

**Greenvale Town Board  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
February 21 2017**

Board Present: Chair Gregory Langer, Treasurer Wayne Peterson, Supervisor Duane Fredrickson, Clerk Linus Langer, Supervisor David Roehl

Guests Present: Ryan Blumhoefer, Dean Johnson, Bernard Budin, Robert Winter, Lila Winter, Nancy Kluver, Bryce Otte, Erwin Ulrich, Martin Gavin, Charlene Klemmenhagen, Jane Dilley, Jeff Bolin, Jerry Bolton, Tim McNearney, Maynard Bolton, Matt Rohn, Edith Nelson, Dean Odette, Joe Kalina, Dallas Berg, Dick Moore, Gerry Gehler, Ken Malecha, Officer Matt Lohman, Lisa & Mark Legvold, Bruce Paulson, Eric Christianson, Kate & Jeff Dahlen...

Meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance at 7 p.m. (silence cells, agenda on table)

Review January 17 2017 Regular Minutes, February 9 2017 Special Meeting Minutes and February 9 2017 Board of Audit Minutes.

Fredrickson moved to accept all three minutes as written. Roehl gave second and all approved.

Review and approve agenda: Langer expressed requests to accommodate planner's schedule, Roehl recommended moving review items for Road work down to later in agenda. Langer moved to approve and Roehl made second and all approved.

Treasurers Report: To start the year our operating funds had \$293,221 in checking. There were receipts of \$6,285 and disbursements of \$10,949 leaving a balance of \$288,557. In addition, investment CD's in the general fund total \$81794.

Langer moved to approve the treasure's report. Roehl gave second and motion passed.

Clerk spoke about upcoming election and the Annual Town Meeting.

Langer introduced guests Dean Johnson and Ryan Blumhoefer. Jerry Anderson of NAFRS was attending a Northfield township meeting so he will be here later.

Langer spoke to discussion on zoning: Request was received for extension until April 4<sup>th</sup>. Board is required to provide answer, which can be made this meeting or March meeting... Langer asked Blumhoefer to clarify... if you move to deny you need findings, if you approve it has to be as it is worded... we can't approve and touch it up later.

Langer: my position is not a secret as I offered a motion at our last meeting.

Fredrickson: where I am at... I wanted to gather more information, so I did not second the motion last month. I've now taken the time to listen to people of the township... I've taken a lot of heat for not offering up a second previously... if everyone in the room said I had to vote one way and

I had a conflict with what I believe to be ethical and fair then I would vote my conscience... 30 to one people are not in support of it and in this case, neither am I.

Roehl: I've had about 12 letters and several people have called... I am kind of undecided. I would like to hear from more people...

Langer: I have not talked to one single person who is against solar energy... asked if it would be appropriate to make motion again... Attorney "you are free to do that..."

Langer referenced MAT guidelines on preparing motion... Langer made a motion to deny. Dean Johnson said it would be his preference to include specific findings. Fredrickson made a second.

Discussion: Langer said he could have written a half page with many reasons but scaled it back.

Fredrickson asked if we could delay vote to find appropriate language... wouldn't "inconsistent with comprehensive plan" be specific enough?

Planner Dean Johnson recommended taking some time to develop findings. Attorney Ryan Blumhoefer said it would be good to be specific to the comprehensive plan. Board suspended discussion for a short time. Clerk gave the copy of Chair's motion to planner and attorney for study and review and to be taken up later in meeting.

Township Road concerns -- Jerry Bolton said roads looked good and contractor has replaced some damaged signs. Fredrickson inquired about frost being out. Jerry talked to Bryce and Richard about 307<sup>th</sup> near Trahans where it would be good to spot 8 loads or more. Roehl recommended figuring 10 loads given condition of road.

Roehl moved to approve ten loads. Langer made second and motion was approved.

Citizen Business -- Deputy Matt Lohmen... just up the road we had a house on house watch and was noticing a flashlight searching area (gasp)... was a guy looking to get in house... he had some warrants and his story did not make sense... Roehl had six units where they cut off locks and put theirs on... 1/3 of stuff missing... a Dodge Dakota truck rust colored with one tail light busted out... if you see that vehicle give us a call. We will set up house watch if requested. Gehler inquired when did this happen? 2a.m.

Langer asked guests to state names if they have questions. Lisa Legvold asked supervisors to introduce themselves to citizens in audience.

Two septic items by clerk. County sponsored a SSTS seminar for realtors. Inspector Bob Freiermuth Jr. helped a home owner review design plans for an addition to his house.

Langer has spoken with Mike McNamara and had a map of property to review with others. He will likely be joining us at our March meeting for a new house permit.

Legal -- we get many real estate inquiries from property owners and title companies... they often want something official, but we don't have an approved procedure...

Langer had a map of property showing section 24... discussed need for access and involvement of county on wet land areas...

Fredrickson moved to approve February 23rd letter to Gina Sievers of All American Commercial Title, as written by Langer. Roehl made the second and the motion passed. Letter was signed by supervisors.

We should consider what we'd like to charge. Fredrickson said there are a couple ways to structure paying in future.

Ryan Blumhoefer and Dean Johnson rejoined the meeting and read the motion in first person:

I move that we deny the request from Robert Winter to amend our Township's zoning ordinance to allow solar electric systems in Greenvale Township as he requested on September 20, 2016, because, after hearing comments and questions at and after the required public hearing, it is evident that the majority of our Township citizens want to preserve our current ordinance, and that the proposed change is inconsistent with the following Agricultural Goals in the Comprehensive Plan: preserve agriculture as a primary land use and economic opportunity in the area; minimize the conversion or disruption of agricultural land uses by limiting non-farm uses in long term agricultural areas; minimize conflicts between land uses; protect the rural atmosphere of the area; and, further; it is inconsistent with the agricultural policy to support and encourage incentives that will maintain and enhance farming operations and agricultural land use.

Langer moved as recited and Fredrickson made second. Someone asked to hear it again... Blumhoefer read Langer's motion again out loud for everyone to hear.

Langer and Fredrickson voted for the motion and Roehl voted against. The motion carried. Township will prepare and mail a letter to the applicant.

Jerry Anderson presented -- Update where we are at with NAFRS... first folder items compare 2016 budget to 2016 actual... all is online... we wanted to replace an aerial truck so there was some extra cost that was discussed and mutually agreed... next a recap sheet... we took on 6 members and expect to add more... tier of aged firemen will need to be replaced... takes time to qualify and train new firemen... city has agreed to finance facility upgrade project. 2 board members have retired... Jessica Peterson White and Ann Haddad are new members... NAFRS to own building upon final payment. Fredrickson "city should not own it." Anderson has explained need for consistency to Ben Martig (NFLD administrator) and has recommended he meet with townships... explained some agreements haven't been lived up to.

Langer asked when figuring what portion each pays... Greenvale paid \$26,000, has small population. Dundas has Kmart, Sears, Menards, lots of properties, downtown, developments, and they are paying only \$28,392? JA: no question rural stepped up to the plate and saved the volunteer fire department... it has made a big difference...

Mark Legvold asked for clarification on fees... farm land does not have improvements, also there is less success fighting fires because of not having water.

Q: Colleges are not included in the formula? A: they are tax exempt... we want them to acknowledge benefit of services... they are good business people. Dean Odette said rescue is strictly volunteer and colleges have generously stepped up to plate with funds.

IG meeting was held Jan 18<sup>th</sup> at Greenvale town hall and Roehl and Langer(s) were there.

Comprehensive Plan moving forward -- we had an orientation meeting with lead Dean Johnson. Spoke about Bolton and Menk and Johnson... meeting lasted over an hour and we were left with two sets of new zoning maps to study and markup while studying our current plan. No decisions were made on new zoning and board is interested in what people have to say.

Mark Legvold asked if there was anything proposed as far as amendments? Langer said there is high level of support for what we have... we might have to incorporate pieces of new buffer law.

Q: Is board working to establish planning commission? Fredrickson said right now we do not have a planning commission, so board is doing the work now... can be good or bad... believes there are pro's and con's to having a planning commission.

Lisa: Isn't it the board's role to drive the process? Langer said he believes it is and expressed he will be presenting that case again at the Annual Town Meeting.

Fredrickson I've been supervisor for three years... it's changed a lot... don't like to add steps to approval process, but can see some good coming of it.

Fredrickson Sheriff's meeting: we were asked to be on advisory committee... I believe I've changed their minds on some things... we had a real large string of burglaries... neighbor had collection of coins that got stolen...

MAT Officer Training events: scheduled for March. March 18th Dakota County Officer's Association meeting at Empire Maintenance Building. Try to make it. We have two associations: Dakota County Association of Townships which is part of the State Association of Townships.

Rural Solid Waste Meeting Recap -- Dakota Environmental Resources hosts meetings... rewriting plan...had a meeting in November for contractors and there will be a summer meeting, and a public meeting in future. Tabled for March meeting...

Claims were reviewed and paid. Caretakers of Greenvale Cemetery approached the board on a cemetery funding question. Langer moved and Roehl gave second on wooden map frames from Tony Jelinek. Motion passed. 8:50 meeting adjourned with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Linus Langer | Clerk