

## **TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, November 9, 2021 6:00 PM, CROW WING TOWN HALL**

Board Members Present: Chairman Tucker Schuety, Supervisor Doug Kern, Supervisor Paul Stephany, Treasurer Diane Stephany, and Clerk Sue Kern.

Tucker called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Residents were reminded to sign the roster.

There were no gopher bounties.

Tucker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Tucker added a discussion to take place regarding the purchase of portable hard drives. Doug moved to approve the agenda with this addition. Paul seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

The rezones were discussed first as the residents were in attendance. The Stangler property is two parcels with the application being to zone them from Ag/Forestry to Commercial. The properties are located west of the racetrack and by Highway 371. Mr. Stangler said he does not have a solid plan for the properties but stated they are surrounded by commercial properties. The Planning Commission supported this rezone 4-0 for this reason as no one is going to want to put a home in between the racetrack and the highway. Doug made motion to approve the rezone. Paul seconded. In discussion, Paul questioned the amount of traffic. Mr. Stangler stated that most likely a gas station or storage unit could be placed, and he isn't 100% sure that they will develop it and may just seek to sell, and the next owner develop it. He just wants to make it more suitable for that type of development. Tucker stated it is MN DOT that determines road structure and not the township and MN DOT has been contacted but they have not chosen to respond. Mr. Stangler has been in contact with the DOT, and should they have a firm site plan, they will keep the DOT in the loop as they will be doing construction out there in the spring and that way they can plan for this addition, should there be one. There was no further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

The Sweet rezone involves 3 properties and was approved by the Planning Commission 4-0 because all the surrounding properties are all 2.5 to 5 acres, and it would be congruent to the neighborhood. The Sweet family was present. The only split they were planning was the property directly on Sweet Road (#56170520). Doug made the motion to approve the rezone. Paul seconded. Paul questioned which 3 properties because on his copy it wasn't clear. Tucker explained which 3 properties. There was no other discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Tom Feirebend was present to discuss the letter from James Kramer at KLD and was wanting his road (Lone Oak Circle) to be taken over by the township. The letter states that with the recent minor grading to the roadway ditch depths, that the roadway improvements are in compliance with the approved design. There needs to be seeding which Tom said would take place in the Spring. Tucker stated that the main issue the Township had was with the storm water retention/drainage in the ditch and now that complied. Tom did the work himself as the company was too busy. Mr. Kramer's letter says with the improvements, the road complies. Doug made a motion to take over the road as now it follows the design. Tucker seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Sue stated that previously she had told the county that there were no road changes as we had not formally adopted this road. Sue will check with Duane regarding any paperwork that needs to be completed. Paul brought up the need for crack sealing and it is over 2 years and will need typical crack sealing to be done when the other roads are done in the spring. Doug will talk to Brad Goran regarding plowing this winter.

New Business: A motion is needed to send the special assessments to the county for violations. There are 3 persons in violation with special assessments of \$100 each added to their property tax. Tucker made the motion to send the current violation list to the county. Doug seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Tucker made a motion to send the number of road miles (40.122 miles) to the county. Paul seconded. The newly adopted road will be added next year once any paperwork is completed. There may be a deposit return for part of the year. There was no further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Unfinished Business: With regard to Chad Jillson, Amanda prepared a letter on this and went through the Sheriff's Department this time. She received confirmation from the Sheriff's Department that they received it but has not received confirmation that it has been delivered. The Sheriff's Department and the probation officer have both been out to the property and there are people living in a camper illegally without electricity, water and sewer. The letter should be served, and probation officer is working with Mr. Jillson. There is no further action currently.

Public Comment: Gerry Schuety brought up that when Dave was still the Road Supervisor, there was discussion of putting a stop sign back up by Wild Rice Depot. The intersection is dangerous at times and there have been near accidents. Doug will talk with Chad Knutson about putting a stop sign up as soon as he is able to get a stop sign. We do not have one readily available. Tucker made a motion to put a stop sign up. Paul seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Planning Commission Report: Brad was unable to attend the meeting. Tucker earlier in the meeting had done the rezones and Lone Oak Circle business. Tucker reported the Commission is looking into options to handle violations and having better language in the ordinance and getting some of that verbiage from other municipalities so Amanda can change language in the letters she sends them. Surrounding areas charge as much as \$100/day up to a maximum of \$1000 for those in violation. There was an extensive discussion and more solutions coming forward. The Planning Commission has someone who is interested in being on the Planning Commission (David Nelson) and it looks as though he will be joining the Planning Commission in February. David was in attendance tonight.

Payroll was reviewed and approved. The Treasurer's report and claim numbers #1631 to #1654 reviewed and approved. It was noted that Brainerd Savings and Loan distributed funds and we received \$3,330.42. Diane also noted we will no longer be able to print our own cancelled checks and we can do our audit from the check stubs. She will balance books with the bank statements as always.

Road Report: Doug stated he has filled multiple potholes and many trees have been removed. He further reported that he had talked with Brad Goran and Brad has picked up 2,200 pounds of salt/sand. In the past Brad has been given a receipt stating what he picked up and when. The county is no longer giving him a slip. They will keep track of it and send us a bill. Doug reported he has stopped twice regarding the flag on Town Hall street and has not made contact with the resident there. He may try leaving a note on the next visit. Doug further reported that the residents on Crow Wing Heights wanted Class 5. This road is not a township road. Doug has volunteered to bring the Class 5, and the resident will pay for the Class 5. Again, this is not a township road. Doug will talk to the resident regarding this matter. Doug stated he got the ditch mowing done as much that was needed; with the lack of rain this year, vegetation did not grow like it usually does. There is some shouldering that needs to be done and he will get to it if he can before winter. He will need to torch the cold mix to do this job. Mr. Powers was in attendance, and he mentioned a couple more potholes up on the corner. Doug will check into it.

Administrative Business: The clerk computer was failing, and Sue bought a new computer at the Chair's direction in an email. Tucker brought up the need for a portable hard drive device. In the past, the clerk computer failed, and valuable data was lost in the crash. The following year, the treasurer computer also failed and crashed. Again, much data was lost, and this caused a lot of extra work for the clerk and treasurer. Tucker made a motion to buy 2 portable hard drives, one for the treasurer and one for the clerk of an at least terabyte size. Doug seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Crow Wing Power had sent a utility permit request. This was sent to a previous clerk who has not been clerk for 8 years. She in turn sent the request to Duane. Then, finally, this information made it to Sue. The permit is past due. The charge for this is \$100. Tucker signed the permit. Sue will return it to Crow Wing Power with a statement.

Minnesota Association of Townships Agency sent request for the Workers' Compensation annual renewal. Doug made a motion to approve the renewal. Tucker seconded. The terms were discussed. Motion passed 3-0.

Approve Minutes: Doug made a motion to approve the minutes from October 12, 2021. Tucker seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Sue inquired for permission to attend a clerk training at the MAT office if it is still available at the cost of \$40. Tucker made the motion to approve. Paul seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0.

Doug reported on the CWCATO meeting. He stated he was re-elected to the board and Region 5. He showed the other supervisors the map the county put out on their future road construction projects.

Doug made a motion to adjourn. Tucker seconded. No discussion. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.