

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP WORKSHOP
April 28, 2011

Present – Supervisors Jay Swanson, Larry Handshoe, Tom Rush, Randy Atwood and Kim Good.

Call to Order – Chairman Jay Swanson called the April 28, 2011 Baldwin Township Workshop to order at 6:05 p.m.

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

Discuss Property Identification (Address Signs) – Swanson said that there seems to be a general interest in installing property identification signs. Even though nobody is set against them; there are some residents who are still on the fence. Baldwin is the only township in Sherburne County without a uniform system of addressing. Since Baldwin is a rural community many properties are set back from the road which makes reading house numbers difficult. There are also several homes that share the same driveway making it complicated for emergency vehicles to find the correct address.

There was discussion regarding getting bids on the signs. Schreder shared specific information on installation of signs including utilizing the STS of Mille Lacs County for labor to install at no cost. Swanson will contact the STS coordinator asking specific questions about the program.

Swanson suggested adopting a resolution or ordinance. He further stated that an ordinance would be the better way to go since residences as well as businesses would be covered.

Rademacher reported that a FEMA grant for \$60,000 has been applied for. This grant is considered a safety grant and could be used for the addressing signs as long as the billing has not already been paid. If the money is not spent, it must be returned.

There was discussion that even though the addressing signs are a public safety matter to take into account the scale of the economy. No fancy signs are necessarily needed. This led to discussion on the options of the shape, lettering and coloring of the signs. The consensus was to check on the cost of oval versus rectangular, keeping the lettering simple and that the color blue is the safest for fire and police. Atwood will also find out what the cost of the hardware would be.

Another workshop will be scheduled in the month of May.

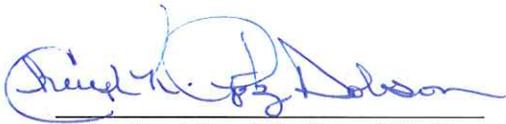
Review Attorney Bids and Interview Criteria – Experience comparison of the three responses received was discussed including costs of travel time, mileage, etc. Proposal to provide annexation related legal services were received from Troy Gilchrist of Kennedy

& Graven Chartered, Michael Couri of Couri, Macarthur & Ruppe P.L.L.P., and John Steffenhagen of Hellmuth & Johnson P.L.L.P. Swanson said that the town board needs to know what they are up against regarding annexation. He asked if it were "stated on record to defend Baldwin's boundaries?" There would be sweeping changes to Baldwin Township if it were to become a city. There was discussion and explanation of the annexation and incorporation process.

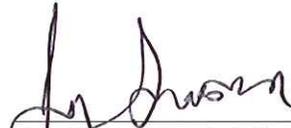
On the May agenda add to possibly schedule interviews with the prospective attorneys.

Emails for pro bono consultation and a complete breakdown of exactly what charges would be for copies, etc. will be sent immediately.

Adjourn – Handshoe/Good unanimous to adjourn at 8:09 p.m.



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



Approved By: (s/) Jay Swanson
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Baldwin Township

Attendees: Carol Swanson, Tim Kane, Elaine Philippi, Mike Rademacher, Andy Schreder, Chuck Nagle