

**Princeton Township  
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota**

**Township Board Monthly Meeting**

**Tuesday, May 17, 2022**

**Minutes**

The May 17 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 in-person attendance, plus remote participation via GoToMeeting.

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

**Staff present:** Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Andrea Gerrard, Zoning Administrator Scott Richards.

**Via GoToMeeting:**

**Public attendees:** Alan Arendsee, Theresa Arendsee, Joel Minks, Nancy Moan, Jake Stricker

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Open Forum**

No participation in Open Forum.

**Approve Meeting Minutes**

**April 19 Monthly Meeting**

Mr. Duden moved to approve the minutes of the April 19 monthly meeting. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried.

**City of Princeton Annexation Plan**

The Township has received a Notice of Intent to Annex from the City of Princeton covering seven parcels. Mr. Stoeckel reported that the Township has three options for actions it can take in response: 1) take no action, allowing the City to proceed 90 days from the notice date; 2) submit a written waiver stating there are no objections to the annexation, allowing the City to take immediate action; 3) submit written objections to the Office of Administrative Hearings within 90 days.

Mr. Stoeckel noted that by Minnesota statute cities have unencumbered authority to annex adjacent property based on size limitations and contiguous city property. Townships have tried unsuccessfully to amend the procedure, but are left with only the written-objection option which entails potentially expensive and lengthy legal action. He recommended adopting Option 1.

Mr. Hiller moved to adopt Option 1: take no action. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion carried.

**Clerk-Treasurer Report**

**Cash Control Statement:**

General Fund beginning balance for April:	\$85,676.00
Receipts:	\$ 3,372.63
Disbursements:	\$20,660.57

Ending balance:	\$68,387.96
Road & Bridge Fund beginning balance for April:	\$321,560.38
Receipts:	\$ 0.00
Disbursements:	\$ 4,567.19
Ending balance:	\$316,993.19

Members were confused by what they thought were discrepancies between the Cash Control Statement for April and the Schedule 1 (January 1 to date) Report. Clerk-Treasurer Dahl was not available to explain. They agreed to delay approval of the Cash Control Statement until the June meeting.

**Payroll:**

April payroll:  
Gross: \$5,936.25  
Net: \$4,858.81

Mr. Hiller moved to approve the April payroll. Seconded by Mr. Duden Motion carried.

**Claims for Approval:**

Total claims through May 17: \$12,174.39

Noteworthy:

- MN Dept of Labor & Industry (Q3 2021) \$ 935.52
- First State Tire (Cleanup Day) \$1,155.50

Mr. Hiller moved to approve the claims list. Seconded by Mr. Duden Motion carried.

**List of Election Judges**

The clerk presented the list of election judges for the August State Primary Election:

- Linda Boettcher
- Carol Carling
- Kris Halverson
- Connie Hennen
- Jackie Minks
- Joel Minks
- Nancy Moan
- Cindy Pohlkamp
- Cheryl Schimming

Mr. Duden moved to approve the list of election judges. Seconded by Mr. Wilhelm. Motion carried.

**Zoning Administrator's Report**

**Request by Alan and Theresa Arendsee for a Conditional Use Permit**

Zoning Administrator Richards presented the Arendsee application for a Conditional Use Permit to establish a dog kennel at 9795 18<sup>th</sup> Street/County Road 31. The property is zoned C/I—Commercial/Industrial. Permitted uses do not specifically include dogs, but do include other

forms of livestock. The parcel is part of a planned annexation by the City of Princeton. The City has agreed to honor the Conditional Use Permit after annexation.

At its special meeting on May 17, 2022, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application. After the public hearing the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of Resolution 2022-7 granting the Conditional Use Permit with conditions specified in the Resolution, plus two additional conditions: 1) the applicants will live in the house and operate the kennel at the subject property; 2) the applicants are able to close on the purchase of the property.

Mr. Hiller moved to approve Resolution 2022-7 granting the application. Seconded by Mr. Duden. Mr. Stoeckel called the roll:  
Mr. Duden—Aye; Mr. Hiller—Aye; Mr. Stoeckel—Aye; Mr. Whitcomb—Aye; Mr. Wilhelm—Aye.

### **New Business**

#### **Special Event permit and temporary liquor license for Darcy Rylander**

Darcy Rylander submitted event and liquor-license applications for the annual outdoor event conducted by Rum River Trail Association. Event dates: August 26 & 27, 2022; location: 3708 Baptist Church Road.

Mr. Duden moved to approve the special-event and temporary liquor license applications. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried.

#### **Jake's Top Notch Tree Service**

Jake Stricker, owner of Jake's Top Notch Tree Service offered his services for tree-removal projects along Township roads. He described his equipment and the services he is able to offer. He will submit quotes for specific projects as the Board schedules them.

#### **Interested Officer Resolution—Eugene Stoeckel**

Mr. Stoeckel has offered to fill in on ditch maintenance tasks when additional help is needed to complete such jobs in a timely manner. His participation requires passage of an Interested Officer Resolution.

Mr. Duden moved to approve Resolution 2022-8 Authorizing a Contract with Eugene Stoeckel, as an Interested Officer, at the rate of \$25 per hour. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Mr. Stoeckel called the roll:

Mr. Duden—Aye; Mr. Hiller—Aye; Mr. Stoeckel—Abstain; Mr. Whitcomb—Aye; Mr. Wilhelm—Aye.

### **Road Report**

#### **50<sup>th</sup> Avenue Repairs**

Mr. Whitcomb called for a motion to request a quote from Independent Testing Technologies (ITT) and approve up to \$5,000 for soil compaction testing. Mr. Duden moved to approve. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried.

Mr. Whitcomb called for a motion to approve purchasing four 30"x30" "ROUGH ROAD" signs to post along 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue after work is completed (approximately \$85 each), and on other roads where needed (40<sup>th</sup> St). Mr. Hiller moved to approve up to \$400 to purchase the signs. Seconded by Mr. Duden. Motion carried.

### **Road Condition Updates**

Mr. Whitcomb provided updates on road grading, dust-control application, tree and brush removal, and sign removal. He showed pictures of some road areas that had been damaged by flooding after recent heavy rain. He also noted some road damage that was not caused by rain.

### **Supervisor Reports**

Mr. Wilhelm reported that the Planning Commission is continuing to work on amendments to the zoning ordinance concerning setback regulations and accessory buildings; also establishing a procedure for notifying neighboring property owners of pending administrative property splits.

Mr. Duden received a report from a resident concerning a property-line adjustment that showed a billboard thought to be on a neighbor's property was actually on the resident's property. Mr. Richards is aware of the issue.

Mr. Stoeckel reported that he and Mr. Duden had attended the Mille Lacs County Association of Townships meeting, the first since the COVID19 restrictions.

Mr. Stoeckel reported that he, Mr. Whitcomb, and Mr. Dahl have registered for Town Law Review and Legal Short Course offered by MAT on May 25. He asked for a motion to approve \$195 for the three registration fees. Mr. Duden moved to approve the payment. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried.

### **Adjourn**

Mr. Hiller moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Duden. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Dahl  
Clerk-Treasurer