

Watab Township Supervisors' Meeting
January 2, 2019

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

A regular monthly Watab Township supervisors' meeting was called to order by Chairman Waytashek at 7:15 p.m. in the Watab Township Hall. The meeting followed special/closed meetings which began at 6:10 p.m.

Those present offered allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Board supervisors present were Craig Gondeck, Julie Johnson, and Todd Waytashek. Others present included Clerk Jon Hull, Treasurer Deborah O'Keefe, Natasha Barber from the Sauk Rapids Herald, and guests Mike Burton, Buzz Cripe, Mary Beth Cripe, Kate Engebritson, Terry Hull, Jerry Kostreba, Brad McIntosh, John Olson, Jack Polcher, Kevin Reiter, Sandra Saldana, Jessica Storkamp, Ray Thompson, Paul Wippler, Robin Wollak, and Steve Wollak.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Johnson, and carried approving the proposed meeting agenda with the addition of a Benton County assessor report, Fire District I cost analysis, and a Rockwood Estates Wastewater Treatment Facility status report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Waytashek, (Supervisor Johnson was not in attendance at the December meeting) and carried approving minutes of December 4, 2018. Meeting participant Mike Burton expressed dissatisfaction with the minutes that did not describe his issues with the manner in which the proposed 2019-2020 agreement between the City of Rice and Watab Township for "Firefighting, Emergency Medical Services, and Rescue" was processed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Johnson, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and carried to expunge the name of "John Polcher" from the approved November 13, 2018 Watab supervisors' meeting minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

A motion was made by Supervisor Johnson, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and carried accepting the Treasurer's cash control report indicating a balance of \$631,471.51 and the monthly receipts report. Supervisor Johnson requested a monthly budget report.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Johnson and carried authorizing payment of monthly bills/payroll and withdrawal of funds in the amount of \$23,486.00.

CITIZENS' INPUT

Ray Thompson – road improvement costs

Brad McIntosh – critical of manner in which public input is conducted

Kevin Rieter – indicates the challenge between public input with the Board
and the ability to conduct Township business

Lloyd Erdmann – supportive of Board's actions in regard to Rice fire contract

Mike Burton – opposes Lloyd Erdmann's opinion and leaves the meeting

ACTION ITEMS

Scheduling of Meetings

A motion was made by Chairman Waytashek, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and carried scheduling the annual budget meeting and the annual Board of audit meeting for nine 'clock a.m. January 15, 2018, in the Watab Township Hall located at 660 NW 75th Street in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Chairman Waytashek, and carried scheduling the annual Board of Appeal and Equalization hearing for Monday, April 1, 2019, beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Consideration of Tree/Branch Removal Quotes

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Johnson, and carried accepting the quote of \$450 received from Rice Contracting and Development Services for tree trimming on Sucker Creek Road and Ideal Road. Quotes received for removal of trees on Ideal Road were tabled pending receipt of further information.

2019 WACOSA Contract

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Johnson, and carried approving the 2019 WACOSA and Watab Township contract for townhall cleaning services at \$62.92 per hour for four workers and one supervisor the second and last Friday of each month. There was some discussion among meeting participants regarding the charging of township hall guests for hall cleaning costs.

Scheduling of Proposed Road Improvements Meeting

A motion was made by Chairman Waytashek, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and carried scheduling the following meeting (including Nick Anderson from Bogart, Pederson, and Associates) for Tuesday, January 22, 2019:

7:00 p.m.	Frost Road
7:30 p.m.	Burton Place and Burton Court
8:00 p.m.	85 th Street

Meeting participants voiced their concerns regarding cost and substandard road widths.

Adoption of Resolution Designating Annual Polling Place

A motion was made by Supervisor Gondeck, seconded by Supervisor Johnson, and carried adopting the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is important that citizens exercise their rights to vote at their local polling place;

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 204B.16 requires the Town board to designate its local polling place for elections annually;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town board of Watab Township, Benton County, Minnesota does hereby designate the Town Hall at 660 NW 75th Street in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, in Benton County, as its polling place for 2019.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Township notify residents of this designation by following the requirements of Minnesota Statutes 205.16.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Annual Newsletter

Supervisor Gondeck reported that there is little or no interest among vendors to subsidize costs of the annual Township newsletter. Supervisors continue their work on newsletter articles.

Review of 85th Street and 95th Street Improvement Costs

Chairman Waytashek provided preliminary costs of both these projects. However, it became clear there was additional information to be obtained before the total costs were finalized. One of the questions verbalized was cost per mile. The report was tabled pending further investigation.

REPORTS TO AND FROM BOARD

Report from Assessor

Supervisor Gondeck reported on information he received from the Benton County assessor's office regarding valuation proceedings. Paul Wippler responded that was not the information he requested. The Board will follow up on his request about the increase in taxes at the Township level.

Fire District I Report

Supervisor Johnson distributed a spread sheet report developed with the assistance of Treasurer O'Keefe. This led to questions and discussion by Lloyd Erdmann, Ray Thompson, and Steve Wollak. More information will be forthcoming before any changes to Township procedures are considered.

Rockwood Estates Wastewater Treatment Facility

Chairman Waytashek reported the State of Minnesota has approved the facility's plan for the next ten years.

REPORTS TO AND FROM BOARD (continued)

Website Improvements

Chairman Waytashek reported the general website layout has been accomplished.

January Board Work Plans

- A. Supervisors will be attending the January 14 special/closed meeting, a January 15 budget/audit meeting, and a January 22 special meeting regarding proposed road improvements.
- B. Clerk Hull and Treasurer O'Keefe will participate in a January 10 MAT seminar.
- C. Supervisor Gondeck will attend the Oak Hill Home Owners meeting on January 29, 2019.
- D. Supervisor Johnson will participate in an on-line Board of Adjustment training.
- E. Chairman Waytashek will participate in a LTAP culvert training.
- F. L & R Meeting in St. Paul – Chairman Waytashek OR Supervisor Johnson will attend.

Bogart, Pederson, & Associates 2019 Rate Increase Letter

The engineering firm has notified the Township of an increase in fees effective January 1, 2019.

Plaziak Road Clean-Up

Supervisor Gondeck reported on the successful clean-up of the Plaziak Road situation in conjunction with Benton County efforts.

New Year's Resolutions for Elected Officials Who Want to Leave a Legacy that Matters

Clerk Hull shared a document from Strategic Government Resources.

Ehlers and Associates Correspondence

Word has been received from the Township's bond consultants that no issues produce debt service savings at a level that merit refunding consideration.

CITIZENS' INPUT

Topics of concern were heard from:

- Brad McIntosh - snow plowing contract; town hall snow removal
- Ray Thompson - quote process for town hall snow removal and walking trails
- Steve Wollak - insurance carrier/attorney costs
- Lloyd Erdmann - Highway 10 intersections approval
- Craig Gondeck - Watab crime (draining of gas tanks)
- Sandy Saldana - insurance costs after deductible
- Kay Engebritson - snow plowing responsibilities

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business appearing before the Board, a motion was made by Supervisor Johnson, seconded by Supervisor Gondeck, and carried adjourning the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon L. Hull
Watab Township Clerk

Respectfully accepted,

Todd B. Waytashek
Watab Township Chairman