

WATAB TOWN BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 – 7:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular monthly Watab Township Supervisor's Meeting was called to order by Clerk Sauer at 7:00 pm in the Watab Township Hall.

ROLL CALL

Board supervisors present: Julie Johnson, Steve Wollak, and Bill Little. Others present in the Town Hall included, Treasurer, Deborah O'Keefe, Clerk, Kevin Weeks, Mike Couri, Todd Waytashek, Keith Karsten, Phillip Nelson, Jerry Kostreba, Keith Jacobs, Sheila Jacobs, Jeff Wollak, Kevin Kruger, Robin Wollak, Matt Heinen, Paul Wippler, Ellary Prentice, Sandra Saldana, Jessica Storkamp

Attending via Zoom: Clerk Kathy Sauer, Nancy Scott, Beau Pilgrim, Steve Johnson, Levi Radika, Luke Rude, Jeff Wollak, Jack Polcher, Mike Wilcox, Chad Mackrell, Noel, Drew, A-Team, Serena, Sarah, Julie, Kadylyn, iPhone, Lisa Karsten, Jason Miller, Jordan, Matt Friedrichs, Craig,

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

2. BOARD NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRPERSON/VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Clerk Sauer called for nominations for Chairperson for 2021-2022. Supervisor Wollak nominated Supervisor Johnson; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried. Supervisor Johnson will serve as Chair for the upcoming year.

Clerk Sauer called for nominations for Vice-Chair for the 2021-2022 year. Supervisor Little nominated Supervisor Wollak; Supervisor Johnson seconded; motion carried. Supervisor Wollak will serve as vice-Chair for the upcoming year.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Pilgrim's Pride
- b. Holly Place

4. APPROVE THE AGENDA

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

5. CONSENT AGENDA – One motion for all items

- a. March 2, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. March 15, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes: Board of Canvass
- c. March 15, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes: Resolution 2021-7

Supervisor Johnson made a change to item 13 of the March 2 Regular Meeting Minutes to read: "Affected property for Watab Township is the right of way for lots on Hedge Road NW and Heron Road NW."

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

6. RESOLUTIONS: TOWNSHIP REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

- a. Resolution 2021-8: Setting Dates for Regular Board Meetings
Supervisor Little made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-8; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

- b. Resolution 2021-9: Town Board Member Duties and Affidavits
Supervisor Little made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-9; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.
- c. Resolution 2021-10: Setting Fees in Watab Township
Supervisor Wollak made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-10; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.
- d. Resolution 2021-11: Board Compensation Policy
Supervisor Little made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-11 with revisions; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.
- e. Resolution 2021-12: Watab Township Policies and Procedures
Supervisor Wollak made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-12; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

6. TREASURER’S REPORT

Falcon Checking	\$359,778.10
Bremer Money Market	<u>\$49,771.49</u>
	\$409,549.59
Falcon Money Market	<u>\$256,049.11</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$665,598.70</u>
Falcon Money Market Interest (March)	\$86.96
Falcon Checking Interest	--
Bremer Interest (January)	\$.84
BCA Fines	\$153.32

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

7. APPROVE LIST OF BILLS, CLAIMS, AND PAYROLL

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

8. WSB ENGINEER REPORT

Kevin Kruger provided an update on Sucker Creek Road. Ready to schedule meeting a neighborhood meeting this month. LRIP grant has been delayed due to a heavy volume of applications; looking at late May, early June for grant award announcements.

105th Road Project. Bid opening will need to be set back a week due to program delays by Bogart Pederson. Bid opening will now take place Tuesday, April 13 at 7:00. Prices are coming in high due to higher material costs.

9. ROAD REPORT

Supervisor Wollak reported that there have been several complaints about a beaver dam on the south west end of the Henkemeyer Landfill property causing water to back up. A letter will be sent to the landowner to take care of the problem.

10. MINIMUM MAINTENANCE ROAD: Grading and Upgrades

Dumping has been occurring on 15th Avenue. Discussion took place regarding if this road is privately or publicly maintained. Supervisor Wollak will talk to the Schlictings who is the adjoining landowner about gating the property to limit dumping.

11. EMAILS/CALLS CONCERNING LAKE ANDREW ROADS

Mike Couri addressed concerns about the Lake Andrew situation to residents. When the Township entered into an agreement with the Developer, Scott Jarnot (2007), there was no Subdivision Ordinance in place at the Township level; therefore, County procedures were followed. Unfortunately, the County did not require an adequate letter of credit from the Developer to guarantee that the entire project would be funded. The Developer's agreement expired after 5 years (2012); at that time, the statute of limitations had expired ending the Township's obligation to accept the roads.

The Developer was supposed to complete the roads but was interrupted by the housing bust. All construction, at that point, stopped. The Township has never accepted the roads because they were not built to Township standards. At this point, some areas need full reconstruction.

Suggestion: engage the Developer with an attorney, if necessary. Form a homeowner's association.

Possibility: organize residents to agree to be assessed over a 10-15-year period. Must sign a non-appeal agreement.

Residents must also look ahead to future maintenance of sewage system in the development.

Residents presenting concerns:

Keith Karsten
6833 Jaclyn Lane NE
Sauk Rapids, MN

Levi Radika
205 Alaina Place NE
Sauk Rapids, MN

Matthew Heinen
6839 Chloe Way
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

Supervisor Johnson will contact Scott Jarnot to inquire what his plans are for completing the roads in Lake Andrew.

12. DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT—Various Requests

Mike and Shannon Molitor—looking to add an addition on the backside of the house on the opposite side of the river. The Board has no issues with this request and will relay that to the Benton County Department of Development.

13. BENTON TELEPHONE/INTERNET DISCUSSION

Currently, we have a contract with Century Link for phone and internet at a cost of \$127/month. Benton Communications can provide internet at \$65/month but cannot offer a phone system to us due to boundary infringement clauses with Century Link.

Clerk Sauer is checking with area companies for phone services that will meet the needs of the Town Hall. Will report next month.

14. CHARTER ORDINANCE FEES

Supervisor Johnson is checking with Charter/Spectrum to secure franchise fees due to us via Ordinance. To date has not been able to reach the appropriate office but will keep trying.

15. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL: RUMORS

Liquor license request from Jim Hoijsolle for Rumor's Bar due in June. Supervisor Wollak made a motion to renew the license; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

16. SET DATE FOR ROAD TOUR

Road Tour is set for April 30, 2021, at 8:00 am.

17. CONTRACT RENEWAL: LAWN MOWING

Deluxe Lawn Care offered to provide service for the same rate as last year: \$44 per mowing. Supervisor Little made a motion to renew the contract; Supervisor Wollak seconded; motion carried.

18. REPORT: ONLINE TRAINING FOR SUPERVISORS, CLERK, AND TREASURER

The Board attended online training offered by MAT.

- a. Cybersecurity
- b. Noxious Weeds

19. CONTRACT RENEWAL: ALL SPEC SERVICES

Will finalize at next month's meeting.

20. BENTON COUNTY PARK DEDICATION FUNDS

Clerk Sauer contacted Monty Headley, Benton County Administrator, to determine expenditure of funds allocated to the Township. The current balance of funds (75%) that can be used by the Township is \$14,737. The County portion (25%) for use in parks and trail connectivity is \$6,168. Since the Township does not have a park system, the funds could be donated back to the County for Bend-in-the-River Park, which is within Township boundaries, but under County jurisdiction.

Supervisor Johnson said there is a park on West Lake Road as well as West Lake Court that could use garbage cans or picnic tables.

Supervisors will check out the possibilities and bring the issue back next month.

21. MIDWEST ASPHALT—Pothole Repair

Midwest Asphalt submitted a quote for pothole repairs at a price of \$2,765/load per day. Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve Midwest Asphalt's quote for two loads; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

22. ROAD REPAIRS IN OAK HILL ESTATES

There is an intersection in Oak Hill Estates where the contract is broken up. Supervisor Wollak received two quotes: Dierkes Concrete for \$2,840, and KB Concrete \$3,145.

Supervisor Little made a motion to award the contract to Dierkes Concrete in the amount of \$2,840; Supervisor Johnson seconded; motion carried.

23. PILGRIM'S PRIDE

Annual request for permission to haul agricultural products over 80,000 up to 97,000 pounds gross weight. This results in 20% fewer trips to the barns and meets Minnesota Annual Agricultural Permit Standards for axel spacing and axel weight. They agree to help with reasonable maintenance costs if this results in abnormal wear and tear on the roads.

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to approve the request; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried.

24. HOLLY PLACE

Supervisor Johnson received an email from Cory, Oak Realty. Currently, there is a right of way on a lake lot on Holly Place leading directly to the lake. After searching it was found that it is a railroad right-of-way. Supervisor Johnson contacted BNSF who will resolve the issue.

25. CITIZENS' INPUT: Time Limit 3 Minutes

- Jack Polcher—is there room at the Watab Township Hall for a playground area?
- Jerry Kostreba—confirming bid opening date. *April 13; 7:00 pm.*
- Todd Waytashek—thank you for including Treasurer's Report in minutes; commented on Lake Andrew presentation; is buckthorn a noxious weed (*yes*)
- Pat Schroeder—need to clarify use of 5th Avenue NW. Neighbor is blocking right of way.

Residents cannot park in the right of way and cannot have unlicensed vehicles on the property. Letters have been sent to over a dozen residents in the last year informing them to comply.

There are logs on land that adjoins my property that is owned by the state of Minnesota. I have a permit to use this land from the state. *Supervisor Johnson will check with the state.*

- Todd Waytashek—stated that he would provide his state permit to the Township.
- Keith Jacobs—putting up a fence. Checked with Benton County about regulations; they deferred to the Township. *Advise staying 5 feet off the lot line. Apply for variance.*

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Wollak made a motion to adjourn; Supervisor Little seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:41.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sauer
Township Clerk

Julie Johnson, Board Chairperson

Date

Kathy Sauer, Clerk

Date