

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

July 20, 2020

Present – Supervisors Jay Swanson, Tom Rush, Larry Handshoe and Patrick Hudson. Supervisor Bryan Lawrence arrived at 7:10 p.m. Because of COVID-19 health concerns, social distancing was observed.

Call to Order – The July 20, 2020 regular meeting of Baldwin Township was called to order by Chairman Jay Swanson at 7:00 p.m.

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

Additions/Corrections to Agenda

- Add 'Disc Golf' after Animal Control Presentation
- Add 'Discuss Cemetery' after Fire Department Report
- Add 'Accept Gift from North Memorial' under Fire Department Report
- Add "Approve/Disapprove Matt Sullivan Leave of Absence' under Fire Department Report
- Add 'Discuss Lake Helene Public Access' under Park Committee Report
- Move 'Approve/Disapprove Purchase of Air Compressor for Fire Department' under Fire Department Report
- Add 'Discuss Hours of Operation' under New Business

Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda With/Without Additions/Corrections – Handshoe/Rush unanimous to approve the agenda as amended.

Treasurer's Report:

July 2020 Preliminary Treasurer's Report - The Clerk/Treasurer reported receipts of \$245,197.95 and disbursements of \$98,575.94, check numbers 23936 through 24038 and 8 EFT payments leaving an unaudited balance of \$2,092,142.14.

Fire Department Report:

Accept Gift from North Memorial – Assistant Chief Robin Fischer informed the Town Board that there will be a donation of an ambulance from North Memorial. He will provide the clerk with the VIN and other information needed to create a resolution accepting a donation which will be done at the next meeting.

Approve/Disapprove Matt Sullivan Leave of Absence – Handshoe/Rush unanimous to approve.

Approve/Disapprove Purchase of Air Compressor for Fire Department - Hudson/Rush unanimous to approve purchasing a Quincy QT-5 model 271C80VCBM at a cost of \$2,999.00 from Northern Tool.

Fischer reported that there are significant issues with the well as it keeps tripping the breaker. He also reported 5 new firefighters will be going to fire school in Becker.

Animal Control, Presentation from Mark D. Anderson, North Metro Animal Care & Control – Mr. Anderson was present. He informed the Town Board of his background. He is based out of Andover. He offers a true community service and is nonprofit. The dog owners are responsible for the fees: \$25 pickup fee and \$35 for non-business hours. The maximum charge to the township would be \$90. If there is an injured animal the township would be on the hook for the first \$300 if an emergency and if it is routine North Metro Animal Care would cover it. He prefers all calls come in through Sherburne County dispatch. If the township contacts, then he would like one or two authorized personnel. There is a case number generated if it goes through dispatch. Monthly reports are generated. They have contracts with Orrock Township, Big Lake Township, Blue Hill Township, Livonia Township and Becker (after hours). They can help the fire department if needed with animal issues with no charge to the township. If the sheriff requests there will be no charge. We do this because we love animals. The picked-up animal will go to Andover. He does have a formal contract that he will forward to the clerk. He does hold an animal control license. He does this for free. He is also FEMA trained to handle animal rescue in disasters. He is available to do search warrants with the sheriff's department. The review/approval/disapproval of the contract will be added to the August 3 agenda.

Disc Golf – Rush stated that he had received a call from Tim Maki who designs disc golf courses. He met with him on July 13 at Young Park. The Park Committee is in favor of moving forward with this and develop a plan. Young Park is probably good for a 9 hole with an estimated cost of \$8,000-\$10,000 including consulting fees. Hudson questioned if the Young family had been introduced to the concept. Rush replied 'not yet' as he wanted the board's input. Hudson questioned how much was consulting fees and how much was construction. Rush replied he has a breakdown. Lawrence questioned if this could overlap with the use of our walking trails without complication. A representative, Joey Anderson, 289th Avenue, stated that it is not thrown over the path. People from the cities come up here to play disc golf. Rush stated that they hold tournaments and generate revenue. People would bring their own Frisbees and we would have the baskets. Hudson reiterated that he would like to know what the Young family thoughts are. Swanson agreed. Rush stated that the owner that donated the 80 acres at Young Park had certain restrictions. The Park Committee is looking for land. Rush will call Mr. Maki and check with the Holm family. Swanson stated that contact should be made with the Young family and would not hesitate to include all of them. Hudson asked if the Park Committee could investigate other methods without hiring a consultant. Rush responded that the Park Committee would like to see a plan and cost. Lawrence stated that it would not be very intrusive to Young Park. Swanson would like the topic brought back to the next meeting.

Discuss Cemetery – Cemetery caretaker, Lester Kriesel was present. Rush stated that a resident who owns a site had some concerns about the cemetery with monuments being moved and trees cut down. Lester was contacted.

Kriesel stated that he was contacted by remaining family. He does not know what set her off. She is a troublemaker and he has known her from way back. She got upset because they moved the stone. He put 4 stakes in the ground and Braham Monument moved the stone. An administrator wanted the graves set up. She sent her nephew to cut trees out of there as it was not possible to bury anybody there. After everything was measured the monument needed to be moved to the west. He marked the sites. The monument was moved once. Rush stated that, in the rules, it must be brought to the cemetery caretaker or the Town board. We have a paper trail on what has been done. Swanson stated that the resident also has a problem with the person buried next to her lot. Kriesel stated that the resident bought the lot April 28, 1989. The lot was filled except for site "f". The mortuary called him and asked him to pick a place for a single grave that was not sold. For a burial 9 feet are required. The stone is on her dad's grave. Rush stated that the resident wants her stone moved into the walkway. Swanson stated that she said that the Town Board could make exceptions to allow that. Kriesel stated that the cemetery was laid out in 1874. Lawrence stated that the resident bought Lot 2, Site E. She has no ownership to site "f"? Kriesel responded 'correct'. Swanson stated that he told the resident that the township will not exhume graves. She also said that she bought the lot in 1989 knowing there was an empty lot next to hers. Kriesel stated that he answers to 9 people: the Town Board, the funeral home, the vault man, and others.

Hudson/Handshoe moved to make no exceptions. Swanson stated that her request is to move her grave into the walkway as she does not want to be buried next to who is in site "f". Lawrence stated that he not sure what is being voted on: she wants her stone moved. Kriesel stated that it can be moved wherever she wants but not in the walkway. Rush suggested sending her a certified letter. There was discussion about Rush calling the resident. Kriesel stated that if he is at the cemetery and she stops and harasses him he will call the deputy. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously. The Town Board thanked Kriesel.

Road Report:

Wes Davis, Bogart, Pederson & Associates – Wes Davis was present to inform the Town Board that Nick Anderson was no longer with Bogart, Pederson & Associates. It happened today. Davis will be taking over his projects. He has been with Bogart, Pederson since 2016 and is Big Lake Township and Becker Township's engineer.

Discussion regarding water ponding on 125th Street by Marv's True Value. Discussion regarding asphalt being dumped on Highway 169 side at the end of 314th off 125th Street. Hudson stated he was expecting wider paved shoulders than what it is. Swanson stated it appeared that the lane narrowed with the striping. Hudson stated that the traffic lane is wider than anticipated and less paved shoulder than what he expected.

Davis stated that it is his job to always protect the township first and to work with the contractor to make it easier for the township. Their recommendation is to hold back 5%

on the fees until fixed. Handshoe asked if the issue of driveways sticking out to the road was discussed. Davis stated that repair of that would be part of the 5% retainage. Davis figured into the estimate is patching area on the shoulders, driveway issue and how driveways are done.

Davis recommends holding 50% of the funds for the 287th cul-de-sac until the curbing issue is resolved.

Davis stated that the township is paying for a product and it should get a brand-new product. He will let the township know when a schedule has been established. Swanson stated he would like to know by the 3rd of August. Swanson welcomed Davis aboard.

Hudson stated that another issue is 136th Street. Have those issues been resolved? Swanson stated there are linear cracks and sagging. It was brought before the Town Board that crack sealing would be taken care of by Bogart, Pederson. The township's previous engineer used c oil and the first thing we heard from Mr. Anderson is we should have used b oil. Hudson stated that this is not static it is dynamic. Lawrence stated we did not receive a warranty on that. Davis stated that Bogart, Pederson must make it right and apologized.

Approve/Disapprove Payment to Allied Blacktop Company in the Amount of \$79,450.80 (Double Chip Sealing and Fog Sealing) – Handshoe/Rush unanimous to table until August 3. The work was completed today.

County Road 38 – Rush stated that he talked to Dave Roedel, Sherburne County Public Works, about County Road 38. There is still standing water and Roedel informed Rush that the county will be coming back and putting vegetation down. If there are signs that something was missed, please let Roedel know.

Review of Nordwall Estates – The township was notified of items in the road right-of-way. Handshoe stated that there is nothing that will hurt the plows. Swanson suggested writing a letter to the homeowners that have infractions informing them that they have taken on the full responsibility for the impediments and include the state statute. Handshoe stated that he feels the township is getting involved more than we should. Lawrence stated that there are no obstructions there as there is a curb and they are not headwalls. Hudson stated that he is concerned that we are the enforcement agency for a homeowner's association. Swanson stated that the pile of rocks and the tree items need to be cleaned up. Swanson/Rush motion to send the letters. Upon voice vote, the motion carried with Lawrence and Hudson opposed.

Highland Farms 2nd Addition – Handshoe stated that there is a basketball hoop cemented into the asphalt. Handshoe/Rush unanimous to send a letter stating that the basketball hoop cannot be cemented in.

Approval of Consent Agenda – Rush/Handshoe motion to approve the Town Board regular meeting minutes of July 6, 2020. Upon voice vote the motion carried with Swanson abstaining.

CONDITIONAL & INTERIM USE PERMITS: None.

PLATS: None.

VARIANCES: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

County Planning & Zoning Report – Lawrence stated that they approved a semi-truck and trailer sales in Haven Township (an IUP). There has been a suggestion to change the ordinance regarding buses to allow in General Rural and Ag districts as they are now only allowed in Industrial. Discussion regarding the IUP for Shipwreck that had been approved.

Park Committee Report – Rush informed the board that he met with a person and talked about disc golf. The boardwalk decking material has been installed. Crush granite has been brought in. The committee looked at Sumser Farms and Buck Run and approved them and recommended park dedication fees.

Lake Helene – Rush stated that he received a call from a resident with concerns about the boat access, trash, and parking on both sides of the street along with parking on private property. The township owns it, but we have not maintained it. Rush recommends a wastebasket and, if people are parking on private property, they can call the sheriff. Hudson stated one option would be to designate it as a canoe and kayak access. Swanson stated that Bogart, Pederson should go out for a survey or see if we have one in the files. Lawrence stated that the board needs to know where the boundary is. Swanson stated to find the pins first and bring to the next meeting.

Baldwin Volunteer Corps Update – Rush stated they will meet next Monday. Lawrence questioned going ahead with the FunFest. Swanson replied 'yes'. Discussion on a tractor pull, car show, home run derby, fire department selling food, bounce house, touch a truck and giving kids paint brushes to paint the plow blades.

City of Princeton Council Report – Handshoe reported that there was no meeting this week.

Airport Advisory Board Report – Handshoe reported he will be attending the meeting next month.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Use for Tax Forfeited Property – Swanson stated the township has been asked by the county what will be the purpose of the 2 parcels. He was under the impression that the \$2,500 check we wrote would cover all fees. The

clerk was instructed to contact the county to find out when we will have the deed and if the \$2,500 will cover all fees. The item will be added to the August 3 agenda as additional clarification is needed.

Approve/Disapprove Revised Sherburne County City/Township Recycling Day Events 2020 Grant Agreement – Rush/Handshoe motion to approve. Upon voice vote the motion carried with Lawrence opposed.

TABLED ITEMS:

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Second Amendment Sanctuary Letter – Rush/Handshoe unanimous to table until August 3.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Revising Driveway Permit Fees – Rush/Handshoe unanimous to table until August 3. Engineering fee information will be obtained from Wes Davis, Bogart, Pederson & Associates.

Discuss Holiday Pay When Holiday Falls on a Weekend – Rush recommends putting back in the employee handbook that Friday's will be observed as the holiday when a holiday falls on a Saturday and Monday's will be observed as the holiday when a holiday falls on a Sunday. The item will be brought back to the Town Board for approval.

Discuss Hours of Operation – Swanson stated that he did not know the guys in the back are working 4 – 10-hour days. Hudson stated that he had asked Zac to manage a minimum of 1 or 2 on Fridays. Swanson stated that 5 days a week is what we need to have our maintenance department working and thinks the entire crew, except summer help, should be here on Fridays. The biggest asset we have are the roads and they need to be out there doing road work. Rush stated that with the days that are raining the summer help should be sent home if nothing to do. Discussion regarding how many hours the maintenance 2 employee was approved for. Discussion on how many hours spent for the park, cemetery and road and bridge duties and possibly getting a bid of what a professional would charge to maintain the cemetery and park. Discussion on liability concerns when employees using their own vehicles. Discussion regarding staff being required to carry out jobs with Town Board direction and not on their own. Swanson wants to see the maintenance hours be 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and will convey to the maintenance department tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

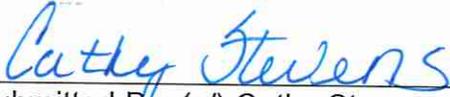
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- * Special SCAT Meeting, Wednesday, July 22, 7:00 p.m., Sherburne County Government Center, Maple Room
- * Public Accuracy Test, Monday, August 3, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., Sherburne County Government Center

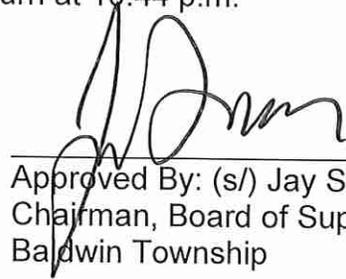
ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Hudson questioned what the issues were with truck #7.

Motion to Approve Bills for Payment – Rush/Handshoe motion to approve check numbers 23978 through 24038 and 5 EFT payments totaling \$84,020.57. Upon voice vote the motion carried with Lawrence opposed.

Adjourn – Rush/Handshoe unanimous to adjourn at 10:44 p.m.



Submitted By: (s/) Cathy Stevens
Clerk/Treasurer
Baldwin Township



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



Date

Attendees: Lester W. Kriesel, Mark Anderson, Wes Davis, Robin Fischer, Joey Anderson