

**Princeton Township  
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota**

**Township Board Monthly Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 20, 2023**

**Minutes**

The June monthly meeting of the Princeton Township Board was called to order by Chairman Gene Stoeckel at 7:00 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:** Mike Bishman, Dan Hiller, Thomas Duden, Gene Stoeckel, Bill Whitcomb

**Staff present:** Ken Henchen, Clerk-Treasurer Terry L. Pflughaar, Zoning Administrator Scott Richards

**Public attendees:** Greg Anderson, Jason Betzler, Joss Jondahl, David Kornell, Joel Minks, Nancy Moan, Jean Stearns, Craig Wensmann. There were no online attendees.

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approve Agenda**

Mr. Hiller moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Bishman seconded. Motion carried.

**Open Forum**

Jean Stearns references a statement given by a Planning Commission Board member who said board decisions are not a popularity contest. Ms. Stearns stated this did not set well with her, as she feels the boards represent the people and their feelings and beliefs.

**Approve Meeting Minutes**

**May 16 Monthly Meeting:** Mr. Whitcomb asked for an amendment to the minutes, to change .25 to .20 for the Dust Control Application. Mr. Duden moved to approve the minutes of the May 16 monthly meeting as amended. Seconded by Mr. Hiller. Motion carried.

**Clerk-Treasurer Report**

Cash Control Statement—May 31, 2023

General Fund Beginning Balance	\$ 119,371.05
Receipts	\$ 8,466.12
Disbursements	\$ 45,105.92
Ending Balance	\$ 82,731.25
Road & Bridge Fund Beginning Balance	\$ 284,941.77
Receipts	\$ 540.00
Disbursements	\$ 23,016.95
Ending Balance	\$ 262,464.82
Total Cash Beginning Balance	\$ 611,592.26
Receipts	\$ 9,006.12
Disbursements	\$ 68,837.87
Ending Balance	\$ 551,760.51

ARPA Fund \$ 124,159.69

Mr. Hiller moved to approve the Cash Control Statement. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion carried.

May Payroll

Gross \$ 6,079.95  
Net \$ 5,158.86

Ms. Pfliegaar noted that the May Payroll included two payments for Planning Commission members, for the May 1 meeting, and the June 6 meeting.

Mr. Hiller moved to approve the May Payroll. Mr. Duden seconded. Motion carried.

Total Claims to Date \$85,647.61

Notes:

➤ Notable claims:

- Allied Blacktop \$25,994.17
- Hass Construction \$44,473.25

Mr. Whitcomb moved to approve the May Claims to Date. Mr. Bishman seconded. Motion carried

➤ Outstanding Checks:

Ms. Pfliegaar read a note from Mr. Dahl stating that we had outstanding board member payroll checks from 2020 and 2021, when Mr. Dahl was switching payment forms with Bremer Bank. The checks were voided, and the sums placed back into the General Fund (\$153.38) and the Road Fund (\$29.96). Ms. Pfliegaar asked that the Board make a motion to approve this action. The two board members submitted new claims for the wages. Mr. Hiller moved to accept the payroll with this adjustment. Mr. Duden seconded. Motion carried.

**Zoning Report**

- **100<sup>th</sup> Avenue Storage Buildings** – Zoning Administrator Scott Richards offered an application by Jason Betzler of DPJB Properties for a Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Rezoning and Conditional Use Permit to allow storage buildings in Section 6 at 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue south of 70<sup>th</sup> Street. The Planning Commission at the June 5, 2023 meeting recommended approval of the change in land use classification and rezoning, and the CUP.

Mr. Whitcomb moved to waive the first reading and schedule a second reading for the July 18, 2023 meeting of *Ordinance No. 2023-4 An Ordinance Amending the Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map and Rezoning to C/I Commercial/Industrial Land Use Classification and Zoning for Property in Section 6 at 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue South of 70<sup>th</sup> Street, PID 16-006-0203*. Mr. Hiller Seconded.

Mr. Stoeckel called the roll: Mr. Bishman-Nay, Mr. Duden-Aye, Mr. Stoeckel-Aye, Mr. Hiller-Aye, Mr. Whitcomb-Aye.  
Motion Carried.

- **3976 Brickton Road**– Zoning Administrator Scott Richards offered an application by Bill Whitcomb for a Comprehensive Plan Map amendment and Rezoning of his property.

The Planning Commission at their June 5, 2023 meeting recommended that this property be rezoned from C/I Commercial/Industrial to AC Agriculture Conservation. Mr. Duden moved to waive first reading and schedule second reading for the July 18, 2023 meeting of *Ordinance No. 2023-3 An Ordinance Amending The Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map and Rezoning to AC Agriculture Conservation Land Use Classification And Zoning for Property in Section 20 at 3976 Brickton Road*. Mr. Hiller seconded. Mr. Stoeckel called the roll: Mr. Bishman-Aye, Mr. Duden-Aye, Mr. Stoeckel-Aye, Mr. Hiller-Aye, Mr. Whitcomb recused himself. Motion Carried.

- **Chickens** –Zoning Administrator Scott Richards brought up the ongoing discussion on keeping chickens in Princeton Township, which currently does not allow such in the R-1 and R-2 Residential Districts. The Planning Commission had approved a list of regulations. Mr. Hiller asked that free range chickens be prohibited in lots under 2.5 acres. Mr. Whitcomb asked that Commercial Districts be addressed. Mr. Duden moved to waive the first reading and schedule a second reading at the July 18, 2023 meeting, of *Ordinance No. 2023-2 Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance as it Relates to the Keeping and the Care of Chickens*, with changes. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried.
- **Recreational Vehicles** – Zoning Administrator Scott Richards introduced Ordinance 2023-1 amending Chapter 300 of the Zoning Ordinance as it relates to allowances for recreational vehicles and campgrounds. At their May 16 meeting, the Town Board waived the first reading of Ordinance 2023-1 and scheduled the second reading for June 20, 2023. Mr. Hiller moved to waive the second reading and approve *Ordinance 2023-1 Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Related to Recreational Vehicles and Campgrounds and to approve Resolution 2023-11 Summary Language for Publication of Ordinance 2023-1*. Mr. Bishman seconded. Mr. Stoeckel called the roll: Mr. Bishman-Aye, Mr. Duden-Aye, Mr. Stoeckel-Aye, Mr. Hiller-Aye, Mr. Whitcomb-Aye. Motion Carried Unanimously. Ordinance No. 2023-1 is adopted. Resolution No. 2023-11 is adopted.

### Old Business

- There was no old business to discuss this month.

### New Business

- Mr. Duden moved to approve a Special Event Permit and a Temporary Liquor License Permit for Darcy Rylander-Rum River Trails, Outlaw Grassdrags for September 30, 2023. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Bishman moved to approve a Special Event Permit for Amy Zentner of Long Siding Station for July 8, 2023. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### Supervisor Reports

#### **Chairman's Report**—Gene Stoeckel

- There were no meetings to report on this month.

#### **Airport Commission Liaison**—Gene Stoeckel

- The Airport Fly-In Breakfast on June 11<sup>th</sup> was a great success.

**City Planning Commission Liaison—Gene Stoeckel**

- There were no meetings this month.

**Township Planning Commission Liaison—Mike Bishman**

- Mr. Bishman stated that Mr. Richards already discussed most of it.

**Road report—Bill Whitcomb**

- There is a Preconstruction meeting for 2023 Road Improvements on June 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Allied Blacktop finished spray patching 14 tons, but could finish the rest of the roads with about 10 tons, at a higher cost. The Board decided to wait until next year to finish.
- The next application of chloride will be in August.
- Most roads were graded this week.
- Roadside mowing started this week.

**Brush Removal—Thomas Duden**

- St. Louis County's John Deere tractor is being repaired in the area, and they asked if the Township would like to test their tractor on our roads, at no cost, instead of hauling it back up north to test. Mr. Duden would like to test it on 70<sup>th</sup> Street, and possibly at more locations. Mr. Whitcomb moved that Mr. Duden use the John Deere Tractor on Town roads with the Town covering the cost of fuel. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Fire Board—Dan Hiller**

- Mr. Hiller stated that the Township's cost of Fire Coverage may increase significantly next year. The Fire Board is supposed to give us next year's numbers by the end of 2023.


**Adjourn**

Mr. Bishman moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hiller seconded. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved by the Town Board July 18, 2023

  
Eugene Stoeckel, Chairman