

# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEETING

## January 25, 2017 – 7:30pm

### Minutes

Present: Dennis Kortekaas, Ken Haubrich, Peggy Clayton, Jay Bowers, Clerk Cari Alleman, Treasurer Becky Adams, Missing Jim Kelley.

#### 1. **Pledge to the flag-** reading of our mission statement

#### 2. **Business from the Floor**

- Appoint Jay Bowers to the board
- Judy Meyers brought up the idea of appointment of the treasurer and clerk positions. Judy noted it has been done on this county, city, La Prairie, and Cohasset. If we put them on the ballot we have no way of screening the applicant. If we appoint they are working for the township and we can eliminate them if they don't have the right experience. If they quit we are in trouble and have a limited time to have a special election to elect a new one. We are going to be sad if we lose either the treasurer or the clerk. We have a large budget and we need to take precautions, would like to see appointed instead of elected. We need to decide if this position is a full time job. The board asks that Cari (clerk) do a business case and we have then justification to the public to move this to an appointed and full time position. We don't know the amount time she spends on what is mandatory now, and what else we fill the time up with the fulltime. Once we have a case study and have justification to be able to appoint the treasurer and clerk we will bring it to the public. You make valid points; but we need more information in front of us. If we were able to put on the ballot as a yes or no question, we would then have to move to have it that way from now on. If we were able to put it on the ballot and have the option of not doing it we would be ok with putting it on the ballot. Should the board have the option to appoint the treasurer or clerk in the future? Clerk will send to MAT before sending to Vicki at the county. Ask Vicki when she needs the question. Table it as this time and look into it further and look at benefits and table the information when the case study is done. Couple of questions that were asked also were: is medical offered now? Answer: no medical is not offered through the township, it is offered for a regular employees only for about a \$1000 a month for insurance; which includes medical, life, disability, we all get Pera. We are paying a decent wage and experienced people don't come cheap. We would have added costs to look at because it is not a full time position for a treasurer or clerk. WE are not saying it's a bad idea, we just have a lot to look at. We can't see anyone applying to these two jobs without having some kind of experience. Motion to table until further study until we have more information until February P & D made by Haubrich seconded by Clayton a passed by all.

#### 3. **Consent Agenda**

- The board interviewed 6 people for the supervisor seat E.
- The board meet on January 15 with John Powers for the purpose of the Comprehensive plan. The board went over the entire plan with John and made the necessary meetings to move forward with the plan.

#### 4. **Roads**

- Twp. Construction Updates- Snow banks are too big by the Harris Township and Wendigo Park Road and Norberg road is bad with bumps. Township roads are being sanded today and tomorrow, the county was out before we could call. Supervisor Haubrich to call the county to see about the snowbanks.

#### 5. **Recreation**

Rinks have been closed the last 4 days open again today and the weather was to warm and made the ice into water.

## **6. Town Hall Report**

- Review town hall report as prepared by town hall caretaker, dated 1-9-17- motion to accept the town hall report made by Supervisor Clayton correction of 1/9/17, seconded by Supervisor Haubrich passed by all.

**7. Maintenance Report:** 12/1/16-12/31/16- expect next month as there is more paper and will have a log of outstanding work orders and completed work orders. The maintenance crew will be about to do road inspection reports. There have been power outages and breaker tripped, we need to check the circuit and the security system was tripped. We need to update telephone numbers as Gary Rosato is the contact and with new numbers we need to let the security company know. Do we have any idea who we call and we can find a bill and find out the contact information of it? Treasurer will look for a bill with a phone number. Motion to approve the maintenance report made by Supervisor Clayton seconded Supervisor Haubrich passed by all.

## **8. Old Business**

- Comprehensive Plan- dates for the upcoming meetings are: Public Meeting February 15 @ 6 pm at the Town Hall; Draft Copy of the Comp plan to the public March 15 @ 6 pm Town hall. Encourage people to attend the meeting come one come all.
- News Letter- Would like to thank Judy and Cyndy who put together the newsletter and the show case of the businesses. Wendigo School; Louie who made the donation of the property. Judy will try to get interviews of older people to see why they are still in the area. Guy Carlson has some old maps of the area and it shows an old cart way that went to Minneapolis. When it comes to township information it's not a big deal, but we need to have smaller articles vs the larger ones, to try to keep it a smaller newsletter. Motion to approve the newsletter made by Supervisor Haubrich seconded by Supervisor Bowers passed by all.
- Quote for arrow embroidery to be able to put on clothing and safety vests and digitize the township logo; it was \$65 to just digitize it so we can print it or embroider the clothing. Will be looking at getting a quote from Clifton also.
- Bills- two checks to add to the list for January and reissued a check to Byron Snowden for a election judge and Ken Haubrich for a payroll adjustment. Byron is in the amount of \$182.38 and Ken is \$97.83. Need to be approved to be paid made by Supervisor Clayton seconded by Supervisor Bowers passed by all.
- Internet for clerk- two things on Version; Becky was able to change two descriptions of the phone numbers so they read clerk Harris care taker Harris. Now you can tell who the numbers are for. We have talked about having a hot spot for the clerk because of the spotty internet at her residence. We looked at getting a hot spot they would give us the device for free, and it would be about \$40 a month. Verizon made it clear that it is for business and the hot spots are not set up for streaming and it would use it up look to see how long of a contract it is first before we decide. Motion to table the internet until Verizon lets us know about the contact at the next regular meeting, made by Supervisor Clayton seconded by Supervisor Haubrich passed by all.

## **9. New Business**

- Meeting schedule for the year- motion to approve the meeting schedule of the second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30pm at the Harris Town Hall made by Supervisor Kortekaas seconded by Supervisor Clayton passed by all.
- No alcohol at any time will be on any township property, which includes the cemetery, maintenance center, rinks, play places, and any other Harris Township owned property. It is a reminder as it is part of our policies and does it need to be there. Motion to put up signs at each property; to state no alcohol use at all Harris township property and ordinance number one (1) as not consumption of alcohol on township property, Supervisor Kortekaas seconded by Supervisor Clayton passed by all. Maintenance crew will take care of the signs.

## **10. Public Input**

- **Congratulation's Jay for the appointment position and good job Judy and Cyndy for the newsletter.**

**11. Upcoming meetings/events**

- Mon, Feb. 13 Itasca County Township Association Meeting..... 7:00 PM Blandin Foundation
- Wed. Feb. 8 Regular Meeting..... 7:30 pm Harris Town Hall
- Wed. Feb. 22 Planning & Development Meeting..... 7:30pm Harris Town Hall
- Wed. Feb. 15 Public Meeting for the Comp Plan..... 6:00pm Harris Town Hall
- Mon. Jan. 30 Board of Audit/ budget meeting..... 6:00pm Harris Town Hall
- Wed. Feb. 6 Budget Meeting..... 6:00pm Harris Maintenance center
- Wed. Feb. 13 Budget meeting..... 5-7 pm Blandin Foundation

**12. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Haubrich at 8:15pm seconded by Supervisor Bowers passed by all.**