

Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors September 3, 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 the driveway notification form, plowing for Rosemary Anderson, a roads update from Nelson, engineering contracts, art exhibit, and deputy treasurer. Merdan moved to approve the agenda as amended. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes: Nelson moved to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2014 meeting as presented. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried. Minutes from the July 2, 2014 and July 16, 2014 meetings were approved but not signed at the previous meeting; the Supervisors signed the minutes at this meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Martini read the Treasurer's Report and provided the Cash Control Statement for the period 08/01/2014 to 08/31/2014 (*below*). Martini may need to appoint a new Deputy Treasurer. Merdan moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Avon Township

Cash Control Statement

For the Period 08/01/2014 to 08/31/2014

<u>Name of Fund</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>Total Disbursed</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
General Revenue	\$112,149.26	\$1,103.42	\$3,332.01	\$109,920.67
Road and Bridge	\$488,428.11	\$40.21	\$20,240.65	\$468,227.67
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	\$629,139.89	\$1,143.63	\$23,572.66	\$606,710.86

Approval of Claims & Payroll: Martini presented claims 2355 – 2388. Claims #2353 and 2354 were for PERA last month. Check #7944 to Rinke-Noonan was voided because it duplicated a check written the previous month. Check #7922 was voided because it needed to be rewritten to include PERA. Merdan moved to approve the payroll and the claims. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Road & Maintenance Report:

- Plow Driver** – only one application has been received. New ads are being run in the *Peach* and *Enterprise*. The Township will wait to see if additional applications are received.
- Salt/Sand** – Nelson moved to authorize Merdan to obtain quotes for 300 yards of delivered salt/sand mix. Bresnahan second. Two in favor. One abstain (Merdan). Motion carried.

3. **Future Road Work** – Mr. Paul Buttweiler recommended seeking bids for future roadwork early in the year; waiting until after road inspection may be too late to get the best prices.
4. **Upper Spunk Lake Road** – this road will be resurfaced before winter by Knife River. Mr. Eric Linn and Mr. Sam Linn reported that there are lots of trees and brush to remove along the road. Motorists are reported to drive too fast along this road.
5. **Road Hazards** – Nelson reported that most of the hazards in the Township road right-of-way have been removed. Merdan will follow up on the removal of a stock tank in the ditch.
6. **Anderson Plowing** – tabled until a future meeting.
7. **Oil** – Koopmeiners requested purchase of a drum of motor oil to save money.
8. **Road purchases** - Martini recommended keeping reimbursements to a minimum and to set up accounts with suppliers to invoice the Township for purchases.
9. The Township received a thank-you for roadwork completed on 370th.

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

1. **Ebnet variance** – The Planning Commission held a public hearing to consider a request by Mr. & Mrs. Tony & Melissa Ebnet for a variance of 11 feet to construct an addition onto their home on Red Maple Drive. The Planning Commission recommends approval. Nelson moved to approve a variance of 11 feet for Mr. & Mrs. Tony & Melissa Ebnet. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. **Ramler Variance** – Mr. Greg Ramler appeared to request a variance to construct an addition to his home at 18254 Red Maple Drive closer to the road than is currently permitted by ordinance. The Planning Commission recommends setting a public hearing. Merdan moved to set a public hearing on September 24, 2014 at 7:45 to consider a request by Mr. Greg Ramler for a variance to construct an addition to his home closer to the road than is currently permitted. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried. The Ramler's will also require a driveway permit because they want to enlarge their driveway to a width of approximately 50 feet.
3. **Rosinger Tiling** – Mr. Jaime Rosinger appeared at the Planning Commission meeting to discuss installing tile in the Township right-of-way to drain a low spot on his property on 370th. The tile will run into a County ditch. Mr. Rosinger will provide a map of the location once it is installed.
4. **Fisher Garden** – Ms. Evelyn Fisher requested approval to run a hose under the road in front of her home at 422 1st Street NE. This is a County road. Ms. Fisher was advised to contact the Stearns County.
5. **Wobegon Trail Parking** – The Planning Commission recommends no additional parking along the Wobegon Trail. Nelson moved to send to Stearns County Parks Director, Mr. Peter Theismann, a letter stating that the Township does not see a need for additional parking along the Wobegon Trail. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. **Eurasian Milfoil** – Mr. Denis McGuinness, Avon Area Lakes Association, appeared to update the Supervisors on the battle against Eurasian milfoil in Middle Spunk Lake. A grant has been received from the DNR; additional funds for the first treatment are being sought. Merdan moved to approve sending to Township residents living on the lakes a letter alerting residents to the problem, what is being done, and how to help.

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

Public Hearings: *none scheduled*

Business:

1. **Ratification of Fire Board Contract** – Merdan moved to ratify the Fire Board action at the 2013 Annual Fire Board meeting to automatically extend the Fire Services Contract annually on the anniversary date of June 1 unless one of the three participating governmental units objects. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. **Knife River Contract** – Merdan moved to approve the “Agreement between Owner and Contractor on the Basis of a Stipulated Price” from Knife River. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. **Linn Comments** – Mr. Eric Linn stated that he is concerned that the Township is spending too much money and that the Township is not adequately removing trees and brush along some roads.
4. **Town Hall Use** – Nelson moved to approve the use of the Town Hall by two Girl Scout groups. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried. Prior to a meeting, users will pick up the key to open the building from either Koopmeiners, our custodian, the Clerk or Deputy Clerk.
5. **Propane** – Merdan moved to approve Equipment Service and Delivery contracts with Wenner Gas. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. **Property Assessment Contract** – Nelson moved to approve the agreement for Property Assessment Services between Stearns County and Avon Township. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
7. **Driveway Notification Form** – The Township will request that the form be given to the County to distribute to residents seeking a construction site permit.
8. **Art Exhibit in Town Hall** – Nelson moved to host an exhibit of photographs of Township residents at a regular Supervisors meeting. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
9. **Handling of Building Permits by the Planning Commission** – tabled until the next meeting.
10. **Election Update** – Saupe reported that 171 residents voted which represents about 13% of the registered voters in the Township. There were 15 judges and everything seemed to run smoothly.

Other/Old Business

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

Reports/Announcements

1. No Certificates of Real Estate Value were received.
2. A Construction Site Permit was received for Eichers (36932 160th Ave) for a 10 x 40 agricultural accessory structure.
3. One Assessment Search was performed for the Salzl Trust (34345 Tower Road).
4. No requests for 911 signs were received.
5. No Feedlot Permits were received.
6. T-Mobile is installing 3 additional antennas on the tower on Tower Road. No permits are required since the antennas are being installed on an existing tower.
7. A signed copy of escrow agreement for gravel pit was received.
8. Gambling permits were signed from the Avon Sportsman Club (Pelican Lake Ballroom raffle Dec. 5, 2014) and Holdingford Lions (raffle Oct. 11, 2014 at The Landing; raffle Feb. 25, 2015 at the Pelican Lake Ballroom).
9. The property across from The Landing was considered for a business opportunity.
10. A resident called about an old fire number in the ditch. The County handled this situation since it was a County road.
11. The Minnesota Transportation Conference will be held March 2015.
12. LTAP will host workshops on "Best practices for traffic sign maintenance" (Oct 22, 29 & Nov 5) and "From Line to Leadership" (Sept 30, Oct 7, 14).
13. The 20th Annual Fall Maintenance Expo will be held Oct 8-9, 2014 in St. Cloud.

Announcement of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be October 1, 2014 at 7:30 PM in Avon Township Hall.

Adjournment: Merdan moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 PM. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Saupe, Clerk

Supervisor Approval

Richard Bresnahan

John Merdan

Roger Nelson

Attest

date