



LIVONIA TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWN HALL
JANUARY 25, 2021

Supervisors present: Hass, Hiller, Kuker, Maloney and Pool.

Staff present: Clerk/Treasurer Hammre, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Fiedler, Maintenance Coordinator Berghuis

Chairman Hass called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance: The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2 Approve Regular Meeting Agenda: Chairman Hass requested an amendment to the Agenda to include item 5.5 Cranberry Hill Drainage and Utility Easement. Kuker/Pool unanimous to approve the Agenda as presented and with the addition of item 5.5 Cranberry Hill Drainage and Utility Easement.

1.3 Approve Consent Agenda: Maloney/Hiller unanimous to approve Consent Agenda as follows: **Item A)** December 28, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes; **Item B)** December 16, 2020 Workshop Meeting Minutes; **Item C)** IRS Standard Mileage Rate; **Item D)** Training Sessions for the Year.

1.4 Fire Report: Chief Maloney provided December Calls for service: 8 medical assist; 1 carbon monoxide; 2 fire alarm; 1 person in distress – lift assist; 1 vehicle fire; 3 residential garage fire [Big Lake (1) Baldwin (2)]; 1 residential house fire (Orrock Township). Chief Maloney also provided an update on fire station construction: the bays are being painted now, completion of the project is projected at 4 weeks, a punch list of final items will be generated and completed. Maloney also reported that one of the new LUCAS devices was used on a person in cardiac arrest, the patient survived and is in recovery now.

1.5 Sheriff's Report: Sgt. Wilson provided the Sheriff's report: there were 146 calls for service in December in Livonia Township including 16 traffic stops, the rest of the calls were for miscellaneous service, there were no burglaries to report. There were no concerns for Livonia Township and no questions for Sgt. Wilson.

1.6 Sherburne County Public works CR 19/HWY 169 R-Cut: David Roedel, Sherburne County Public Works and Lisa Fobbe, Sherburne County Commissioner present to answer questions about MNDOT's project on HWY 169, which is the 2021 construction of Reduced Conflict Intersections (R-Cut) where County Road 19 and County Road 25 intersect with HWY 169. Commissioner Fobbe began by explaining that they were here to discuss concerns that Supervisor Kuker shared with her about the project. She explained that MNDOT has jurisdiction and control over the project and they already have the design in place. Roedel and Fobbe are here to explain the project and the safety concerns at these two high accident intersections. She also encouraged the Board to call her directly when they have any concerns with Sherburne County so that she is aware of any concerns or questions and can respond to them. Fobbe then turned the discussion to Roedel. The presentation was displayed on the Township screen with the imbedded video showing current traffic conflicts involving vehicles crossing lanes of traffic and the R-Cut traffic flow that eliminates the lane crossings. Roedel explained that MNDOT has been installing this type of intersection around the state as an economical and safer alternative to vehicles crossing in front of oncoming traffic. He also explained that currently the intersections have a history of car crashes, several resulting in serious injuries or fatalities. The R-Cut intersections safety statistics provided for Wilmar Minnesota, show a significant reduction in fatal and injury crashes. Discussion followed about the length of northbound HWY 169 available for lane changing; the issues with a gas line and the elevation difference between the southbound lanes and northbound lanes; the potentially serious accidents for motorcyclists traveling on HWY 169 and cars changing lanes without seeing or looking for motorcycles. It was acknowledged that an accident with a motorcycle is very serious regardless if it is a T-bone crash or a side-swipe crash. Also discussed was the difficulty for large vehicles such as snowplow trucks, semi-truck/trailer rigs, and large farm equipment to navigate the tight turns and lane changes. Roedel will pass on the Board's concerns to MNDOT and ask for an explanation regarding the gas line constraints.

1.7 Engineering Update: Engineer Davis not present, no updates.



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2.2 (Item taken out of order) Parking on 239th Ave at GNT Crossing: Supervisor Hass explained that the Township Office received a concern from a resident about cars parked near the GNT Crossing of 239th Ave. Commissioner Fobbe will look into the issue and solutions.

1.8 Road Report: Maintenance Coordinator Berghuis reported: the brush piles at Sugarbush Park and North Point Park have been burned; the radiator in the payloader was repaired; truck #41 has an oil pan leak (similar to the recent truck #43 leak); the furnace in the small shop needed repair. Hilliard Heating and Cooling repaired the furnace and provided an estimate to replace as requested by Berghuis. Berghuis gave several alternate options including replacing the furnace with a garage heater in-house. Hass indicated that the Board would consider the replacement options. Berghuis also reported that the pressure washer needs replacement, however the Fire District is replacing theirs, and will let Berghuis use the old one. Berghuis also reported that the plow routes have been reduced from 5 routes to 4 routes. He suggested selling the 5th truck and upgrading the payloader with one that can also plow with the addition of a wing.

1.9 Planning Commission Report: Spencer provided the January 21, 2021 PAC Meeting report:

The PAC recommended approval for the following items to the Sherburne County Commissioner at their next County Commissioner Meeting. In Baldwin Township: request for approval of a final plat; Request for approval of revised plat and for approval of final plat; two requests for approval of preliminary plat; request for approval of preliminary and final simple plat. In Haven Township: request for approval of a conditional use permit for seasonal storage. In Livonia Township: request for approval of a preliminary and final simple plat – Benson Estates.

1.10 Park Committee Report: Kuker reported that he would like the Township Engineer to provide a proposal to lay out a disc golf course at Sugarbush Park. Discussion about other amenities to build in the park. He also stated that a pavilion could be funded and built by private donations of money and construction. Possible surveys to ask the residents for their preferences in the park were again mentioned. The need for proper placement of restrooms were discussed. Commissioner Fobbe added that Gina Hugo, Sherburne County Public Works, has some experience with park surveys and she will mention it to her to see if she is able to help.

2.1 MC Development: Agrimson and Howsden, MC Development of Elk River, present to request Simple Residential Plat of Dean Anderson Third Addition Consisting of (1) lot. Adjustments to the Mini Storage plan were made to accommodate the Board's previous recommendations. Further discussion concerning the Board's reluctance to have a mini storage facility so close to HWY 169, a possible future moratorium on mini-storage facilities and a Special District for mini-storage units. Discussion and clarification of the Simple Plat request as a separate issue from the IUP request that was presented to the Board during the December Board Meeting. Discussion also included the driveway easement for parcel 30-534-0205. The Applicants agreed that a driveway easement will be granted and recorded for that parcel. Hiller made a motion to recommend approval for the request for Simple Residential Plat of Dean Anderson Third Addition consisting of (1) Lot. Kuker seconded the motion. Motion passed with 4 in favor (Hiller, Kuker, Hass, Pool) and 1 against (Maloney). Township comments include: the approval of the simple plat must include the granting and recording of a driveway access easement for parcel 30-534-0205 through parcel 30-534-0010 to 119th Street; the developers complied with all of the Livonia Town Board's previous requests; with an IUP the property is zoned correctly for this use.

2.2 Parking on 239th Ave at GNT Crossing: Item addressed earlier in the meeting.

2.3 Resolution 21-02 Benson Estates Park Dedication Fees: Resolution 21-02 Determining/Approving Park and Trail Dedication or Park Dedication Fees In Lieu of Land for the Plat/Subdivision Known as Benson Estates Located in Livonia Township approved by unanimous vote.

3.0 Open Forum: no one present for Open Forum

4.1 Clerk/Treasurer Report: Items of interest during the past month include: Supervisor filling time period closed; end of year procedures in progress.

4.2 Approve payment of claims: Hass/Kuker unanimous to approve payment of claims and payroll as submitted from Bremer Bank, to cover check number 20183 through 20224, claim numbers 9511-9544, and Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) #24-28 (January) Federal, State, and PERA withholding tax and Bremer Bank Debit Card charges.



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4.3 Supervisor Reports: Hiller – a City of Zimmerman Councilman and Hiller discussed splitting snow plowing duties at the new fire station/event center. Hass expressed concern about the concrete and potentially damaging the exposed edges before it is completed. Hiller/Hass unanimous to approve splitting fire station/event center snowplowing for the 2020/2021 snow season. Hiller also suggested that a question/answer form is developed for candidates for the Livonia Township elections, posting the question and answers on the website for public information; **Pool** – no report; **Kuker** – no report; **Hass** – reported that the Fire Board interviewed 4 candidates for the Event Center Coordinator position. The pay scale was discussed. The Fire Board will meet tomorrow to choose the candidate that will be offered the job. Hass also verified that Township Attorney Gilchrist said that township and city residents can legally receive a rental discount as they are taxpayers.

5.1 Election Resolutions: Resolution 21-01 approved by unanimous vote; Resolution 20-18 passed by unanimous vote.

5.2 Appreciation Letter to Landfill: The Board directed Hammre to send the Appreciation Letter to the Elk River Landfill as presented.

5.3 Set Time and Date for Budget Workshop Meeting and Board of Audit: Meeting set for Monday, February 8, 2021 at 12:30 pm at the Livonia Town Hall.

5.4 Appoint Election Judges: Hass/Kuker unanimous to allow Hammre to appoint Election Judges for the Township Election.

5.5 Cranberry Hill Drainage and Utility Easement – Hammre explained that the Virkus Property “Cranberry Hills” was presented last month for lot line changes resulting in no new lots, however, one of the original lot lines recently had a large building built in the drainage and utility easement. The change in lot lines will make the drainage and utility easement unnecessary. The Virkus’ will need to either ask the Board to vacate the drainage and utility easement or ask for a drainage and utility easement encroachment license. Hass directed Hammre to contact the Virkus’ and explain the situation.

Hiller/Pool unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 pm.

Approved this 22nd day of February 2021.

Chairman or Vice Chairman

Clerk/Treasurer or Deputy Clerk/Treasurer