

WATAB TOWN BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday September 8, 2020 – 7:00 pm

The regular monthly Watab Township Supervisor’s Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Wollak at 7:00 pm in the Watab Township Hall.

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present offered allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Board supervisors present: Steve Wollak and Bill Little. Others present in the Town Hall included, Treasurer, Deborah O’Keefe, Clerk, Kathy Sauer, Jim Dahl, Todd Waytashek, Del Shane, Fred Segler, Dothan Aleshire, Bob Raveling, Paul Wippler, Kevin Kruger, Sandra Saldana, LeRoy Murphy, Sam Deleo, Nick Anderson, and Clifton Allen.

Attending via Zoom: Anna Hinkemeyer

2. ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA

- Change in #8 of the Agenda: Change from “decision” to “discussion.”

Supervisor Little moved to approve the agenda with amendments; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

3. APPROVE THE AGENDA

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

4. CONSENT AGENDA – One motion for all items

- a. August 4, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. August 10, 2020, Special Meeting Work Session
- c. August 24, 2020, Special Meeting Work Session: Subdivision Ordinance #9

Supervisor Little moved to approve all meeting minutes; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried

5. TREASURER’S REPORT

Falcon Checking	\$303,463.18
Bremer Money Market	<u>\$126,828.94</u>
	\$430,292.12
Road and Bridge Falcon Money Market	<u>\$255,455.95</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$685,748.07</u>
BCA Fines	\$399.94
Bremer July Interest	\$16.93
Falcon Money Market Interest	\$86.52
Bremer Checking	\$52.83
CARES Account (unavailable: Covid Only)	\$81,530.61
Escrow	<u>\$20,590.00</u>
	102,120.61

Treasurer O’Keefe reported that she received an appeal from a resident requesting non-payment for a medical call to his home while he was suffering a heart attack.

Supervisor Little moved to require payment as the fire department was responding to a legitimate medical event. Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

Supervisor Little moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

6. APPROVE LIST OF BILLS, CLAIMS, AND PAYROLL

Supervisor Little moved to accept bills, claims, and payroll; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

7. BNSF QUIET ZONE—105TH STREET NW/2021 PROJECT/BOGART & PEDERSON

Wes Davis was not present at the meeting, but communicated to Supervisor Wollak that the final approval for the Quiet Zone is in. BNSF will be contacting the Supervisors; bids should be ready to go out in January/February, 2021.

8. TOWNSHIP ENGINEER DISCUSSION

The Board heard presentations from three Engineering firms: WSB, Bolton and Menk, and Moore.

Wes Davis from Bogart Pederson would like to submit a proposal; Board will discuss on September 14 at the Special Meeting if the proposal will be considered.

- a. Road Maintenance Plan (Paver Cost & Implementation): Supervisors feel a Road Plan is needed from a professional source. The Board will work with the appointed Engineering firm.

9. LIQUOR LICENSE (Oak Hill Golf Club)

Jim Dahl requested renewal of his liquor license; reported that he is currently getting bids on expanding his kitchen to offer a complete dinner menu.

Supervisor Wollak moved to approve the liquor license; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

10. DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

- **Richard and Tina Anderson**

Requesting a variance to construct an accessory structure that would be 12 ft. from the right-of-way of Highway 10 (100 ft. required). Supervisor Wollak visited the site and has concerns regarding the close proximity to the highway. He will attend the official on-site inspection of the property on September 17, 2020.

11. PLANNING COMMISSION (Watab Township Ordinance #9)

Supervisor Little moved to create a three-person Planning Commission; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

Supervisor Wollak moved to delete the \$150 land split fee, the \$100 variance fee, and the recording fees; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

Supervisor Wollak moved to approve Doug Boser, Nate Landwehr, and Gary Aschenbrenner to be appointed to the Planning Commission for a 3-year term at a rate of \$25/hr. on an as-needed basis. Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

12. CLEAN-UP DAY

Supervisor Little reported that Clean-up Day will be on Saturday, September 19, 2020, from 7:30-1:00. There will be two lines instead of one to move faster. No building materials will be accepted. Appliances will be \$10 each. Tires will be accepted. Light bulbs can be dropped off at Rice Hardware on Saturdays and Wednesdays. List of other items can be found on the Watab Township website.

13. CARES ACT

- Original Budget: \$81,900.00
- Expenses to Date: \$1,863.89

Benton County Grant Application: Township was awarded \$1,310.75 with a match of \$262.13. Clerk Sauer reported that the County could not provide definitive guidelines for the use of these funds in relation to the federal grant. Considering the balance left as part of the federal grant in relation to the foreseen Covid expenses in the near future, it doesn't seem prudent to accept these funds.

Supervisor Little moved to decline these funds; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

Laptop Quotes: Clerk Sauer sent a request to Minnesota Management and Budget regarding the approval of purchasing laptops for the three Supervisors using Covid grant funds; answer was vague.

Both Supervisor Wollak and Supervisor Little have heard of other town entities purchasing laptops using these funds and are in favor. Approximate cost of laptops would be \$2,100.00.

Supervisor Wollak moved to purchase three laptops using Covid funds; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

Grant Applications: To date, two applications have been received by area businesses. Work session to review applications is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, at 6:00 pm.

14. ELECTION JUDGE PAY

Due to the high degree of responsibility and the difficulty in finding individuals to serve as election judges, Clerk Sauer requested an increase in the hourly rate for the judges.

Supervisor Little moved to increase the Head Judge's pay from \$20/hr. to \$25/hr. and the Election Judge's pay from \$15/hr. to \$20/hr. Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

15. SNOW PLOWING CONTRACT

Bids for snow plowing will go out next week. Supervisors will review bids by the hour or by the season.

16. BLACKTOP REPAIR QUOTE

Minnesota Blacktopping submitted a bid to repair the property at 9140 Lakeshores Road for \$1,250.00. Supervisor Wollak moved to accept the bid; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

17. CITIZEN'S INPUT – Time limit: 3 minutes

- **Todd Waytashek**

1. We have hired a clerk; why does Julie take minutes at Special Meetings?
Julie takes minutes when Clerk cannot attend.
2. Frost Road: Signpost removed; creates liability.
3. Frost Road: Beaver dam
4. Money market interest: Falcon pays more than Bremer; need to move money.
5. Township is overbudget; why are we spending money on a Planning Commission, road sweeping, etc. Need to cut back on spending.
Planning Commission was created December, 2019. Have not had cause to create a Commission before now.

- **LeRoy Murphy**

Would like notice of meeting agenda.

- **Sandra Saldana**

Would like to see a YTD comparison of expenditures for 2018/2019 to 2019/2020.

Deb will compile information.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Little made a motion to adjourn; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:29.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sauer
Township Clerk

Julie Johnson, Board Chairperson

Date

Kathy Sauer, Clerk

Date