

## Watab Town Board Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Watab Town Board was called to order on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Watab Town Hall by Chair Craig Gondeck. All board members were present: Chair Gondeck, Supervisors Lloyd Erdmann and Ed Kacures Jr., Treasurer Eileen Saldana, and Clerk Pat Spence. Those present in the audience were: Rosie Johnson, Earl Harden, Walter Jansen, Paul Jacobs, Douglas J. Boser, Maureen Graber, Sandra Saldana, Allen Saldana, Brian Erdmann, Mark Hanson, Robert McManus, George Mastey, and Paul Schwinghammer. The agenda was approved as printed. The meeting minutes for May were approved on motion by Supervisor Erdmann and second by Supervisor Gondeck. Motion passed. The Treasurer's report was approved through a motion by Supervisor Gondeck and second by Supervisor Erdmann.

The Chair opened the board meeting for citizen comments:

1. Paul Jacobs, 9112 Indigo Road, reported that it has been three months since the home next door burned; all debris is still on site; the chest freezer's food has spoiled and is smelly; the lot is an eyesore. He asked the township to clean up the lot and assess the property owner. Supervisor Gondeck said that the original owner filed bankruptcy; Chelle Benson thinks it is the township's responsibility to clean up the property. Jason Fleming, Sauk Rapids Fire Department, advised that we could possibly pass a resolution that would allow us to clean up the site and get paid for the clean up. Three agencies are currently investigating the fire; Supervisor Gondeck recommended that Jason Fleming be invited to the July meeting to explain the provisions of this law. The board agreed to have this as a July agenda item. Supervisor Erdmann suggested that we contact our attorney regarding this law, then contact the bank which owns the property asking them to clean up the site, or we will put it on their property taxes. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion for Supervisor Gondeck to contact Scott Hamak and Jason Fleming regarding this issue; Supervisor Kacures seconded the motion and it passed.
2. Maureen Graber reported that she spoke to Anne Felix regarding the town hall storm water pond. Both recommend that the surrounding area of the pond be planted in native prairie plants and add a sign, path, and identification signs for the plants. She reviewed the detailed proposal which she has developed. The Mid-MN Mississippi RC&D Council will fund 50% of the cost; total estimated cost is \$2,052. Supervisor Erdmann recommended adding two additional rolls of straw blankets for erosion control. Supervisor Gondeck recommended asking the Lake Association to contribute back some of the money the township has donated for lake cleanup because the DNR will not allow spraying this summer. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck to approve the application to Mid-MN Mississippi RC & D Council with the addition of the straw blankets. Motion passed. Supervisor Kacures asked if Maureen would continue to seek donations from other sources, and she responded that she would be doing so. The motion passed.
3. Pat Spence asked for permission for her, Eileen Saldana, and Maureen Graber to plant flowers by the hall. Approval was granted. The Watab 4-H Club planted some perennials last summer.

The board reviewed the monthly bills. Motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Kacures to approve the bills and withdraw the necessary funds for their payment. Motion passed.

Doug Boser recommends that 1-inch thick acoustical panels be purchased to cover 25% of the walls in the town hall. Cost would be \$1,300. This is the most cost-effective solution to our problem. It will also add color. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion to proceed with color selection; motion seconded by Supervisor Gondeck; motion passed and Doug will bring back selections to the next meeting.

Doug Boser distributed his written proposal for seeking proposals on snow plowing. Written responses would be due by noon on June 23, 2008. The desired outcome is to obtain information and ideas to create a cost-effective, cost controllable, high service process to plow, and salt township roads that is equitable to both parties. We have 45 miles of road to be plowed, salted and sanded. There are several questions included in the document that the contractor is asked to respond to in their proposal. The priority 1, 2 & 3 roads need to be identified. Priority 1 roads would be roads that connect county roads or a road with someone with a medical condition; priority 2 would be residential streets; priority three would be minimum maintenance roads. Doug's suggested timeline is: June 9 send out the RFI and post it. He needs a map from Supervisor Gondeck showing the priority roads. June 23<sup>rd</sup> is the deadline for submittal; June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm would need to be a special meeting to rewrite the bid process. Tuesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, would be our bid date and we could award bids at the August meeting. Supervisor Kacures suggested amendments to Resolution 2006-2: add to Section 7 that snow will be plowed onto the road right of way so the full road surface is plowed; Section 9 adds "Snow windrows within 50 feet of an intersection should be no higher than four feet." Section 7 remove statement at end of paragraph "Complaints regarding damage to property must be made to the Contractor." Add a statement that nothing belongs in the road right of way. In the paragraph before section 8, add that the last payment paid from the Town to the Contractor should be withheld until June 1 to resolve any outstanding issues. Doug said that this would be added to the contract as a retainage. Supervisor Kacures asked to have this listed in the questions for the proposal response. Doug suggested that the changes be noted in red on the current resolution and sent out to the contractors in that form. Then, the resolution will be brought before the board for final approval. Chair Gondeck moved approval of the process and changes; seconded by Supervisor Kacures and passed. The Clerk was asked to prepare the packets and to make them available to potential contractors. The process will also be advertised.

Supervisor Gondeck contacted City of Sauk Rapids about a potential agreement to use their compost site; they will not open it to our township. Chair Gondeck suggested that we contact Henkemeyer Landfill about creating a township compost site on their property. The board authorized him to do so.

Supervisor Kacures sent a letter on May 14 to Mayor Mitch Fiedler regarding opening discussion on the fire contract. There has not been a response.

Chair Gondeck reported on seal coating. John Borgert, Engineer, said that we could use chip seal on most roads. West Lake Road has portions that need to be reclaimed. He recommends crack sealing to prevent water from getting into the road surface. This should be done every three to five years to extend the life of the road. He commended the board for the road maintenance plan. Supervisor Erdmann asked for a recommendation on Riverview Loop. John recommends chip sealing it to extend the road another seven years. Supervisor Gondeck recommends having a bid package prepared to get bids from contractors for the road repairs. The board discussed priorities for projects. Supervisor Gondeck and John Borgert recommend repairing Lakewood Shores and the artery roads onto it as the first priority. Second priority would be Roseanna Beach Road, Highview Terrace, and Hawthorne. Third priority would be Riverview Loop. Supervisor Gondeck made a motion to proceed with getting quotes on seal coating of these roads with separate bids for each project and also having them bid as a "combined deduct" to compare costs on doing these individually or combined. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Erdmann and passed. John Borgert can make out the bid sheets. John recommended doing crack filling next spring when the road surface is cold. It will be brought up at the annual meeting, so people understand the need and cost benefit. The board agreed.

Supervisor Gondeck made a motion to sign a contract with John Borgert on preliminary design of Fifth Avenue improvements. He would work with Bob Erickson. Engineering could cost about 5% of the total road improvement, but John needs to look at the road to give a more definite cost estimate. Supervisor Erdmann said that it is the responsible

thing to have a road professionally engineered when the cost will be \$6-700,000. John will put together a fee proposal; he can also do a feasibility study. Soil boring information will be very useful. The motion was seconded and passed. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion to do a feasibility study on Fifth Avenue and also have the township take quotes from contractors that do certified soil bearings. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed.

Road projects: Supervisor Gondeck presented road patch work quotes on Plaziak Road & Frost Road repairs. Supervisor Erdmann made a motion to award Certified Aggregate Products the project with their low quote of \$5,520 for Frost Road and \$1,950 for Plaziak Road. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck and passed. Bob Erickson was asked to check the subgrade on Frost Road before the repair is made.

The ditch mowing contract is up for renewal. Supervisor Gondeck made a motion for the Clerk to advertise for quotes ; it was seconded by Supervisor Kacures and passed.

Supervisor Erdmann recommends an improvement on the turnaround by Jim Wolfe's home. Supervisor Kacures also recommended looking at the turnarounds in the Hanson development. Mark Hanson will look at what would improve the turnaround for the snow plow. Supervisor Erdmann will work with Mark on this. Bob Erickson and Supervisor Erdmann will look at the turnaround by Wolfe's home.

Discussion ensued about the proposed road on the west side of highway 10. Supervisor Kacures asked about the funding from the State of MN.

Citizen's Complaints were summarized by Chair Gondeck. Bob McManus said that a boat and boat trailer are parked on the road right of way near his home. Maureen Graber said that we should add something about the right of way to the website. The Clerk should cite the state statute regarding liability. Also add to website that nothing can be placed in the road right of way. Supervisor Gondeck will consult with our attorney about the statute and how to proceed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Erdmann, and passed naming the Clerk as the official PERA representative for the township for the purpose of electronic transfers and authorizing the chair to sign the document.

The Weed tour will be on June 26, 2008 at 9am; meet at town hall. Supervisor Erdmann made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Kacures, authorizing Chair Gondeck to represent the board on the tour. Motion passed.

The Clerk was asked to make a list of all outstanding bills and bring it to the July meeting.

Bob Erickson will send a letter to the Chair about the road projects.

Supervisor Kacures called the county planning department about yard storage, junk, and goats in his neighborhood. He also presented a list of the snow plow damage. George has started repairing some of the damage. Supervisor Kacures questions if the patch has granite chips and will go back to check on the road repairs. He requested another board member to review them; Chair Gondeck will go with him.

Maureen Graber suggested removing the complaint heading and changing it to a feedback form on the website. Clerk will contact Joan Spiczka to make the change. Rosie Johnson said that our notice is not coming on Channel 3: Clerk will check on this. Meeting adjourned at 9:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence