

Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors

November 4, 2015

Avon Township Hall, 16881 Queens Road, Avon (MN)

Call to Order: Chairman Bresnahan called the meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors to order at 7:30 P.M. in the main chamber of the Avon Township Hall and welcomed guests.

Pledge: Clerk Saupe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recording: The Clerk announced that the meeting was being recorded and turned on the recorder. A new recorder was being tested at this meeting.

Roll Call: Present – Richard Bresnahan, John Merdan, Roger Nelson, Kelly Martini, and Stephen Saupe. Also present – Marion Gondringer (*Deputy Clerk*), LeRoy Gondringer (*Planning Commission, Chair*), Joseph Koopmeiners (*Maintenance*).

Approval of Agenda: A report about the Freeport Township Association meeting was added to the agenda. Merdan moved to approve the amended agenda. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes: Nelson moved to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2015 meeting. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Report: Mr. LeRoy Gondringer, Planning Commission Chair, reported:

- Zoning in St. Anna Area** – The Planning Commission suggested three potential options for zoning: (1) including only the Weber and northern five acres of the Baker properties in the Moderate Residential district; (2) extending the new R5 zoning boundary of the Baker property west to Pelican Lake; and (3) setting the southern edge of the Baker property as the boundary of the Moderate Residential District and squaring this off with the Moderate Residential District east of St. Anna. There was no consensus among Planning Commission members. Because one of the goals of the Township is to preserve agricultural farmland, before a decision is made on options the Supervisors want to know the LESA scores of the affected properties. The County will be contacted for this information.
- Emergency Communications Network** – The Planning Commission voted (4 to 1) against participation. The Supervisors decided to not participate in this system because they don't think that there are enough residents who would sign up for the program and because it is somewhat redundant of the existing County alert system.
- Office Furniture** – Mr. Will Huston offered to donate some office furniture to the Township. Nelson moved to approve "Resolution 11-04-15 – Resolution Accepting Donation." Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Joint City/Town Meeting** – At the recent joint meeting, Ms. Christine Jurek from the MN DNR gave a presentation on Eurasian water milfoil. Other topics included the Emergency Communications Network, and drainage issues that may affect both the City and Town.
- Email / Free Speech** – Planning Commission members were alerted to issues concerning use of personal email and using a title when communicating with the public.

Merdan moved to approve the Planning Commission report. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Martini read the Treasurer's Report and provided the Cash Control Statement for the period 10/1/2015 to 10/31/2015 (*below*). The beginning balances are different than the ending balances from the 9/30/2015 Cash Control Statement. Martini thought the difference might be due to a voided check or other correction made in CTAS. Nelson moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

For the Period : 10/1/2015 To 10/31/2015

<u>Name of Fund</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>Total Disbursed</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
General Fund	\$107,467.45	\$817.91	\$4,422.79	\$103,862.57
Road and Bridge	\$165,736.13	\$115.00	\$5,413.38	\$160,437.75
Road Damage Deposit	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$1,600.00
Fire Fund	(\$20,808.82)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$20,808.82)
General Capital Projects	\$58,069.96	\$0.00	\$31.20	\$58,038.76
Total	\$312,264.72	\$932.91	\$10,067.37	\$303,130.26

Approval of Claims & Payroll: Martini presented claims #2680 – 2702. October PERA claims were 2678 and 2679. Claim 2696 (check 8418) to Cold Spring Coop was voided because it had been paid the previous month. Check 8380 to Rinke-Noonan was voided because it was issued for the wrong amount. Merdan moved to approve the payroll and claims. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Maintenance & Road Report:

- Road Mileage Certification** – Merdan moved to approve the 2015 Township Road Mile Certification document received from Jodi Teich, Stearns County Highway Engineer. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.
- European Buckthorn** – the Lake Wobegon Trail Association is planning to remove European buckthorn along the Lake Wobegon Trail. The Supervisor's take no exception to them removing buckthorn from any Township right-of-way along the trail. Property owners should be contacted if the plants will be cut from private land.
- Mailbox** – a complaint was received about the Township mailbox. Koopmeiners will investigate and fix as necessary.
- Culvert** – Three additional loads of class 5 was required for the culvert repair at 365th and Co Rd 3.
- Obstruction on Two Rivers Road** – a resident has parked a pontoon boat in the road-right-of-way on Two Rivers Road. Nelson will contact the Sheriff to request it be moved immediately. It is a hazard to motorists and will be a problem for snow plowing.
- Snow** – We are ready. Salt is in the shed.
- Driveway Deposit** – a resident on 182nd Ave. requested the return of a damage deposit for their driveway. Koopmeiners will investigate.
- Norway Road** – a resident requested brushwork and to repair a ditch on Norway Road. Koopmeiners will investigate and fix as necessary.

9. **Water Softener** – the new water softener seems to be working well.

Nelson moved to accept the road report. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Hearings: None scheduled.

Scheduled Business:

1. **Cardinal's Nest Water Issue** – Mr. Dan Breth and Mr. Dale Streit appeared to alert the Supervisors to a water issue on Cardinal's Nest. Water from Two Rivers Lake apparently flows through a culvert into an area on their properties. They suggest plugging the culvert to prevent this backflow. The Supervisors will examine the situation during Road Inspection in April. Engineering advice will likely be required.
2. **Queens Road** – a landowner planted corn in the Township road right-of-way, which in turn, resulted in the road washing out and reduced visibility for motorists. Koopmeiners will repair the washed-out area. Nelson moved to rent a scraper and tractor to repair the damage. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried. A letter will be sent to the landowner.
3. **Freeport Township Meeting** – Martini reported on the recent MAT meeting in Freeport. Among the topics discussed were the need for certification forms for bidders/subcontractors for projects over \$50,000, new buffer laws, annual inspections for night visibility of signs, and documentation that the sign plan is being followed.
4. **MAT Meeting** – Bresnahan moved to approve the Supervisors and Treasurer to attend the annual meeting November 19 – 21. Merdan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Other/Old Business: none

Recurring Reports:

1. There was a request for a 911 sign (Sadlowsky, 17727 Upper Spunk Lake Road).
2. Certificates of Real Estate Value were presented for Eggert (03.00796.0006, \$279,195) and Beckmann (03.01126.0000, \$100,000). More details are available at the eCRV website.
3. Construction Site Permits were received for Williams (17435 Orchid, porch) and Swenson (18033 Co Rd 54).
4. No feedlot or home-extended business permits were received.
5. No County public hearing notices were received.
6. Special Assessment Searches were performed for Swenson (18033 Co Rd 54) and Bueckers (18208 Co Rd 9). A final mylar plat for Bueckers was never signed by the Township.

Announcements & Brief Reports:

1. A resident requested the refund of the driveway damage deposit. It will be returned when the driveway is installed.
2. The *Technology Exchange* Fall 2015 newsletter was received.
3. A gambling permit was signed for the Holdingford Lions Club for a raffle on February 28, 2016.
4. A copy of 2016 levy was received from the Auditor's office.
5. A letter was received from Rep. Jeff Howe about job training and career counseling funding.
6. The Avon Area Lakes Association meets the fourth Sunday of the month at Avon City Hall.

Adjournment: Merdan moved to adjourn the meeting at about 9:40 PM. Nelson second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Announcement of Next Meeting: The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Saupe, Clerk

Supervisor Approval

Richard Bresnahan

Roger Nelson

John Merdan

Attest

Date