

Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Ed Kacures Jr. Board members present were: Treasurer Eileen Saldana, Clerk Pat Spence, Chairman Kacures, Supervisor Lloyd Erdmann, and Supervisor Craig Gondeck. Audience members were: Mike Reedy, Karla Scapanski, Kevin Reiter, John Olson, Paul Jacobs, Todd Waytashek, Anna Saldana, and Bob Raveling.

Following the Pledge to the Flag, a motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann to approve the agenda as presented; motion passed. Approval of the minutes of the May 3rd meeting was given through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Kacures with one correction on page two, item D, that Supervisor Kacures voted no because he is opposed to acceleration lanes on Highway 10; motion passed. Eileen Saldana gave the Treasurer's Report with a current cash balance of \$390,704.30. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed to accept her report.

Citizen's Issues: Karla Scapanski came to introduce herself as a candidate for the House of Representatives for our area. She is a resident of Mayhew Lake Township. After her brief statements of introduction, she informed the audience of her website: friendsofkarla.com.

Approval to pay the monthly bills as presented with the addition of payment for the annual Sauk Rapids fire contract was given through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed. This was for Claims #6063-6086 and Electronic Transfers for IRS, PERA, and MNDOR totaling \$65,359.99.

Dale Rogholt, Mayor of the City of Rice, gave a presentation of his annual report on income and expenditures for the Rice Fire Department. His report of fifty-seven calls in Watab included 38 for medical services, 8 vehicle accidents, 1 brush fire, 1 check on CO detector, 1 assist for invalid, 1 report of gas leak, 1 rescue call, 1 service call, 1 alarm system not working, 1 assist police, and 3 dispatched and canceled enroute. The summary of the 2015 Rice Fire Department Incidents by area served presented by Mayor Rogholt is:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Fire Calls</u>	<u>EMS</u>	<u>Other/Assists</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Rice	5	63	11	79	44.6%
Graham	2	3		5	2.82%
Langola	3	24	3	30	16.95%
Mutual Aid	4	1	1	6	3.39%
Watab	1	47	9	57	32.20%
% of total	8.4%	77.97%	13.56%		

Fire Department expenses totaled \$145,620.59; revenue was \$157,133.42. Mayor Rogholt answered several questions from the board and audience. Clerk Spence asked him if the City would try to get phone numbers for those being served, and there was also discussion about complaints the township has received about too many First Responders entering homes. The board thanked him for coming to present such a thorough report.

Old Business:

- A. Engineering for 95th and 85th Street NW: Supervisor Erdmann reported that Jon Bogart has the preliminary field survey complete; planning is ongoing, and he should be able to give a report at the July board meeting. Supervisor Gondeck suggested leafleting the area where survey work is being done in the future.
- B. Crack and Pothole Filling: Supervisor Gondeck is continuing to get the crack filling done. Thanks to Brian Erdmann for storage of the compound.
- C. Asphalt for Johnson Road: Supervisor Erdmann doesn't have a quote yet from Marson.
- D. Seeding of Railroad Crossing right of way: two quotes are needed for the next meeting. Supervisor Gondeck will get them. Supervisor Kacures reported erosion on the south side of the road west of the crossing, where the railroad removed the erosion control and the swale on the edge of the tar.
- E. Monthly report from Lake Andrew Development: Scott Jarnot sent a monthly report of gallons pumped of wastewater and lot sales. Clerk Spence was asked to send Scott a letter requesting that he extend the monthly reports until the items requested for water and wastewater and street repairs are made.
- F. MS4 Activity: Supervisor Gondeck and Clerk Spence reported on recent activity.
- G. 66th Street Blading: \$350 to 400 is the quote from Brian Erdmann to blade Boe's Road and 66th Street; calcium chloride treatment by Tri-City should also be applied. Supervisor Gondeck was asked to get this work done as soon as possible.
- H. Quotes for New Donation Board: Supervisor Gondeck will get additional quotes for the next board meeting.
- I. Speed Limit Signs for 115th Street: are on order and should be coming next week.
- J. Town Hall Sprinkler System: Supervisor Erdmann will get it working.
- K. Hazardous Waste Disposal Issue: Joe Prom, who holds the contract for deed with the Platz's, is cleaning up the property. He gave permission for Fred Segler to clean up all the dead trees.

New Business:

- A. Two Year Contract for Ditch Mowing: the board reviewed two quotes for this service. One was from Chuck Ertl, current contractor, for \$62 per hour and the other from Todd Waytashek of TK Timber on 5th Avenue in Watab for \$35 per hour. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion to award the contract to Chuck Ertl since the total bill will be the same based on the equipment each contractor will be using, and that the board has been satisfied with his work; motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed.
- B. Report on Legal Seminar in Albertville: Supervisor Gondeck and Clerk Spence gave reports on the excellent seminar they attended. Presentations were by the law firm of Couri and Ruppe of St. Michael. Topics were road improvements and realignment,

contracts, the coming housing boom, township jeopardy, subordinate service districts, and obstructions in road rights-of-way. Participants were also able to ask any pending legal questions. Our township has the legal authority to assess park dedication fees rather than the county doing so within our township; they also provided information on frontage roads.

- C. Set Meeting with Wayne Cymbaluk for June 14 at 7:00: motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Kacures, and passed to hold a special meeting with him on Stormwater Issues.
- D. Election Judge Training: Clerk Spence will attend a Clerk's meeting with the County Auditor on Wednesday, June 15. Election Judge Training for all those interested in becoming an election judge will be in July.
- E. Summer Short Course by the Minnesota Association of Townships will be on Monday, June 20th from 8:30am to 3pm; Supervisor Gondeck, Clerk Spence, and Treasurer Saldana will attend. Supervisor Gondeck will have the Board of Equalization training and Clerk Spence will have the Clerk's Training for Administering Elections.
- F. The board discussed the annual report from Benton County Administrator, Monty Headley, on the collection and expenditure of park dedication fees. Clerk Spence explained that she had called him for clarification on where the Watab dollars were spent; they were part of the match for the grant to Bend in the River Regional Park. The Watab Board continues to believe that the dollars collected in a development should be spent to directly benefit those residents. So far, no park amenities have been placed in Oak Hill, Lake Andrew, or any of the other plats where park dedication dollars were collected. Clerk Spence said that Monty feels the county park plan is very outdated, so the county board felt justified in using park dedication dollars for playgrounds on church property in Duelm and Foley. In the past, Watab has been told on several occasions that park dedication dollars could not be used for playgrounds, since they were not part of the county park master plan. A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, second by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed to request that the law firm of Couri and Ruppe prepare a proposed ordinance for setting up a Watab park dedication fee, which would supersede the county's park dedication fee. The Clerk was also asked to send a letter to Monty Headley, copied to Commissioner Ed Popp, asking an accounting of all the income and expenses for the park dedication funds that have originated in Watab Township since the inception of the collection of the fees.
- G. Communications: Mark Saldana reported trees branches growing over the north end of 15th Avenue and poor sight lines by trees at the intersection of 15th Ave. and 105th Street. Supervisor Gondeck was asked to get the STS Crew out as soon as possible to brush the area and remove trees where necessary. Supervisor Gondeck will get written agreement with the property owner for tree removal. Clerk Spence referred to other communications the board had received: (1) the Collection Agency needs phone numbers to assist them in collecting unpaid emergency calls; (2) she read a detailed report from the new Assessor on her initial work in Watab; (3) Benton County Department of Development reports; and (4) advertisements.
- H. Board Member Reports: Supervisor Gondeck reported on the DNR water testing he requested for the pond at the Cove. It is an algae bloom rarely seen this early in the

season. Supervisor Erdmann stated that he believes it was caused by the sewage spill at Lake Andrew last winter. Supervisor Gondeck said that five plats are being proposed in Sartell; Sauk Rapids has no interest in their industrial park but a great deal of interest in their downtown area. St. Joseph development increasing; Supervisor Gondeck is working on a Watab project. Supervisor Gondeck also will be working on brush cutting with the STS Crew; attend the Rice Economic Board Meeting, and install signs. Supervisor Erdmann asked a question about placement of signs. Supervisor Gondeck asked the Clerk to write a letter to Monty Headley asking what the county is asking of Watab Township for the new economic development entity. City of Sauk Rapids is paying 50 cents per resident; Watab was asked for \$1 per resident. It was noted that Watab doesn't know of any other economic development group that asks for donations from townships. Supervisor Gondeck asked for authority to purchase and install a flashing light on top of his van for safety reasons. It was granted. Supervisor Gondeck brought up the complaint of damage to the 95th Street crossing; show Tammy Wagner his photos of the damage. Clerk Spence was asked to contact the BNSF roadmaster about their plans for 95th Street. She gave a report that MNDOT does not have authority to curtail four-wheeler or dirt bike damage to the road right of way on Highway 10 that is causing erosion in the Harris Channel. She also reported significant damage to the north section of Lakewood Shore Road from heavy equipment working at a property; the road is significantly cracked in the past couple of weeks.

June Work Plan: the board will hold a special MS4 meeting on the 14th; get the sprinkler system working; attend the short course; conduct the weed tour; and have the STS Crew on 15th Avenue.

Citizen's Issues: Kevin Reiter asked if the board has any new information about the proposed drawdown of the lake; the board had none. Todd Waytashek thanked Clerk Spence for the quick response to his emails. Jason Krueger asked about any news on the County Road 55 crossing for quiet zone noting the increase in cost due to BN including the third track.

Motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence