

**Princeton Township  
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota**

**Township Board Monthly Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 15, 2021**

**Minutes**

The June 15 monthly meeting of the Princeton Township Board was called to order by Chairman Gene Stoeckel at 7:30 p.m. Supervisors attended the meeting in person at Township Hall. The meeting was open to limited in-person attendance, plus remote participation via GoToMeeting.

**Supervisors present:** Thomas Duden, Dan Hiller, Gene Stoeckel, Bill Whitcomb, John Wilhelm

**Staff present:** Zoning Administrator Scott Richards, Clerk-Treasurer Doug Dahl, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Andrea Gerrard, Ken Henchen

**Public in-person attendees:** Joel Minks, Scott Moller, Kathy Stoeckel, Rachel Walker

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approve Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Whitcomb noted a spelling error: McCloud should be McLouth.

Mr. Hiller moved to approve the May 18 minutes with the correction. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion carried.

**Open Forum**

Joel Minks reported that he's seen wild parsnip along County Rd 13 between County Roads 1 and 4. The county is tracking that section. He advised the board to watch for growth along township roads, and to be prepared to mow immediately to prevent it from spreading.

**Clerk-Treasurer Report**

**Cash control statement:**

General Fund beginning balance for May:	\$67,238.36
Receipts	\$ 8,659.36
Disbursements	<u>\$21,249.64</u>
Ending balance	\$54,558.08
Road & Bridge Fund beginning balance for May:	\$230,055.16
Receipts:	\$ 2.89
Disbursements	<u>\$ 1,706.18</u>
Ending balance	\$228,351.87

Mr. Duden moved to approve the May cash control statement. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried.

**Payroll:**

May net payroll: \$3,885.54

Mr. Whitcomb moved to approve the May payroll. Seconded by Mr. Duden. Motion carried.

**Claims for Approval:**

Total claims through May 15, 2021: \$48,920.91.

Mr. Stoeckel moved to approve the claims. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion carried.

Mr. Dahl noted that the Township's money-market checking account yielded only \$2.89 interest in May on \$170,500.00. Total interest for the first five months of 2021: \$14.10. He requested authorization to close the account and move the balance into the regular checking account.

Mr. Duden moved to authorize closing the account and moving the balance into the regular checking account. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried.

**Zoning Administrator's Report**

**Section 27 & 34 land use and planning study**

Mr. Richards reviewed the history of the request from Scott Moller that prompted the study:

Scott Moller, owner of property in Section 27 on County Road 1 / 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue is asking the Planning Commission to again consider a subdivision sketch plan that was submitted last year. The sketch plan prompted the Section 27/Section 34 Land Use and Planning Study that was done by the Planning Commission in 2020 and early 2021. At their November 9, 2020, meeting, the Planning Commission invited property owners and neighbors for their input on the process and possible land-use classification and zoning for properties to the north of Den-Hei Estates and The Preserve at Princeton in Section 27. The meeting was well attended with residents mostly not in favor of the potential land use changes.

The Planning Commission, at their December 7, 2020, meeting discussed the potential land-use changes and the next steps in the process. At that meeting, the Planning Commission was not overall in favor of changing the land-use classification or the zoning for the properties in Section 27 owned by Mr. Moller. They set up a subcommittee to research the history of residential development in this area to aid in decision-making for future development.

At their June 7, 2021, meeting, the Planning Commission again discussed the land-use and zoning changes for Mr. Moller's property. The Planning Commission was open to looking at the potential of a Comprehensive Plan amendment and rezoning for this property. They recommended that the Town Board consider providing direction to Mr. Moller on the land use and zoning issues.

Mr. Moller stated that he is seeking the Town Board's opinion about his plan to determine if he should continue to pursue the plan given the costs associated with going through all the steps in the process.

Mr. Hiller moved to invite septic system experts from Mille Lacs County and the MPCA to the July 12 Planning Commission meeting to advise the township in its consideration of Comprehensive Plan and zoning standards in view of current and future applications for developments. Seconded by Mr. Duden. Motion carried.

### **Eric and Rachel Walker variance request**

Erik and Rachel Walker have applied for a side-yard setback variance to allow construction of a pole building at 10756 40<sup>th</sup> Street. The property is within Section 18, PID 16-018-0600. The applicants propose a setback of 27 feet from the east property line. The property is zoned AC Agriculture Conservation requiring a 35-foot setback from side property lines.

The Planning Commission, at their June 7, 2021, meeting recommended approval based on the reasonable practical difficulties presented by the existing fire pit and two mature trees.

Mr. Duden moved to approve the resolution granting the variance, striking Condition #4 which prohibited use of the space within the variance for storage. Seconded by Mr. Wilhelm.

Mr. Stoeckel called the roll:

Mr. Duden—Yes; Mr. Hiller—Yes; Mr. Stoeckel—Yes; Mr. Whitcomb—Yes; Mr. Wilhelm—Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Old Business**

Nothing under old business.

### **New Business**

#### **Consider selling the Massey tractor**

Members discussed the status of the Massey tractor as well as the road grader. Mr. Duden noted that township road workers don't feel safe operating the Massey. It is too light for the size of the attachments used in its operations. Also, it is more economical to rent proper equipment for the jobs the Massey is being used for.

Mr. Duden commented that the road grader is not being used because contracting the work to independent operators is simpler and less expensive. Also, the contractor has better equipment, including a roller and larger blade, which delivers better results.

Mr. Whitcomb moved to sell the Massey tractor, the road grader, and associated accessory equipment via onsite/online auction. Seconded by Mr. Duden. Motion carried with Mr. Hiller abstaining.

Mr. Duden moved to engage Hiller Auction Services to conduct the onsite/online auction pending renewal of the Hiller Auction resolution authorizing a contract with an interested officer. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion carried with Mr. Hiller abstaining.

### **Road Report**

Mr. Whitcomb reported that Princeton Township was not selected to receive funds through the Local Road Improvement Program. As a result, the Township will have to adjust its plan for work on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue in 2022. Toward that goal he asked Township Engineer Todd McLouth for a new estimate of costs for 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements without the LRIP. The document is attached to these minutes.

Other road-report points:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> mile of 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue south of Hwy 95 (Section 36)—considering converting the middle ½-mile portion to gravel for one year, then re-paving in 2023.
- Also working on a shared agreement with Wyanett Township on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Since the May meeting, we have applied chloride on 35<sup>th</sup> St., 19<sup>th</sup> St., 107<sup>th</sup> Ave., Sunset Rd., and Brickton Rd.
- Expect to complete graveling by mid-June.
- Brushing and trimming are continuing.
- Crack-filling and chip-sealing is complete. Will send invoices to Baldwin Township and City of Princeton for their shares. Baldwin: \$1,631.00; City: \$911.00.
- City has agreed to let the Township use its patching equipment this year.
- Will mow shoulders by July 1 to eight feet.

### **Resolution of shared road costs with City of Princeton and Baldwin Township**

In discussing the question with the Township Attorney, they concluded that no resolution would be required for the agreed work to be done in 2021.

### **Authorization to work with Township Attorney on shared-road agreements**

Mr. Whitcomb moved to authorize his working with Township Attorney Jason Hill on shared-road agreements with the City of Princeton and the Townships of Baldwin, Bogus Brook, Greenbush, and Wyanett. Seconded by Mr. Wilhelm. Motion carried.

### **Supervisor Reports**

There were no additional supervisor reports. There was no fire board meeting.

### **Adjourn**

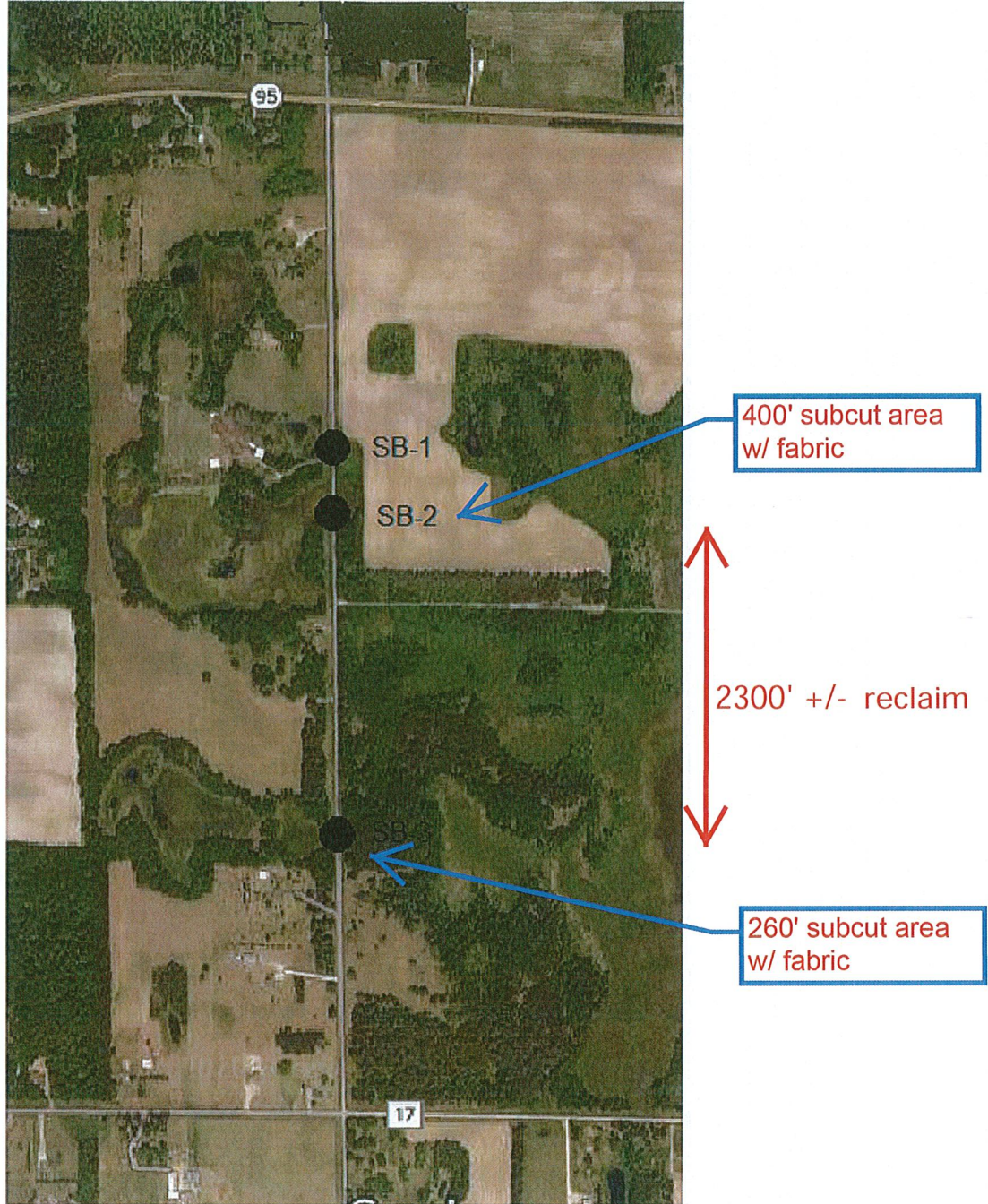
Mr. Whitcomb moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Dahl  
Clerk/Treasurer

20-033  
50th Street  
Princeton Township

Boring Location Plan



# PRELIMINARY

## 50TH AVENUE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Site A & B (117-95) - Section 25

Princeton Township

### ENGINEERS ESTIMATE OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Based upon Preliminary Quantities dated 6-7-21

#### 50TH AVENUE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

No.	ITEM	UNIT	ESTIMATED QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL AMOUNT
1	Subgrade Excavation	CY	1,650	\$ 10.00	\$ 16,500.00
2	Geotextile Fabric	SY	2,055	\$ 1.50	\$ 3,082.50
3	Granular Borrow	CY	2,200	\$ 14.00	\$ 30,800.00
4	Reclaim Existing Bituminous	SY	6,135	\$ 2.00	\$ 12,270.00
5	Class 5 Aggregate	TN	650	\$ 14.00	\$ 9,100.00
6	Subgrade Preparation	LF	2,300	\$ 2.50	\$ 5,750.00
7	2" Bituminous Non-Wear Course	TN	780	\$ 78.00	\$ 60,840.00
8	1-1/2" Bituminous Wear Course	TN	585	\$ 80.00	\$ 46,800.00
9	Crushed Concrete Shouldering	TN	450	\$ 20.00	\$ 9,000.00
10	Tack - Shoulder Stabilization	Gal	435	\$ 3.00	\$ 1,305.00
11	Traffic Control	LS	1	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 198,447.50</b>