

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING

October 26, 2009

Present – Supervisors Jeff Holm, Larry Handshoe, Bryan Lawrence, Jim Oliver and Jay Swanson.

Call to Order – The October 26, 2009 Baldwin Township special workshop meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Holm at 6:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation from Dan Frank, Initiative Foundation, Regarding Healthy Community Grant – The Program Manager for Community Development, Dan Frank, offered a PowerPoint presentation on the Healthy Community Partnership saying the mission is to unlock the power of central Minnesota people to build and sustain healthy communities.

The Initiative Foundation exists for one purpose, to improve the quality of life in central Minnesota. At the core of their work is the belief that local people possess the talent, passion and ability to achieve a brighter future. The programs and investments strive to give every person an opportunity to contribute to a shared vision and plan of action that strengthens community character and relationships.

The Initiative Foundation is an action-driven catalyst and convener, bringing people together to spark meaningful discussions and partnerships. Relentlessly focusing on assets, success depends on the integrity of a shared vision and plan, the development of capable leaders, and the emergence of dedicated volunteers. They measure their success through changed lives and tangible, visible progress.

Because quality of life is determined by many factors, and each community has its own assets and challenges, the Healthy Communities Partnership intentionally pursues a broad spectrum of focus areas. They believe the following elements represent the most effective use of our resources to achieve long-term results:

- *Leadership Training* - Build the skills and confidence of established and emerging servant leaders as they guide their community or organization toward a shared vision and plan of action.
- *Financial Investments* - Nonprofit grants and business investments that advance the shared vision and plan, foster relationships, inspire volunteerism and generate local financial support.
- *Staff Assistance* - Provide ongoing support, encouragement and expert consulting to leaders and volunteers as they implement their shared vision and plan.
- *Resource Referral* - Connect leaders and volunteers to other sources of assistance and funding.

The core values are:

- The primary resources are local people who are inspired to invest their time, talents and assets.
- Collaboration, interdependence and partnerships among organizations, people and communities are critical to realizing a shared vision.
- Civic participation is the most precious component of an enlightened, healthy community.
- Success is multiplied by embracing diversity across age, class, culture and ability level.
- Creativity, innovation and risk-taking are essential for the discovery of new ideas.
- Endeavors must be fluid, responsive and readily adaptable to address ever-changing community concerns.
- A strong leadership organization must perceive and embrace its social responsibility to introduce, promote and defend pioneering ideas.
- Sustainability and long-term effectiveness are integral factors in weighing community initiatives and investments.

Created in 1986 by a partnership of local people and The McKnight Foundation, the Initiative Foundation is one of six Minnesota Initiative Foundations serving greater Minnesota. The MIFs were originally formed to address economic issues related to rural flight, poverty and downtown decline, which were prevalent during the mid-1980s.

Today, the MIFs work to make the six regions outside the metropolitan area stronger and more prosperous. Each foundation's priorities are decided by the people in its own region, with grants and loans supporting such issues as economic development, leadership development, community building, and families, youth and seniors.

A motion was made by Jim Oliver and seconded by Larry Handshoe to recess for 5 minutes. Bryan Lawrence opposed. Motion carried.

Handshoe/Oliver unanimous to reconvene at 7:06 p.m.

Chairman Jeff Holm thanked everyone for attending the meeting and showing their support.

Presentation from Claudia Cody, University of MN Extension, Regarding Business Retention and Expansion Planning – Claudia Cody was unable to attend. Her presentation is rescheduled for November 9, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Discuss Capital Investment Plan – There was discussion on whether it was possible to get a whole new task force and the Strategic Planning Committee involved. The fire department, road and bridge, the board and the community should all be approached for their input. It was suggested finding out what is needed, with the estimated cost, and have the figures before the March's annual meeting. It was determined that a capital investment plan fits properly with the goals of the Strategic Planning Committee, and that a certain number of meetings should be held to discuss those goals. Input and interviews were suggested to be gotten from road and bridge personnel and fire department members so that sound policy could be gathered and implemented. Jay Swanson and Jim Oliver will coordinate this task, and get strategic input.

Discuss Acquiring Plow Truck – The truck is in the parking lot for anybody who wants to look at it.

Terry Carlile asked for tentative dates for reviewing the cracksealing machine. There were no dates given.

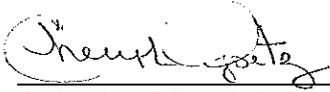
There was discussion regarding what was priority, the plow truck or cracksealing, and what decisions the board should be looking at if any. Holm said there has been talk for a long time to have an additional tandem truck. Swanson stressed it was best to have a plan in place for when the opportunity for good deals come up. Lawrence added that consideration need also be taken for the cost of repairs and shop fees. Discussion continued on whether there was room for two major expenses in the 2010 plan.

Discuss Legacy Grant – Since Baldwin Township is eligible for a one time \$600,000 plus grant, Oliver said he would hate to see the township miss out on applying for the grant, and that it should be kept in mind. The Legacy Grant pick one township a year for the grant. Lawrence will coordinate this project.

Discuss Videos of Town Board Meetings Including Recording Equipment – Swanson discussed the mounting of a video camera in the corner of the town hall. The camera could record onto a hard drive with the option of utilizing the internet and/or a local TV cable channel. There was discussion about the possibility of a security system tied into the video and recording equipment. Dollars and numbers will be obtained for the next workshop session.

Schedule Next Workshop – The next workshop will be Monday November 23, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjourn – Handshoe/Lawrence unanimous to adjourn at 6:56 p.m.



Submitted By: (s/) Cheryl Goetz
Deputy Clerk
Baldwin Township



Approved By: (s/) Jeffrey Holm
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Baldwin Township

Attendees: Lester Kriesel, Elaine Philippi, Dale Nordby, Tom Rush