

TOWN OF BRIDGE CREEK  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
DECEMBER 18<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.

Roll Call: Board members present: Chairman Jeff Gerike; Supervisors: Dean Solie, Steve Weiss, Ricky Strauch and Lynn Norheim

Also present: Victor Werlein Sr., Joe Eklund, Ezra Miller, Felty Borntreger, Abraham Borntreger, Bernie Strauch, Vaughn Nagahashi, James Drost, Tom Peterson, Dale Kirchoff, Toby Borntreger, Fred Poss, Dan Marcheske, Jane Justesen, Troy Morey, Cathy Lea, Carol Peuse & Christine Yellowthunder

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Public Comment:

Felty Borntreger: He spoke regarding Zoning and he does not want it – if township were to zone he would have to move. Amish concerns are what planning & development is trying to do with them if zoned there would be more laws, more requirements – they have their own way of living and now they are being asked or told that they have to have electronic devices which is against their belief – before they could build how they want – cut lumber – either they got to move forward or move out. Stepping forward and having township zoned wouldn't he wouldn't recommend it. He's not in favor of sand mines and doesn't think we can stop them because they are so powerful – if they do get fined they keep going. How is zoning actually going to help us? He has lived here almost 40 years – has had good neighbors – still likes it here but their concern is if zoning going to happen. He does have concerns about the blasting but doesn't know how you could stop it.

Abraham Borntreger spoke and he agrees with what Felty said – we have sand mines and it isn't that he likes it but he doesn't feel zoning is the answer. He is against it and if the township gets zoned he will have to move so please consider not zoning.

Ezra Miller Stated he is concerned about zoning - we have sand mines – he's not for it but we got it – with zoning we would have more problems - might have to move out as well – not for zoning at all – doesn't understand everything about it but he is against zoning.

Fred Poss: DNR permit for Lake District has there is now a temporary person filling in at the DNR– the previous person for lots of reasons banned us to dredge creeks for past two

years. He's pleased to report two days ago he had a successful meeting with the DNR and so Monday he will be turning in an application to resume and renew our permit to dredge on the north side.

The minutes were read and approved on a motion by Steve Weiss 2nd by Ricky Strauch. Motion carried: Supervisor Steve Weiss, (aye) Dean Solie (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Chairman Jeff Gerike (aye)

Financial report was presented. Motion by Steve Weiss to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lynn Norheim. Motion carried: Supervisor Steve Weiss, (aye) Dean Solie (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Chairman Jeff Gerike (aye)

James Drost - Spoke to the board he is a mining engineer and he is against irresponsible mining He reviewed our mining agreement with Hi-Crush – since it grants permission to inspect – the town should look to see if there is something being overlooked. You have to exercise that right to some expense. What are they doing to control dust, wastewater, and depth of mining, check roads for condition, check dryers, make sure they have MSDS sheets, check high capacity wells – check blasting operations and log books. He feels the proposed ordinance – has good points but is far from adequate – it is the most comprehensive he's seen but he's not a lawyer – but he thinks it will serve citizens well. He also feels there needs to be a bond for property values - Steve Weiss asked about his availability. He said he is available but he should have a day or so notice. Ricky Strauch asked about the cost - what would it be by the hour. James Drost stated 15.00 an hour. Ricky Strauch asked how his inspection is compared to county. James stated he doesn't know how they do their inspections. The Clean Air Water Act is federal that is what the Wisconsin Act is suppose to parallel – they say it doesn't fit well – but he feels it's that they don't want to do it. He stated we need to get all fines registered with the County. He suggests not doing an inspection until April and then every 2 months thereafter. He stated that their settling pond is too small – he stated we have police powers and can do something about it. Steve Weiss asked if he'd be willing to help with our ordinances - He stated that he's not against mining but what we don't want is wholesale slaughter.

Troy Morey – spoke to the board and stated there is not a lot of change they are still negotiating with several companies to moving the sand. He appreciates the ability to move south. As things progress he can come to meetings and give updates – he wants to update the board in between meetings. So he will either email the clerk or speak to the Chairman. He stated it's going to move just timing of when they are going to start is moving out. Ricky asked about trucking it south – is that still on the table? Troy stated they are still negotiating with that company.

Old Business:

Ricky Strauch spoke about the barking dog issues. He picked up an ordinance with dogs at large – they have had good success with requiring bark collars. Feels it's back in our lap and we need to do an ordinance for barking. Ricky stated we could look through the

City of Augusta's ordinance as well. Ricky & Lynn are going to work together on gathering new information for a dog ordinance and present it to the attorney.

Ricky stated he had heard rumors about Hi-Crush and what they were hauling through town. He did some checking and they will be done in 3-4 days – it is lime rock, clear stone rock that they are hauling and it is coming from the Gerike pit. He stated they are putting in more rails – another crew will come in and lay down rail and they do have permits through the DNR and have been working with Skyler.

#### New Business:

The Chairman was asked if he spoke with Ryan Nelson. Kathy Michelson stated that the school board adopted a 6 ½ million referendum for some updates at the school but one of the barriers that has been created – is that local tax payers will bear a larger burden of the actual cost because of having something to do with our tax base changing. Hi-Crush is causing a big issue. The surrounding home values are quite low – because Hi-Crush does not pay a portion of the school funding for our township we will be paying a higher burden than projected. Chairman Jeff Gerike stated that said Ryan Nelson said they got the last payment of 680,000 to keep the taxes down next year and that they are going to just pay interest 6 ½% on rest. Ricky Strauch stated that he felt if we had a comprehensive plan he feels it could be used in negotiating with Hi-Crush. Steve Weiss stated that maybe we could go after Hi-Crush to pay the difference.

Ricky Strauch stated that he has another concern and that is that on our board we don't have anyone that has experience in an advanced background like a CEO or general manager. He feels this is something to really consider getting on the board – as no one has this type of experience. Carol Peuse stated they did extensive research and how it affects our school district with the increase in value that Hi-Crush has here. City of Augusta – value of buildings has gone off – one of lowest state aid districts =- no state aid – because of increase in high crush so state aid has taken a huge drop. Statement was made that because of the increase in value of Hi-Crush that our state aid has taken a huge drop – and that it can have further impact because it is expanding and could have more of an impact. Statement was made that we are one of the highest valued townships in the state. Chairman Jeff Gerike stated that Ryan Nelson would like to come out once a year to talk to the town board about the school. Question was asked if zoning was still under consideration – Supervisor Steve Weiss stated no. Tom Peterson stated that maybe we could envision a comprehensive plan as more of a strategic plan. Steve Weiss stated that maybe we could go after Hi-Crush to pay the difference. Joe Eklund stated that maybe we should ask if we could place a fee on every ton that went out.

Chairman Jeff Gerike brought up a resolution to go with the County for Tax Bond for tax collections. Supervisor Lynn Norheim made a motion to go with County Bond for Tax Collection. Seconded by Ricky Strauch. Motion carried: Supervisor Steve Weiss, (aye) Dean Solie (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Chairman Jeff Gerike (aye)

Chairman Jeff Gerike brought up discussion about placing extending our moratorium for another six months to have time to discuss and or make changes to our mining ordinance. Attorney Rick Schaumberg drafted an extension for approval if the board approved it at tonight's meeting. After discussion Supervisor Steve Weiss made a motion to extend the moratorium. Seconded by Supervisor Lynn Norheim. Motion carried: Supervisor Steve Weiss, (aye) Dean Solie (aye) Lynn Norheim (aye) Ricky Strauch (aye) Chairman Jeff Gerike (aye).

Motion was made by Supervisor Steve Weiss to adjourn. Seconded by Supervisor Dean Solie. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:21 p.m.

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Patti Warner, Clerk