

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

October 7, 2019

Present - Supervisors Jay Swanson, Tom Rush, Larry Handshoe and Patrick Hudson. Supervisor Lawrence arrived at 7:02 p.m.

Call to Order –The October 7, 2019 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 'Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Service Charges in Frontier Trails' to New Business.
- Move 'Butch Hass' to after Road Report.

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

September 2019 Final Treasurer's Report – Receipts of \$17,724.60 and disbursements of \$48,108.33, check numbers 23226 through 23299 and 9 EFT payments leaving an unaudited balance of \$1,685,606.08.

October 2019 Preliminary Treasurer's Report - The Clerk/Treasurer reported receipts of \$3,249.51 and disbursements of \$17,598.29 check numbers 23300 through 23322 and 1 EFT payments leaving an unaudited balance of \$1,671,257.30.

Sheriff's Report – Officer Wilson reported 153 calls for service in the month of September. A speed sign placed out on County Road 38 saw a top speed of 104 mph at 8:00 a.m. The department is working on placing the speed sign on 136th Street south of County Road 3. A person called in concerned about striping on the road and their concern was heard. Swanson stated that there was vandalism at the Young Park ballfield with the field and infield torn up. Rush had talked with Deputy Anderson. Officer Wilson will investigate it and see if there are any suspects. Rush stated that when the Town Board heard the Winding Trails residents, they did say the yellow lines have increased the speed. Hudson stated that they also said mailboxes were damaged since the striping. Officer Wilson stated that he will check to see if a speed box could be put in the area.

Fire Department Report – No report.

Road Report:

Approve/Disapprove 2nd Driveway, Wilderness Shores 2nd Addition – The Baldwin Planning Commission recommended approval for Phil Onstad's request for a 2nd driveway located on his property in Wilderness Shores; Parcel No. 01-475-0205. Rush/Handshoe unanimous to approve above action.

Approve/Disapprove Letter of Support – Butch Hass, Livonia Township Supervisor, was present asking for a letter of support from Baldwin Township. He explained that a property owner on the northeast side of Lake Fremont wanted to put a dock in, but he doesn't own the land. A month ago, we received a petition to close 120th Street. He is asking for a letter of support indicating the Baldwin Township is against the petition and supports Livonia Township in their direction of fighting to keep the road open. The petition is asking for the road to be closed from the Grams Park driveway for 1/2- 3/4 mile. This would detour people from County Road 39 and impact police and fire. The hearing is scheduled for November 7. The road has been open and maintained for over 100 years. Eighteen people signed the petition. The township's attorney says their case is very weak and the township is hoping the judge will throw it out. The Livonia Town Board is unanimous to keep it open. The township has spent \$20,000 in legal fees. The board wants to keep it open for fire protection and police response time and services. Lawrence/Hudson unanimous to pen a letter of support to keep 120th Street open as it benefits their residents and our residents as well. The clerk will pen a letter and the board will review/approve/disapprove at their October 21 meeting.

Approval of Consent Agenda – Rush/Handshoe unanimous to approve the Town Board regular meeting minutes of September 23, 2019.

CONDITIONAL & INTERIM USE PERMIT: None.

PLATS: None.

VARIANCES: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Park Committee Report – Rush reported there were approximately 300 people who attended the Baldwin Township FunFest at Young Park. The ballfield was vandalized, and the sheriff was called. Zac Good (maintenance department) will fill out the Sherburne County Soil and Water application regarding a trail behind the brown building. The next Park Committee meeting is in November where the committee will discuss goals and a comprehensive plan.

Approve/Disapprove Change in Park Dedication Fees – Rush reported that he had spoken with the clerk/treasurer of Livonia Township. Back in 2007 Livonia passed a resolution increasing park dedication fees from \$600 to \$1,200. They received no complaints about raising the fees. Butch Hass, Livonia Township Supervisor, stated that in some instances the township gave an allowance for a 33-foot trail through the development. The park fees are collected before the project starts. No money is given to the county. The fees are used for capital improvement and capital purchase but not maintenance. Livonia Township has bought 27 acres with the funds along with the Sugarbush park purchase. The township is negotiating for another 27 acres. Rush stated that Baldwin Township has approximately \$22,000 in funds. The Baldwin park committee is in favor of raising the fees. Mr. Hass stated that Livonia Township has obtained easements in lieu of fees in a few developments. Swanson/Rush unanimous to table only because we need to develop our resolution and change our developer's agreements. The

board will recap at the December 2 meeting. Lawrence stated that there are two questions: take over park dedication fees from the county and 2. Increase the fees.

Approve/Disapprove Security Cameras or Deer Cameras at Young Park - Vandalism at Young Park has increased. There was discussion regarding motion activated security cameras and motion activated security lights. Rush/Handshoe unanimous to table until the October 21, 2019 regular meeting of Baldwin Township in order to have preliminary sketches of where the camera/lights could be installed and costs.

Approve/Disapprove Scraping Old Playground Equipment Inside Brown Building - Since the old playground equipment that is being stored in the brown building at Young Park is not compliant, and not a complete set, Rush/Handshoe unanimous, with a friendly amendment from Swanson, to scrap the equipment with any monies received to go back into the Park Fund.

TCI Baldwin Volunteer Corps Update – The final report for the 2019 FunFest and Car Show was held on Monday, September 30 with the next meeting scheduled for January 27, 2020. There were 25 cars entered. Donations were received from Swantec and Dick Dobson to help cover costs. There was discussion to include tractors, and possible other activities for next year.

Planning Commission Report – The Planning Commission members are diligently working to make our own Baldwin Township ordinances and updated comprehensive plan specific to Baldwin Township. Discussion regarding the joint powers agreement with the county involved to either step away from the agreement; but at the very least to update it. The commission is currently working on updating the Land Use portion of the current comprehensive plan. Swanson suggested that they work on the raising of park dedication fees, developer's agreements and fee schedule.

City of Princeton Council Report – Handshoe reported that the police chief received a step increase. They are advertising their used ladder truck. They went through some more TIF financing.

Airport Advisory Board Report – Handshoe reported that, at a cost of \$1.6 million, they would like to have all the runways done in 2020. There are parking issues with planes. The airport charges \$16/week for planes left there after the first 10 days. Currently, 8 planes stay out there all year just tied down. Then they had a tree issue. Hudson asked if there was any more talk about putting a public road through there. Handshoe replied 'no'.

TABLED ITEMS:

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Increasing Snowplow Operator Wages – Rush stated the wages are at \$16 for starting Class B wages and \$17 for seasoned drivers. Other drivers are at \$15 and one is at \$18. He looked at Indeed and the Minnesota average is \$18.95. Livonia Township is at \$20. Lawrence/Hudson unanimous to pay snowplow operator wages at \$18 for Class A or B and \$16 for Class D licenses and no increase for tenured drivers. Discussion regarding tenured drivers increasing wage to \$19.

Approve/Disapprove Check #23246, Payable to Sherburne County Auditor/Treasurer in the Amount of \$538.32 for Ditch 25 Assessment – Swanson/ Handshoe unanimous to table until the November 4, 2019 regular meeting.

Cell Phone Update – Hudson stated that he had found a Verizon plan which would cost \$200 for 3 phones and are unlimited. The phones are free (\$18.74/month and then after a few months it becomes a credit). Life proof cases can be installed on them. He suggested declining device protection. Lawrence questioned if we were able to get out of current contracts. Existing phone numbers will be transferred except for the Chief. The item will be added to the October 21 agenda as approve/disapprove. Hudson stated that the free phones may disappear. He will come in before the next meeting and get numbers off the clerk's computer.

Review/Approve/Disapprove Letter to Homeowner with Items in Road ROW - Handshoe/Hudson unanimous to approve letter(s) to homeowner(s) regarding ROW issues.

Review MATIT Insurance Renewal Documents and Determine If Any Change in Optional Changes (Bond Limits, Deductibles) – Zac Good will be meeting with the insurance representative on Thursday, October 10. Add 'Approve/Disapprove Insurance Renewal' pending changes per recommendations of MAT Insurance to the October 21, 2019 meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve/Disapprove Resolution #19-13, Resolution Accepting Donation - Lawrence/Handshoe unanimous to approve Resolution #19-13; a Resolution Accepting Donation.

Approve/Disapprove Resolution #19-14, Resolution Accepting Donation - Lawrence/Hudson unanimous to approve Resolution #19-14; a Resolution Accepting Donation.

Approve/Disapprove Twin Pines Earthworks Invoice, Dated 10/1/2018, in the Amount of \$6,052 – Lawrence/Handshoe unanimous to approve the Twin Pines Earthworks invoice dated October 1, 2018 in the amount of \$6,052.

Review Monthly Building Permits – The Town Board reviewed the September 2019 building permit list.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Service Charges in Frontier Trails – A missed payment for the Frontier Trails Subordinate Service District generates a \$25.00 service charge. It was suggested not to start a precedent for residents who are late on their payments. Lawrence/Handshoe motion to approve granting a 10-day grace period only if requested. With a voice vote taken Lawrence, Handshoe, Hudson and Swanson signifying yea; Rush opposed. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- SCAT Meeting, Wednesday, October 16, 6:30 p.m., Becker History Center

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Lawrence informed the board that when he talked with a MAT attorney regarding a planning and zoning question, he was told that, according to MAT, striping of the roads did not affect the use. Hudson handed out MN State Statute 169.21, Pedestrian; which the board reviewed.

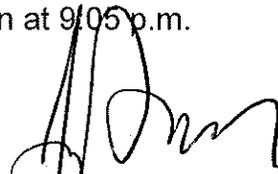
Swanson gave an update on the cell tower. The township approved Windstream to get in there. T Mobile is on tower. We have been receiving additional rent: \$625/month which should be 25% of their revenue. We want to verify that the \$625 is 25%. Couri is asking for monthly updates on the tenants. Rush stated that they are in breach of contract. Swanson replied that they did start sending us the money. Hudson questioned if there was a clause in the contract that requires auditing. Swanson stated that they do not want to show us actual contracts. Swanson also questioned if the town would be held harmless regarding the easement. Lawrence questioned if we gave them permission to come across. Swanson replied 'he did. We held it back as there was a lot of questions. It is only because SBA has an easement. It was treated as any other right-of-way permit'.

Motion to Approve Bills for Payment - Hudson/Handshoe motion to approve for payment check numbers 23300 through 23322 and 1 EFT payment totaling \$23,471.34. With a voice vote taken Hudson, Handshoe, Swanson and Rush say yea; Lawrence opposed. Motion carries.

Adjourn – Rush/Handshoe unanimous to adjourn at 9:05 p.m.



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



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

10-21-2019
Date

Attendees: Lester Kriesel, Zac Good, Phil Onstad, Butch Hass