

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes
October 13, 2010

TOWN of BIG LAKE
"Sherburne County's First 5-Member Township Board"
P.O. Box 75, Big Lake, Minnesota 55309

On Wednesday, October 13, 2010, the Big Lake Board of Supervisors met at the Big Lake Town Hall located in the Big Lake Lions Park Community Center at 21960 County Road #5, Big Lake Township, Sherburne County, State of Minnesota. The meeting was tape recorded for transcribing purposes only.

Chairman Hofer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 5 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken by the Chairman.

Board Members Present:

- Bob Hofer, Chairman
- Norm Leslie, Supervisor
- Jim Stahlmann, Supervisor
- Mike Hayes, Supervisor
- Larry Alfords, Supervisor
- Ken Warneke, Treasurer
- Laura Hayes, Clerk
- Kristie Woolard, Deputy Clerk
- Todd McLouth, Township Engineer

All present stood and recited the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve the agenda. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Supervisor Leslie motioned to approve consent agenda items: a) Approval of Minutes: Regular Monthly Board Meeting 9-8-10, and Second Monthly Meeting 9-22-10. b) Approve List of Claims (Disbursement List Received at Meeting). c) Approve Big Lake Fire Department Relief Assoc. Chili Cook-Off/Proceeds to go to Big Lake Foodshelf. Supervisor Hayes seconded. Each Supervisor abstained from approval of their payroll claim. Supervisor Hayes abstained from approval of Clerk Hayes payroll claim. All were in favor. The motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE CLERK

a) Administrative Split Action–Board Comments Re: Lot 1 Block 1 Ewing River Springs-
Derald Ewing appeared before the Board to request approval to split Lot 1/ Block 1 Ewing River Springs through an administrative split process. Clerk Hayes presented a review letter received today from Sherburne County Planning & Zoning Administrator Nancy Riddle. The review letter outlined the proposed lot split, her conversation with Derald Ewing regarding this action and proposed conditions of the split. Supervisor

Alfords advised he had no problem with the split and the proposed conditions, but did have concern regarding the fact that splitting the lot would create a lot of no value and raised the question of who would be responsible for the long-term maintenance (i.e. mowing, invasive weed control) and property tax responsibilities when Derald Ewing is no longer available to do this. The Town Board of Big Lake does not want an unbuildable lot to become a tax forfeit property and a burden to future Big Lake Town Board's or Sherburne County. There was lengthy discussion regarding how to eliminate this concern. Alternative options such as replatting and attaching the partial lot to property owned by Mr. Ewing to the west; or, selling the entire lot and leasing back the west half were also discussed. Through discussion it was determined that owners of the lots in the plat are authorized under the Ewing River Spring Covenants to maintain, use and enjoy the adjoining outlot; therefore, Outlot A would also have to be split if the request is approved. Supervisor Alfords motioned to support the administrative split of Lot 1/ Block 1 and Outlot A with the following conditions: 1) Administrative Split Application completed and signed by all property owners. 2) Deed Restriction in recordable format which will be recorded at the same time as the split is approved. 3) Lot Combine forms must be turned into the Auditor's Office. 4) Property survey and legal descriptions submitted per the administrative plat application instructions. 5) Town Board approval letter. 6) Architectural Review Committee Approval Letter. 7) DNR Approval Letter. 8) A plan must be in place to address the long-term maintenance of the west half of Lot 1/Block1 and Outlot A. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

b) Clean Up Day Update – Clerk Hayes advised the Board of the date of the 2011 clean up day and gave several updates regarding the event.

-Clean Up Day will be May 7, 2011.

-Jamie Phenow is no longer with Allied Waste, the vendor used for disposal of the landfill items collected that day. Jamie Phenow is now working for Central Appliance Recyclers, the company used for collection of appliances and electronics at clean up day. Clerk Hayes advised that Jamie Phenow advised he will communicate with the person who has taken over his former position at Allied Waste in regard to what he did on site during the clean up day event.

-Clerk Hayes advised that there will be review of the gate fees charged. Currently the Clerk's Office is collecting information regarding what it costs to remove debris from the road right-of-way. This information will be taken into consideration when the gate fee charges are reviewed.

-Clerk Hayes noted that the majority of volunteers for clean up day have been the same people helping for the past 10 years. Therefore, residents participating in Clean Up day will need to plan to help unload their items. This will be made known to the public through clean up day advertising and with periodic updates regarding Clean Up Day.

-There will also be informational reminders that items that can be disposed of through regular garbage service should be handled that way rather than through clean up day. Clerk Hayes advised that SCORE funds cannot be used to offset the cost of items landfilled; and, reducing the amount of actual garbage will be of help to the volunteers unloading the recyclable items.

c) Other-Updates-Meetings -

Sherburne County Park Fund – Clerk Hayes advised the Township has collected the remaining funds available to the Township from the Sherburne County Park Fund. The first reimbursement was taken when the Township purchased the cabin and additional acres. The second was received approximately two-weeks ago for costs associated with the trail construction. In total, the Township has received \$105,315. The total amount of the Township's designated share of the County Park Dedication Fund.

Big Lake Lion's Community Park/Tree Maintenance – Clerk Hayes advised 6 Colorado Blue Spruce trees in the park, near the Town Hall building have developed a fungus as the result of the wet and humid summer conditions this year. The 6th tree has also contracted saw-fly which has killed the top of the tree. The trees have been looked at by Gina Hugo, Sherburne County Soil and Water Conservation office. The trees will be pressure washed and the bottom 3 feet of branches will be removed this fall. Additionally, one of the irrigation heads has been repositioned so that it does not spray directly on the tree. Don Kampa, Don's Lawncare advised he and Supervisor Leslie will remove the branches. The trees will be pressure washed in the spring. The trees will be re-inspected in the spring by Don and Township Park Committee to determine if they should be removed entirely.

Resolution 2010-08 Clean Up Application for Hidden River View – Clerk Hayes presented a request from David Katzner, Sherburne County Solid Waste Environmental Specialist for a resolution to support the Contamination Clean Up Grant Application for Hidden River View. A former municipal dump is located on this property. This is the third application the owner, Bradley Larson has made to the Department of Employment and Economic Development for a clean up grant. Supervisor Stahlmann motioned to adopt Resolution 2010-08 Approving Clean Up Application for Hidden River View. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOWN ROADS

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Township Engineer, Todd McLouth advised Township road projects are finishing up. Treasurer Warneke advised striping has been completed. Several areas of mowing and brushing have been done; and, a few signs have been installed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1) Other-Updates-Meetings – Chairman Hofer advised that he attended the I/Winter Maintenance Expo in St. Cloud. He attended a seminar on alternative ice control methods. The City of Prior Lake shared information regarding the chemical control method they use instead of salt/sand. They have used this material for the past 10-12 years. The cost savings is considerable and elimination of salt is helpful to the

environment. The investment in the brine tanks, truck tanks and pumps was approximately \$140,000. Prior Lake has a population of 20,000 and has approximately 100 miles of roads. They do own their own equipment.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS

1) EDA Updates – Supervisor Hayes advised he and Supervisor Leslie attended the October 12th EDA meeting. He advised there was nothing new with the Industrial Park Expansion area. The City is still working on the rail park. The developer has listed with CVRE Realty. The City has had a couple of prospects for Marketplace Square and packets have been sent out.

2) Fire Board Update – Supervisor Hayes advised he and Supervisor Stahlmann attended the October 7th Fire Board Meeting. Internally, the Fire Department is looking for a Captain. The Fire Department is operating under budget by approximately \$100,000.

BUSINESS FROM THE TREASURER

a) Monthly Report – Treasurer Warneke reviewed the cash balance statement. The total fund balance is \$1,976,521.20. Treasurer Warneke reviewed the 101, 102, 103 and 402 funds, noting all funds are on track. Receipts to date are above budget, expenditures are below. The 402 fund shows a receipt of \$12,500. This a refund of the Townships investment in an economic development program the City of Big Lake dropped out of and the Township subsequently asked for their investment back. Supervisor Alfords motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Supervisor Hayes seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Treasurer Warneke advised the Aspen Hills Wastewater Treatment Facility project and assessment calculation are near completion. Treasurer Warneke inquired with the Board about using the 3.25% interest rate on the years 2-5 assessment. The Board directed that the 3.25% interest rate used on the first year assessment should remain for years 2 through 5.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor Hayes to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Leslie seconded. All present were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Hayes, Clerk