

MINUTES
EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING

November 14, 2006

Call to Order

Ch Floyd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Ch. Richard Floyd, Sup Douglas Stellmach, Sup Daniel Humay, Clerk Sandra Welsh, and Treasurer James Sutherland.

Citizens in Attendance: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Unless otherwise stated all motions carried unanimously.

Agenda Approval

Sup Stellmach moved, seconded by Sup Humay to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes Approval

Ch Floyd requested that the minutes be corrected to replace the term "per diem" with "meals" in the Clerk's report and that a number of typographical errors be corrected. Ch Floyd moved, seconded by Sup Stellmach that the October 24th, 2006 minutes be approved as corrected. Motion carried.

Communications Ch Floyd moved, seconded by Sup Stellmach to approve the Communications List in the November minutes. Motion carried.

Reports:

Clerk:

Clerk Welsh reported on the following items:

- General election: There was a record turnout for the township with 147 voters which included 16 new registrations and 14 absentee ballots cast. The election judges worked from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. There were two glitches: the Town Hall was without water all day. Kolstad-Olson Well Company inspected the well and determined that the well was pumped dry. The likely cause was a faulty toilet valve in the woman's restroom, which had probably run for over two days. Sup Humay furnished bottled water and pails of water for hand washing and toilet flushing. The second problem was the lack of soffit lights. Only the motion light worked causing the parking lot and building to be in complete darkness. It was suspected that the soffit light bulbs were burned out and need replacement. In other election news, County Auditor Dicklich issued a proclamation declaring the week of Nov 5th – 11th in honor of Election Judges and Clerks.
- The Morton Company has finally replaced the door between the Fire Hall and Town Hall. Keys were made for all of the Supervisors, Town Officers and the Fire Chief.
- AAA sent a number of brochures and a poster on the purchase and installation of safety car seats. The clerk will leave them on the shelf in the Town Hall.

- Resident Joe Nichols delivered a proposal that morning regarding hosting a website for the township on a volunteer basis. Copies of the proposal were distributed to the Supervisors. Ch Floyd requested that this proposal be placed on the December agenda for discussion.
- A concept plan for Sunshine Beach Third Division located on Walsh Road was shown to the Board. The owner, Doug Witt, is proposing to subdivide the 7.4 plus or minus acres into three separate lots. No preliminary hearing has been set so this was an informational item only.
- Clerk requested that the board try to follow Robert' rules of Order when making a motion. Clerk asked that the motion be made and seconded before they proceed to discuss and allow the audience participation. Ch Floyd suggested that it is sometimes important for the audience to express their opinion before making a motion.

Fire:

Sup Stellmach reported on the following items:

- There was no maintenance meeting in November. The December maintenance meeting is to be determined.
- The next Fire Department meeting will be held on November 30th. Physicals will also be done on the 30th of November.
- Sup Stellmach reported that there were no fires and no medical emergencies for the month of October.

Building and Grounds.

Sup Humay reported on the following items:

- The Morton Company has finally replaced the door between the Fire Hall and the Town Hall.
- The well issue has been resolved. The well pump seems to have no damage and the float valve in the woman's toilet will be replaced. The water to the toilet has been shut off temporarily until the repair can be made.

Roads:

Ch Floyd reported on the following item:

- It was too late to grade the roads as requested by Maurice Rich at the October 24th meeting. He noted that there are still a number of potholes on Walsh Road and a few areas of washboard on Swanson Shores Road.

Treasurer Report:

The Treasurer reported on the following items:

- Due to the lateness of the October meeting, a number of checks, specifically check numbers 4870, 4882, 4885 and 4891, were still outstanding.
- A Fire Fund BWBCD #9112541 in the amount of \$16,147.88 had been cashed and deposited on 11/14/2006 in Queen City Federal savings. After a review of current CD rates available from the various banks, Sup Stellmach directed the Treasurer to purchase a 12 month CD with 5% interest at QCF in the amount of \$15,000.00 and to deposit the remaining amount of \$1,147.88 in the Fire Fund's general account.
- The Treasurer explained that he has been reviewing the various reports available through the CTAS program and believes that there are a number of CTAS reports that would assist the Board in tracking investments, budgets and expenditures in the various funds that would eliminate the need for the EXCEL spreadsheet. The Treasurer distributed copies of the following reports: Schedule 1, Current Investments, Interim Financial Report – Monthly Comparison, and the Interim Financial Report- Monthly Analysis. He explained that the last two reports illustrate the amount budgeted by fund and account. One report shows

the information on a year to date basis and the other on a monthly basis. The Board discussed the usefulness of the information and after consideration, requested that the Treasurer include the Interim Financial Report-Monthly Analysis in all future Treasurer Reports.

- Treasurer Sutherland directed the Board's attention to the claims list which included a registration fee for the upcoming MAT conference in Duluth. He requested that the Board approve his attendance at the conference. Sup Stellmach moved, seconded by Chair Floyd to approve the Treasurer's request to attend the conference, including the associated travel and salary costs. Sup Stellmach moved, seconded by Sup Humay to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Citizen Concerns

No citizens were in attendance but a Board member acting as a citizen complained about the large deer population. The Board agreed.

Old Business:

1. Sanitation Analysis. Supervisor Humay reported that he had attended a waste water conference in Eveleth sponsored by the Minnesota Rural Water Association. He noted that there were a number of valuable contacts made including a University of Minnesota extension specialist who would be willing to talk to the Board. He suggested that a Sanitation Analysis Task Force could be formed to study the issue and promote the message of protecting our community's biggest resources. The Board discussed the time frame for inviting the Extension Specialist and it was determined that a Special Meeting could be held in 2007. The matter is to be placed on future agendas as a Study Item.
2. False Alarm Charges. Tabled due to lack of progress.
3. Walsh Road Sign. Chair Floyd reported that he had contacted St. Louis County Highway Department, who in turn had referred him to John Strukel. Chair Floyd placed a call to Mr. Strukel and left a message describing the concern with the placement of the intersection signs. He suggested that Mr. Strukel might resolve the issue by coming out and changing the signs, and so Chair Floyd will continue to monitor the situation.
4. Resolution Moving the Election: Chair Floyd noted that MAT attorney Dan Greensweig advised that the Resolution be modified to reflect that newly elected officers would take office on the first business day in January versus the first Monday, and that the term for Supervisor "C" be lengthened rather than shortened. After discussion of the implications to lengthening this Supervisors term, it was decided to not accept this recommendation and keep the term length as shown in the draft. The Board accepted the recommendation to replace the phrase "first Monday" with the "first business day in January". Chair Floyd moved to approve the Resolution #11-06-06 as revised, Sup Humay seconded. Motion carried.
5. Salary Resolution. Chair Floyd moved to approve Resolution #11-06-05 as written. Sup Humay seconded. Motion carried.
6. Minnesota Blvd. Abandoned Vehicle Update: Clerk Welsh reported that she had talked with Deputy Sheriff Wes Snyder who advised her that he recalled receiving the letter regarding the abandoned vehicles and had assigned another deputy to investigate. This Deputy subsequently was injured and has been out on sick leave and is expected to retire. Sheriff Snyder promised to look into the matter and report back at a later date. He noted that his department was very busy dealing with automobile and deer collision accident reports.

New Business

1. Mark Alleman and Angela Alleman Variance Requests: The Board reviewed the Alleman requests. After discussion, Sup Humay moved, seconded by Sup Stellmach to direct the

Clerk to send a letter to the Planning Commission, opposing both of the variances for the following reasons:

1. There are few intact structures on any islands in the four Eagles Nest Lakes, and none on Eagles Nest Lake #3. All privately owned islands on these lakes are small, and we do not want to set a precedent of allowing buildings on them when regular zoning constraints do not permit it.
 2. Zoning regulations were established through a deliberative procedure. They should not be waived without good reason. Given the size of the islands, the owners knew, or reasonably should have known, that there would be objections to building on these islands. The proposed lakeside setback of 75% and 50% of the required allowable setbacks constitutes a flagrant violation of the intent of the zoning regulations.
 3. We do not believe that adequate screening is possible on such small islands.
 4. Lastly, this request has been before the commission at least twice within the past year and once before in 1991. The two application's only change from these previously denied requests are the substitution of composting toilets versus a septic system. The proposed use of a composting toilet as opposed to a regulation septic system does not address the issues of grey water runoff. The small size of the islands would undoubtedly compromise the water quality of Eagles Nest #3 impacting a number of people who take their drinking water from the lake.
- Motion carried.

Announcements:

1. Seniors, Monday, November 27th, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.
2. Eagles Nest Volunteer Fire Department Meeting, Thursday, 30th, 2006 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Fire Hall
3. Coffee "an" December 2nd (first Saturday), 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at the Town Hall.

Sup Stellmach noted that the Fire Department physical would probably be held on November 30th and that the next maintenance day would probably be held on Saturday, December 2, 2006.

Claims presented for approval:

Claims: \$ 2,956.71 Claim Numbers: 1346-1363 Check Numbers: 4898-4915
Payroll of: \$ 2,102.14 Check Numbers: 4916-4924
Total: \$ 5,058.85

The Claims List is attached and made a part of these minutes.

\$5,058.85 was transferred from State Bank of Tower Savings to State Bank of Tower Checking.

Chair Floyd moved, seconded by Sup Stellmach to approve Claims and Payroll.

Adjournment:

Ch Floyd moved, seconded by Sup Stellmach to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Welsh, Clerk