

WATAB TOWN BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 8, 2023 – 7:00 pm

The regular monthly Watab Township Board Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Johnson at 7:00 pm in the Watab Township Hall.

ROLL CALL

Board members present: Julie Johnson, Steve Wollak, Jesse Arndt, Kathy Sauer, Clerk, Mary Shearer, Treasurer

Others Present: Sandra Saldana, Robin Wollak, Jack and Renee Polcher, Ray Thompson, Jeff and Julie Fandel, Paul Wippler, Natasha Barber, Paul Sondrall, Nathan Landwehr, Sam Heinen

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- a. 66th Street
- b. Montgomery Headley—Bend in the River Park

2. APPROVE THE AGENDA

Supervisor Arndt made a motion to approve the agenda; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

3. CONSENT AGENDA—One motion for all items

- a. July 13, 2023: Regular Board Meeting
- b. July 19, 2023: Special Meeting: Langola Township Agreement for 115th Street

Supervisor Wollak moved to approve the consent agenda; Supervisor Arndt seconded; motion carried.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT

FALCON CHECKING STATEMENT

July 31, 2023:

Ending Balance		\$83,147.71
Outstanding Deposits		<u>+00.00</u>
		\$83,147.71
Outstanding Checks		
8487	-84.10	
8603	<u>-10.00</u>	
	94.10	

BALANCE **\$83,053.61**

CTAS Schedule 1 Balance **\$83,053.61**

Difference **00.00**

As of July 31, 2023, the bank balance and the Township records are in balance.

Notes:

- Checking Account Interest: \$15.81
- Road & Bridge Savings Interest: \$25.49
- Town Hall Building Savings Interest: \$4.46
- Intrafi Interest: \$1,948.34
- State of MN Township Aid: \$314.50

INTRAFI

- Statements are showing late fees; they are being refunded.
- Balance is going below \$100,000—Mary will contact the bank to make sure there is a minimum balance of \$100,000 in the checking account at all times.

AUDIT REPORT

Just received final report yesterday. The Board will read and discuss at the September Board meeting.

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

The Township was contacted by a service who provides a program which would allow us to process payments electronically for building permits, emergency services payments, rental payments, etc. This particular program is free to the Township but charges the payors 2.99%. Kathy will check if our website can support an electronic payment portal. Mary will check with Benton County regarding the company they use.

5. APPROVE LIST OF CLAIMS AND PAYROLL

Receipts for the month of July:	\$541,962.59
Disbursements for the month of July:	\$132,362.48

EFT Payments:

Internal Revenue Service	\$801.81
MN Dept of Revenue	\$27.97
Public Employee Retirement	\$520.68

Supervisor Arndt made a motion to approve the List of Claims and Payroll; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

6. BEND IN THE RIVER PARK—Montgomery Headley

Benton County received a Legacy Fund Grant of \$800,000 for Bend in the River Park. Plans are to construct a shelter and playground. There are also plans to add trails throughout the park.

- The County is asking to create a loop crossing Ferry Point Road for the trail.
- County would pay all expenses: striping, signage, etc. for the trail connection to Ferry Point.
- Monte will check with the Park Commission on how our park dedication funds can be used.
- Monte will send dates for the next several Park Commission meetings.

7. WSB ENGINEER REPORT—Kevin Kruger

a. 2023 Construction Update

Pre-construction meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 11; projected start date is Monday, August 21; completion date is Monday, September 25.

b. Shoestring Loop Update

No update currently.

c. Ferry Point Trail Connection—Park Dedication Funds

Kevin will work with Paul Schroeder and Benton County on the logistics of connecting the trail crossing.

d. 2024 Construction

Kevin distributed a cost estimate of \$1.5 million for Lakewood Shores Road to 95th Street NW and Ferry Point Road.

The Board gave Kevin the go ahead with the design process for Lakewood Shores and Ferry Point Road.

8. DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT REQUESTS

a. Helmin Landscaping Variance

Requesting a variance to add a billboard on their property.
The Board approved.

b. Watts Variance

Septic must be replaced. Variance was not applied for initially in 1980, but the County is requiring them to apply now. The Board agreed that they should meet the setback.

c. Froslie Conditional Use Permit

Requesting a conditional use permit to use an alternative flood proofing method.
The Board approved.

Supervisor Johnson will alert the Department of Land Services of the Board's decisions.

9. 80th STREET NW-- QUOTES FOR REPAIRS

Hanson Paving submitted quotes for 2 options to repair 80th Street NW:

- Option 1 \$13,500—remove existing asphalt, regrade with 4" gravel base, and pave 3-1/2" asphalt.
- Option 2 \$7,000—2" overlay

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to go with Option 2; Supervisor Arndt seconded; motion carried.
Supervisor Wollak made a motion to use ARPA funds; Supervisor Arndt seconded; motion carried.

10. 66th STREET

Supervisor Wollak will get bids for discussion at the September Board meeting.

11. FORFEITURE PROPERTIES: WEST LAKE ROAD

The County is requesting that the Township either approve the parcels for sale at public auction or request a conveyance to the Township for public use.

Due to legal issues associated with the properties, the Township will decline and allow the parcels to be sold by the County at auction.

12. GRANITE CHIP WORK: 5TH AVENUE NE/105TH STREET NE

Scheduled for next week.

13. BUDGET DISCUSSION: ADDITIONAL PROJECTS/OVERLAYS

No plans beyond current projects.

14. SHARON PLACE GRAVEYARD UPDATE

A letter from Dylan Goetsch of the Indian Affairs Council was received confirming that the mound's northern boundary is now out of the ROW. Supervisor Johnson will notify the property owner.

15. JOLLY ROGER ROAD ISSUE

Nate Landwehr reported people dumping garbage on Jolly Roger Road and offered to put up concrete barriers to block access. The Board approved the barriers.

16. COMBINATION OF PARCELS: Dierkes

Requesting to combine parcels that are zoned agricultural and residential. The Board will request more information from the County.

17. LANGOLA/WATAB CONTINUING AGREEMENT

Watab and Langola Townships met at the Langola Township monthly meeting to determine responsibility for maintenance of 115th Street. Agreement was made that Watab Township would maintain the west end of the lake and Langola Township will maintain the east end of the lake. Agreement will now be in writing.

18. MS4 TRAINING

Supervisor Arndt will attend training.

19. CLEAN-UP DAY

Supervisor Arndt is recommending rescheduling Clean-up Day from September 9 to October 7. Sues Road will be under construction in September and providers are short staffed in September. The Board approved the change of date. Supervisor Arndt will contact providers for availability on that date.

20. FINE SCHEDULE

Supervisor Arndt made a motion to approve the fine schedule; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

21. BOND FUND

Discussion was held to determine how much money to move from the Bond Fund to cover construction costs. Supervisor Arndt made a motion to move \$500,000; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried. The balance will be invested in a 9-month CD.

22. BURTON COURT ROAD PATCH

Hanson Paving submitted a quote to patch Burton Court for \$680.00. Supervisor Wollak made a motion to accept the bid from Hanson Paving to patch Burton Court for \$680.00; Supervisor Arndt seconded; motion carried.

CITIZEN'S INPUT

- **Paul Sondrall 10180 Ferry Point Place, Rice, MN**
Wants to know what he can do with the abandoned road that goes through the back of his property. Supervisor Johnson will check with the Township attorney to determine if the road should be vacated.
- **Paul Wippler 8835 15th Street NE, Rice, MN**
Concerned that people buying property are not getting sufficient information regarding regulations. *Persons applying for a Land Use Permit are directed on the application to contact the Township regarding how to proceed.*

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to adjourn; Supervisor Arndt seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:21.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sauer
Township Clerk

Julie Johnson, Board Chairperson

Date

Kathy Sauer, Clerk

Date