

On Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. Town Hoard Vice-Chairperson Dan Minks called the Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting to order. Other members present were John Roxbury, Jr., Stephanie Johnston and John Moosbrugger. Greg Anderson was absent.

Approve Minutes

A motion was made by John Moosbrugger and seconded by John Roxbury, Jr. to approve the minutes of December 19, 2006 as printed. Motion Carried.

Approve Financial Report

A motion was made by John Roxbury, Jr. and seconded by Stephanie Johnston to approve the Financial Report for December 2006 as submitted. Beginning Balance of Township funds was \$121,347.84; total receipts of \$134,993.97; total disbursements of \$10,884.23; leaving a balance of \$245,457.58. Motion Carried.

Mille Lacs County Sheriffs Department

A representative of the Mule Lacs County Sheriff's Office was not present.

Old Business

The Town Board discussed further pursue of a Township Park at the New Life Christian Center. Greg Anderson stated at the meeting in December the Township Attorney had responded to the questions they asked the Clerk to get answers to the questions were:

1. Can the City come in and annex the property once the Township acquires the property and gets the park done?

And

2. Can the City use Eminent Domain to take portions of the property (Township Park) for City use?

Basically, the attorney stated he was awaiting further information but it seemed that the City of Princeton could indeed annex the property and yes, they could use eminent domain.

After some discussion the Town Board asked the Clerk to contact the attorney and get the awaited information and ask him to attend the Town Board Meeting on January 16, 2007 for further discussion on the topic.

Adam Ripple was present from Rinke-Noonan Attorneys at Law. He was filling in for Township Attorney, Jim Mogen.

John Moosbrugger read the most recent letter out loud from Mr. Mogen on the topic. Mr. Moosbrugger stated that he basically states that the park can be annexed and there are a lot of "ifs" and "possibilities" but no definite answers.

Mr. Ripple explained the letter talking about trustees and dedications of the park

Dan Minks stated that it comes down to if we want to buy land for a Township park that could possibly be annexed into the City.

John Moosbrugger stated that there is also the issue of the possibility of assessments.

Yvonne Doose stated that if New Life Christian Center donated the park to the public then the City

couldn't assess the Township they would assess the public.

Mr. Ripple stated that the assessments would be minimal if it is a park. He stated that he and Mr. Mogen had not discussed that issue and he wasn't sure how that would work. Mr. Roxbury asked if he couldn't find that out. Mr. Ripple said definitely.

Mr. Roxbury asked if the Township owned the property or it was donated to the Township and the City chooses to annex surrounding property and the park becomes an island what would the ramifications be for that with roads and access. Mr. Ripple stated that the Township would still remain responsible for maintaining the park and it would spur the condemnation issue. He said that eventually the City would condemn the property or annex it.

John Moosbrugger stated that he admits that he has his doubts that this will every really fly and at some point they have to ask how much money they want to spend to investigate it. He said at this point he feels comfortable tabling the matter. He said they can keep sending questions to the attorney and they will keep coming back unanswered because nobody can really answer them. He said it is speculative.

John Roxbury stated that the City of Princeton has a new Mayor and maybe the Township ought to talk about some type of a joint agreement or something. Mr. Moosbrugger stated that would be a good thing to talk about. John Moosbrugger motioned that no more questions are referred to the Township Attorney and put the matter on the next agenda to discuss possible joint agreement with the City. Stephanie Johnston seconded the motion. John Roxbury said he would still like to have the attorney see if he can give a straight answer on assessments. Mr. Ripple stated that he thought there should be an answer to that question.

John Moosbrugger amended his motion to allow the one question on assessments to be referred to the attorney and Stephanie Johnston seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

New Business

Larry Wilhelm, Section 22 was present to request a landsplit. He was looking to split off 10.04 acres leaving the other parcel at 29.73 acres. Todd McLouth stated that there had been discussion at the Planning Commission in regards to the easements and the costs incurred with providing them to the Township. He stated he had contacted Rum River Land Surveyors, Inc. and the cost for the Township would be approximately \$450 to \$500. A motion was made by John Roxbury, Jr. and seconded by John Moosbrugger to approve the landsplit without any requirements for easements to the Township. Motion Carried. The Town Board asked the Clerk to place discussion of creating a policy on easements/surveys on the Planning Commission agenda.

Elaine Klasen, Section 17, was present to request a Conditional Use Permit to have more than three dogs on her property. She currently has seven dogs and approached the Township for a Conditional Use Permit to make sure she was following the Ordinance A motion was made by John Moosbrugger and seconded by John Roxbury, Jr. to approve the Conditional Use Permit with the following condition:

1. The CUP is non-transferable when she vacates the property.

Motion Carried.

The Town Board set the date for the Township Spring Clean-up Day. The date has been set for Saturday, April 28, 2007 from 8:00 am. to 12:00 p.m.

A motion was made by John Moosbrugger and seconded by John Roxbury, Jr. to approve a payment of \$10,750.00 to US bank for the Township Hall Expansion payment. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by John Roxbury, Jr. and seconded by John Moosbrugger to approve final payment to West Branch Construction in the amount of \$64,115.29 for the 40th Street Project. Motion Carried.

Engineers Report

Todd McLouth had nothing to report.

Zoning Administrators Report

Loren Kohnen was absent but sent a memo informing the Town Board of the items he has been working on. His memo stated that he has been out to a property a number of times trying to reach the owner regarding 25 unlicensed motor vehicles that will need to be removed from the property. He will continue trying to contact the owner to take care of the issue.

He also stated that he had received a complaint regarding a junk vehicle that is in the front yard of a property in the Preserve at Princeton. He talked with the owner and she stated she would have the vehicle removed.

Loren stated he had been working the A-Z to get them to attend a staff meeting regarding a Conditional Use Permit for his addition onto his business.

Open Forum

David Zabel was present to discuss his plans for the addition onto A-Z. The Town Board asked Mr. Zabel to get on the schedule for the staff meeting on February 1, 2007. They told Mr. Zabel he needed to follow the process and that is the first step.

Supervisors Reports

John Roxbury, Jr. asked the Town Board to approve the Clerk purchasing an exterior hard drive for the Township computers. The Town Board approved the Clerk to purchase one for each computer at a limit of \$150.00 per computer. John Roxbury, Jr. stated that he would stop at Office Max and get order numbers for the Clerk on what type to buy and then she could order them via Internet.

Mr. Roxbury also stated at the County they are working on the revised County Sign Ordinance. He stated that the County is asking the Townships to review and comment on it. The Town Board asked the Clerk to mail out the Counties revised sign ordinance in the Planning Commission packets for them to review and comment.

John Roxbury, Jr. discussed the snowplow policy and fuel. Brian Dahlheimer was present for the discussion.

John Roxbury, Jr. showed the Town Board a picture that had been taken of a property in Section 22. He stated that there is a dead horse that has been lying on that property since before Christmas. The Town Board asked the Clerk to get a hold of Loren Kohnen and have the property owner take care of it.

Stephanie Johnston brought the Clerk information on a Land Use Planning Workshop. She stated she would like the Clerk to make a copy for Town Board and Planning Commission members in case someone wanted to attend it.

Dan Minks briefed the Town Board on the staff meeting held on January 4, 2007 where he and Greg Anderson discuss staff wages/raises. The Town Board asked them at the December 2006 meeting to hold this meeting. He stated that they gave the Clerk/Treasurer, Deputy Clerk, Maintenance Person and the Road Grader a \$1.00 per hour increase and also gave the Clerks pay for Memorial Day and

Labor Day. A motion was made by John Moosbrugger and seconded by John Roxbury, Jr. to approve the raises discussed. Motion Carried.

Clerks Business

The Clerk asked the Town Board to approve her list of Election Judges for the March Township Elections. A motion was made by John Moosbrugger and seconded by John Roxbury to approve the judges. Motion Carried.

Approve Payment of the Bills

A motion was made by John Roxbury, Jr. and seconded by Stephanie Johnston to approve payment of the bills, Check numbers 7312—7354. Motion Carried.

Adjourn

A motion was made by John Roxbury, Jr. and seconded by Stephanie Johnston to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie L. Heinks
Clerk/Treasurer

Attendees: Brian Dahlheimer, Connie Wubben, Elaine Klasen, Yvonne Doose, Todd McLouth, Larry Ziebarth, Larry Wilhelm, Carl Sanford, Judy Gerth, Dave Zabel