

TOWN OF BRIDGE CREEK  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
THURSDAY – MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2014  
7:30 P.M. – TOWN HALL

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Gerike at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call taken: Board members present – Chairman, Jeff Gerike; Supervisors: Dean Solie, Lynn Norheim and Ricky Strauch, Clerk Patti Warner, Treasurer, Tamy Moss Absent: Steve Weiss

Also Present: Tom Peterson, Vaughn Nagahashi, Scott McCurdy, Fred Poss, Terry O’Donohue, Glory Adams, Bernice Strauch, Dan Carlson, Attorney Rick Schaumberg, Albert Yellowthunder, Dale Kirchoff

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Supervisor Dean Solie Seconded by Supervisor Lynn Norheim. Motion carried: Supervisors Dean Solie (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Chairman, Jeff Gerike (aye)

The minutes were read and approved on a motion by Supervisor Dean Solie. Seconded by Supervisor Lynn Norheim. Motion carried: Supervisors Dean Solie (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Chairman, Jeff Gerike (aye)

The financial report was presented – motion to approve was made by Ricky Strauch, Dean Solie. Motion carried: Supervisors Dean Solie (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Chairman, Jeff Gerike (aye)

Old Business:  
No discussion

New Business:

Patrick Bethke spoke re: land that he and Gordy O’Brien purchased. – They are coming to the board to ask for approval for splitting the parcel into (2) 20 acre parcels. Because of a creek on the property they fall under County Zoning. In order for them to divide it they have to have a variance. They are asking for the boards support – if the split is allowed they both want to build a house on their parcel. They had to deal with Kramer land design to get the property surveyed at County Request. Because of Brown’s Creek running through it they now have to get a flood plain survey. That’s just for them to get permission to break it up. They can’t exceed a 4:1 ration this is a 7:1 ratio. Zoned as F2. After discussion Supervisor Lynn Norheim made a motion that the Town Board supports the variance. Seconded by Dean Solie. Motion carried: Supervisors Dean Solie (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Chairman, Jeff Gerike (aye) Lynn also indicated that a couple of tem would attend the county meeting regarding the variance.

Tom Peterson – Mining Committee – Spoke about the agenda for the upcoming Public Informational Meeting. The committee met a couple times – Passed out handouts. Scott McCurdy will be the moderator. Start out with welcome by Jeff. – Tom will speak on why zoning – Attorney Schaumberg will speak on legal requirements – they will have Cedar Corp – talk about land use mapping. Rod Eslinger will discuss any changes if we adopt zoning – they have a list of questions they will answer – then Scott would moderate and take questions from the audience. After discussion it was decided to not have open dialog but instead handout index cards that would be turned in with questions and thoughts on zoning which at the end Scott McCurdy will read the cards – and seek answers from appropriate people. Then Tom will give a final summary.

Scott McCurdy – spoke stating since last opportunity to meet with us –he has had a chance to review the current bill regarding mining that has been presented – discussion is still going on in house – he has problems with the bill – he has consulted with 2 attorney’s – WTA Tom Harnisch – neither one can tell him that this bill will not have the same effect on the County. The County will still be able to control reclamation plans. Based on what he read he feels at this time zoning

may not be in our best interest. If you are going to adopt zoning to control a particular activity it may not necessarily get you what you want. He feels when they make their decision he wants them to recognize as we go down this pathway some will want it and some will not – he feels it's extremely important that we look at the one bill. If property has been a pre-registered mine it is good for 20 years. In Pepin County they were going through their zoning process – there was someone that was registered with 360 acres around an existing quarry – nothing they could do. At last meeting he stood up and said zoning would help us he now feels it won't.

Tom Peterson – stated he is only here to get the agenda approved or do we want to see some changes. Attorney Schaumberg stated that at our last meeting – the bill that's pending we didn't have – if zoning is on the table for the only reason to prohibit mining. Then the only way to prohibit it would have been zoning. Zoning on table to prohibit non metallic mining. Now the new bill came down and Scott McCurdy sent questions to him and ... Rick said now if he was asked "is zoning is our best option" – he isn't even sure how to answer it. All we have left is our ordinance now – if the bill goes through – he believes it's written to where can't prevent a mine - but can regulate it. Not sure what we are going to gain – can't positively tell us – biggest question to ask of the county is what do they think this legislation does to the overlay district.

Tom Peterson stated we need to consider how many people that have registered their mineral rights?? Other thing to keep in mind our WTA voted not to support this bill. That has put quite a damper on how fast it will move through. Tom – feels it's not just about mining – why zoning – Ricky Strauch stated we do need to hear from the public maybe not all are against sand mining – Vaughn Nagahashi stated how much would we have to lose if we just look at zoning as an option – If the bill does go through and we're not zoned yet – the bill is going to have a lot to do with us.

Tom Peterson wanted to share if we go zoning we're in it for the long haul – if the county ever does a comprehensive plan. Fred Poss stated it seems that success or failure on the upcoming meeting hinges on the way it is presented to the public. If people perceive it as a quick maneuver – there are a lot of good reasons to present at the meeting – if it's presented under the umbrella – it's all information – it's not a decision making meeting. Scott McCurdy stated trying to get out of this is to explain – ultimately to get questions and answers from town people. We may get positive or negative feedback. He wants to make sure that interpretation of the bill is not the way it was interpreted.

After discussion Supervisor Lynn Norheim made a motion to approve the agenda and also approve the reasons that Tom will state as to why we would benefit from zoning. Seconded by Ricky Strauch. Motion carried: Supervisors Dean Solie (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Chairman, Jeff Gerike (aye)

Vaughn heard there are concerns about people not being from Bridge Creek there and are they also going to ask questions. The board replied only questions from Bridge Creek residents will be taken.

Discussion was held regarding paying mileage for the committee members. Dean felt we should as they are putting in a lot of time. After discussion - Supervisor Dean Solie made a motion that the committee keep track of their mileage and they will get reimbursed at the end of the year... Seconded by Supervisor Lynn Norheim. Motion carried: Supervisors Dean Solie (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Chairman, Jeff Gerike (aye)

Chairman Gerike reported that the road bans are going in effect on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

All bills were audited are paid.

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Supervisor Lynn Norheim Seconded by Supervisor Ricky Strauch. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:17 p.m.

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Patti Warner, Clerk