services.
12. Horses – a resident inquired about whether horses could be housed on a Town property. The resident was told it depends on the zoning and to contact Stearns County Environmental Services.
13. Newsletter – The newsletter is in production. Labels will be obtained from the Records Office. The newsletter will be two pages and typically be published in the spring.

### **Old Business**

1. Archiving Records
2. Internet installation – approved and to be installed.
3. Peach Drive – we are waiting for a response from the DNR.

### **Reports/Announcements**

- a. No Certificates of Real Estate Value were received.
- b. MAT membership cards were received and distributed.
- c. The County approved a variance for the Guggenberger Trust.

- d. Two construction site permits were received [*Schmainda (37248 185<sup>th</sup> St., 30 x 40 house); Dinndorf (15458 Norway Rd, 18 x 26 bedroom & bath addition)*]
- e. Documentation for James & Mary Wunderlich’s subdivision were received from the County.
- f. The Board of Appeals Summary statement was received; no changes were made at the Appeals & Equalization meeting.
- g. The Joint Fire Board minutes were received. The Avon City Council will discuss fire issues during the their meeting on the first Monday in June
- h. Documentation for the Himsl subdivision was received from the County.
- i. The University of Minnesota *Technology Exchange Newsletter* was received.

**Adjournment:** Bresnahan moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:45 PM. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Announcement of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen G. Saupe, Clerk

Supervisor Approval:

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Richard Bresnahan

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LeRoy Gondringer

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John Merdan

Attest

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date