

Watab Town Board Special Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 16, 2013

Representative Jim Newberger met with the Town Board at 6:00 p.m. on December 16, 2013 at the town hall for the purpose of discussing input to the 2014 Transportation Bonding Bill. Board Chair Ed Kacures, Supervisor Craig Gondeck, Clerk Pat Spence, and Treasurer Eileen Saldana were present. Supervisor Kacures presented the past study of interchanges for Highway 10 within the township. Rep. Newberger will put in a bonding request for everything presented. He requested that at the major intersections, the township take video to show legislators how serious the problem of highway access is during busy times. Representative Newberger will draft different options and send them to the township clerk prior to the January 7, 2014 Town Board meeting. One will include all the interchanges and frontage roads; one will include the interchanges and no frontage roads; the third option will be extended acceleration/de-acceleration lanes. There will be a special meeting at 6pm on that date to discuss the draft of the bill. Supervisor Gondeck noted that MNDOT's 2012 traffic counts are 24,200 cars per day going north and 20,400 going south.

At 7:00 p.m. the board chair called to order a special meeting of the board to discuss payment of bills, the 2014 Rice Fire Contract, and a building permit issue. Audience members were Nancy Scott, Nancy Kronlund, Pat Hedlund, Kevin Johnson, Maureen Graber, Kevin Reiter, and John Olson. Board members were Supervisors Ed Kacures Jr., Craig Gondeck, and Lloyd Erdmann, Treasurer Eileen Saldana, and Clerk Pat Spence.

Thanked everyone for coming to the special meeting and explained the meeting the board had with Representative Jim Newberger at 6pm. The Clerk apologized for sending out the notice for the 6pm meeting with a 7pm starting time, and Chair Kacures summarized the discussion with Representative Newberger. Supervisor Erdmann suggested that an interchange at County Road 4 with frontage roads would be a top priority to help people get out of the Oak Hill Estates and 80th Street areas. Supervisor Kacures suggested a petition drive for residents to get support for the project from the legislature. He also stressed the importance of people coming to the special 6pm meeting with Representative Newberger on January 7, 2014.

Nancy Scott, township building inspector, reported that she was at Ernie Wollak's for a framing inspection, for which he got a cold storage building permit last December to build an addition to the existing building. Mr. Wollak indicated that he is trying to get funding to make it a museum, which his building permit does not allow. Nancy wrote on the final inspection record that it can only be used for cold storage. If he built it for use as a museum, the building permit would be three to four times higher because of different construction standards for assembly occupancy. There would be a liability issue for the township. She asked the board if she can proceed with a letter to him summarizing that the addition cannot be used for a museum; authorization was given. She also summarized another issue with a building permit issued in 2008 where the owner is telling her that there has been continuous progress. He will need to give her progress reports or the permit will expire. Nancy will copy the board on the letters.

A motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to approve payment of claim numbers 5312-5315 totaling \$20,342.00. These included Xcel Energy, Schultz Soft Water, Marson Contractors, and the City of Rice for the second half of the 2013 fire contract. These

were bills that need to be paid prior to year end and were received after the regular board meeting. Clerk Spence distributed the fund balance report as of December 16, 2013.

The board discussed the 2014 Rice Fire Contract. Supervisor Gondeck had a phone conversation with Mayor Rogholt about the contract and received a copy from the City Clerk of their proposal, which was prepared by the City Attorney. It is to be the same contract for all three townships. Following considerable discussion, Supervisor Erdmann made a motion approving the Rice attorney's draft of a contract for 2014; it was seconded by Supervisor Gondeck. The motion and second were amended to direct the clerk to prepare an addendum stating that we will not pay for mutual aid calls. The motion passed with Supervisors Erdmann and Gondeck voting in favor and Supervisor Kacures opposed due to no limit on the number of calls as in the past contract. He believed that it should be a lump-sum contract as we have with other entities. Supervisor Kacures and Clerk Spence signed the contract, and Supervisor Kacures will present it at the City Council meeting, along with the Addendum, on Monday, December 23, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Supervisor Erdmann, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and passed to adjourn the special meeting at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence