



TOWN OF BROCKWAY
COUNTY OF STEARNS
STATE OF MINNESOTA
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MEETING MINUTES

November 18, 2024

Approved

1. **Call to Order:**

- On the 18th of November, the Regular meeting was called to order at 7:30, Pledge was recited. PC Sandal was absent.
- Motion made by Fiedler to approve the agenda with additions, seconded Douvier, approved.

Land Use Requests:

None

Clerk's Report:

Motion made by Fiedler to approve the October minutes, corrections, seconded Douvier, approved.

2. **Treasurer's Report:**

- A. Motion made by Fiedler to approve the October report on accounts, seconded Douvier, approved.
- B. Motion made by Fiedler to approve Claims No #23133-23174, seconded Pogatchnik, approved.

3. **Public Input:**

None

4. **Old Business:**

- A. **Roads:** Pogatchnik stated John-ID Signs have completed all the signs. Extras were put in the storeroom. On 79th there were curve signs requested, but he thought a 25-mph sign would be better.
- B. **Nuisance (Tyler Schwartz):** Fiedler is still trying to get response from Ruppe. In driving by the place, he has removed about 2/3 of the items. Pogatchnik stated we tell him we are obligated to get this resolved and he should keep working on it. Pogatchnik thought we had observed 6 vehicles to go, so what is left? Fiedler stated there is still more back in the trees.
- C. **Polar storage:** After our last meeting with the residents, Angie Berg, Fiedler, Sean Freiler (Polar) and residents met at the site in Opole. Once the residents heard what Polar was doing, they felt much better. Polar brought the fence in 10' and are planting shrubbery around. No tractor/trailers will be going in there.
- D. **Peternell, Edward:** Fiedler stated he spoke with St. Stephen about 9th Avenue NE, and they consider it one of their roads. Fiedler also stated that Edward has never come to any of their meetings.
- E. **Prairie Grass Lane:** Fiedler stated that residents had been saying that we have maintained the road in the past. He wants to concede that it is a township road and if the residents are willing to pay to upgrade the road. Fiedler feels if they upgrade the township could pave the road. Fiedler stated residents would have to give up ROW for free. Pogatchnik asked how far down the road would the work go? Burski's quote back in March to bring it up to specifications was \$104,000. M. Stang thought there were too many culverts being put in on the road with Burski's proposal. Pogatchnik asked if all the residents wanted the road just to that area. M. Stang stated yes because the other portion of the road is in a wetland area and would need more work. Fiedler stated residents would

be assessed the \$104,000 to pay for the improvements. Pogatchnik stated the road he lives on with the residents before he was there, paid for the lift of asphalt and then the township would take over. Pogatchnik again asked if that is what all the residents want it paved to that location and M. Stang stated yes. Douvier asked if we ever got a bid on paving, M. Stang stated no. Pogatchnik feels if the road base is built the cost per mile should not be more than the Prairie Grass Drive roads as there is no milling. Douvier stated if we do PGD, then we would just do PGL, as PGD is due for new tar. Douvier feels if it is a township road the township should pay for more of it. Pogatchnik asked if a resident had said the township has done 6 years of work on the road and yes, the township has. Pogatchnik wants it noted that the road has been maintained for 6 years and is a township road. Douvier feels like the 389th township built it to specs and then the residents paid to have it paved. Pogatchnik stated a mile of our paving is around 100 to 120K per mile, Douvier stated under 200 for a mile. Fiedler stated he would ask our Engineer Mike Nielsen and see if he could give us a proposal to engineer the road. Pogatchnik feels we can move forward and get an engineering on it. Fiedler will get proposals from Sambatek and Burski and then have the residents see if the proposal is acceptable. Pogatchnik thought if we approved \$8,000 for Engineering then we wouldn't have to bring it up again. Fiedler would like to wait and have the residents here to hear what the proposal is.

- f. **Smarts Ferry – Cable vs rock wall:** Fiedler felt the rock wall would be better as he still puts his garbage container out. Pogatchnik stated the rock will have to be on township property. Fiedler stated his rock is in the ROW, the board allowed him to do that. Pogatchnik stated that Smarts Ferry is dedicated for public use. We have the road there and we assume a 66' ROW in a dedicated piece do we have ROW outside of our boundaries. We couldn't put a patio in the road dedication. If a resident finds out, we put boulders in a dedicated road. Fiedler stated he would talk to Ruppe over a year ago and he said yes, we could do that. Pogatchnik stated he's not opposing it, but he just wants to do it right. Douvier asked what it would affect since he already has his rock wall there, we are just going to finish it. Pogatchnik stated we can't put them on his property as soon as we meet the edge of the dedication our dedication is his property we no longer have a ROW outside of our dedication. Pogatchnik stated that rock wall is not our ROW our ROW ends at the dedication I believe. Fiedler doesn't remember the difference between ROW and dedication. Fiedler will do some more checking on this; no decision needs to be made tonight.
- g. **Township Road map:** Fiedler brought this up before about updating our road map from 2008, the next meeting he will come with cost figures to do that from our Engineer.

5. **New Business:**

- A. **Regular Meeting schedule 2025:** Clerk Stang handed over the schedule for next year and approval.
- B. **Polling Place Resolution 2025:** Clerk Stang produced the resolution to use the town hall as the township polling place, signed by chair Fiedler.
- C. **Stearns Sheriff key holder info:** Clerk Stang stated the County has a new software system and wanted to update who is the first, second and third contact in case they need to get into the town hall.

- D. **DK's Brush cutting needed:** Dave texted Duane and called Clerk asking if anything cutting needed to be done in the township. The board agreed that there was nothing of which they could think. Clerk will let Dave know nothing this year.
- E. **Comprehensive plan:** Fiedler stated we had the man from solar talking about comprehensive plans and he started thinking about the Townships. Think about if you feel we should redo it last one was in 2008. Pogatchnik asked if he found things that weren't up to date, and Fiedler said yes. Fiedler thought you could get a grant to help put this together, as you would use an outside company. Douvier said that doesn't include solar, Fiedler said no it talks about land use and the future. Pogatchnik stated in 2008 Brockway has a comprehensive plan in 6 years he has never seen it or heard of it. So, if we get a 2024 Comprehensive plan, is it ever going to get looked at after the day it is completed. Fiedler advised you should refer to it when you do your planning and zoning. Douvier asked if Fred uses it. Pogatchnik wondered if we are wasting time doing it because we have never used it in the past. Fiedler stated you are wasting time if you don't use it. Fiedler wants them to keep it in their mind and he will bring it up again.
- F. **Sartell Watershed mtg:** Clerk stated that the Mississippi watershed is looking for a place to hold monthly meetings and asked if we would have reliable internet, bathrooms, etc. Clerk was wondering if we would charge them or let them use it for free. Board agreed that we should charge them \$100/month.
- G. **85th Avenue:** Pogatchnik believes it is the Debra Funk property, someone complained that there is someone living in a camper. Fiedler stated he went by tonight and saw a light on. Pogatchnik asked if there is anything we can or should do about it. Stearns County does have an ordinance if it is long term. Pogatchnik told the neighbor who reported it that the township does not have any ordinances against it. Fiedler stated we do have a nuisance ordinance if he is playing loud music and having wild parties then we can do something about it. Fiedler suggested Pogatchnik refer him to the county.

6. **Mail / Miscellaneous:**

Stearns County Twp mtg November 21 in Freeport 6:00 pm. Fiedler is going to attend and ask about when broadband is coming to Brockway Township.

2024 MAT annual conference December 13 & 14, 2024 @ Rivers Edge Convention St. Cloud. Cost is \$140 for 2 days.

7. **Public Input:**

Resident A. Douvier stated the pole is gone from the mailbox on 40th Avenue.

Move to Adjourn/Recess: 8:27 time.

Next Regular Meeting Date: Tuesday January 21, 2025