

**Greenvale Town Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday July 18, 2017**

Officers Present: Clerk Linus Langer, Treasurer Wayne Peterson, Supervisor David Roehl, Chair Gregory Langer, Supervisor Darcy White.

Citizens and Guests: Maynard Bolton, Mike McNamara, Tony Rowan, Jeff & Jill Bohlen, Marcia Wilson (Deputy Treasurer), Adam Royle, Dick Moore, John Fink, Dean Odette, Ruth Paulson, Ed Treinen, Phil White, Barb & Herman Ohmann, Mark Holter, Ken & Judi Malecha, Jennifer & Ron Welbaum, Mark Legvold, Bernard Budin, Jane Dilley, Charlene Klemenhagen, Charles Anderson, Eric Christianson, Bobbi Bolton, Kathleen Karbowski Edwards, Patrick Edwards, Road Superintendent Jerry Bolton.

7:00 p.m. meeting opened with pledge of allegiance.

Review Minutes – Langer moved to approve the June 20th minutes and Roehl made the second with motion being approved.

Agenda – Langer added Jennifer Welbaum to citizens business. Roehl moved to approve the agenda and White made the second with motion being approved.

Treasurer's Report – Peterson shared monthly figures. \$244,056 beginning balance, receipts \$8,160, disbursements \$32,409 and ending balance at \$219,807. Langer moved to approve treasurer's report and Roehl gave second with motion approved. Treasurer Peterson introduced Deputy Treasurer Marcia Wilson from Eureka Township – a warm welcome! Peterson is serving as Deputy Treasurer for Eureka... a suggested practice recommended between neighboring townships by Minnesota Association of Townships.

Clerk's Report – Mentioned invite from Northfield Schools to aid in fall referendum. Roehl and White looked at rural distribution of voters. White recommended we hold it here, especially due to our location for voters and our great facilities. Supervisors agreed we should offer our town hall and available people to help with school districts' voting needs.

Road Concerns – Langer had invoice from Otte for work completed... had some photos of some of the improvements. May/June we talked about sharing cost of aggregate with Waterford Township on Dresden Avenue... cost came to under \$3,000 with our half around \$1,497. Ottes placed heavy rock on ends of Holyoke Avenue culvert. Erv agreed new boulders would not move!

Patrol officer on duty (Rob Husking) joined meeting and shared recent rural concerns with prowlers and a common issue of unlocked cars and sheds. Took comments and offered Q&A.

Ditch Work – Langer had sent out an acceptance letter to Kuchinka for his ditch mowing quote. Langer, Kuchinka and Bolton met on the 27th to study a map created by Bolton. Bolton and

Kuchinka toured areas where we are beginning to see wild parsnip and other toxic/noxious weeds. We had some bad areas on 285th and some other spot areas. Langer said MAT training had lots of materials on weeds to share. No one way to practice control that is perfect... a combination of mowing and spraying seems to work. We have an obligation to work with land owners and make them aware of certain weeds and to control problems in ditches.

Roehl was in touch with Castle Rock Elevator. They would charge \$386/hr and Scott was at \$65/mile plus chemicals. River Country Coop does not spray weeds for townships.

Open and view Road Services Contract quotes – why we do not do multiple years? Ans: we would be required to ask for sealed bids because of the amount we spend and we would be required to accept low bid. With quotes, vs bids, we are able to study proposals and not necessarily go with low bid.

Langer opened sealed quotes from three providers:

Charles R. Gleason: High

T.J. Grossman: Low (included a letter of reference from Rud's)

Otte Excavating: Mid

Darcy asked Jerry where is the majority of our money spent? Bolton shared normally it's the grader expenses that make up most of our bills.

Langer said he'd like to think on quotes a bit... or do supervisors have wishes or questions?

Roehl moved to accept Bryces' quote but there was no second. White said she would like Jerry to look at the quotes. Board chose to ponder quotes for a while and moved on to new business.

Citizen Business – property owner and volunteer Jennifer Welbaum made a short presentation. We have owned Billy Elstad's farm for eleven years... cookies in the past... we need to have a little more fun here... a natural planner... so far we are looking at a weekend in September for the township event and we want all of you to have some fun... maybe a pie competition.... look for special recipes... it's going to be great! Bobby Bolton noted busyness of DJJD weekend.

White asked if we have tables... remembered it has been discussed at annual meetings... volunteered to be board committee member for the event. (affidavit: _____). Langer moved to approve White as committee member, Roehl made second and motion passed.

Langer moved to approve up to \$2,000 spending and Roehl gave second. Motion passed.

Ken Malecha – Tom Wirtzfeld was going to do this but he is on a sewer project. At last meeting presented petition against a planning commission. Some discussion that notice to be on agenda was not made... item will be added to meeting later along with discussion of Reppe letter.

Old Business – Update on the new Comprehensive Plan – We will be meeting again on September 21st with planners Dean Johnson and Bolton & Menk. For now, the three town board members will be guiding direction. Current plan was approved in 2008. Langer was in touch with Terry Holmes, lead on collaborative and chair of Empire Township, and with Dean Johnson and learned they are making progress on updating required of data. We will need to post upcoming September 21st meeting as a public meeting. It will be for board members and the hired planners, as we don't have a planning commission... then planning next winter to have a general public meeting to comment on the draft that will be put together. This new and updated comprehensive plan is required by the state for all the communities in the seven-county metro area.

Victor Volkert asked what time of day will it be? White remembers it is 6:30 at the town hall. Langer said he will request board approve mailing a post card out to citizens.

Continue discussion on creation of planning commission - At last meeting Langer presented two drafts for applicants and a draft for duties. It states it is a draft for a citizen based advisory committee... to make recommendations for approval to town board... does not make new laws and does not enforce rules... current zoning ordinance already identifies planning commission. Peterson made copies for distribution...

Bohlen asked if supervisors would be obligated to use planning commission recommendations? Langer answered the board is not obligated... the planning commission does not have approval authority but serves as advisers to the board. An example of work could be taken from a recent subdivision agreement that literally involve 10-12 plus hours of time to study... it would not be possible to do that review thoroughly and provide the right help in 15 minutes at a regular meeting. I would gladly visit with you on this type of work... but in interest of staying on track...

White expressed we are the only township that does not yet have a planning commission... that we should be looking to move forward not backward... it has been talked about for a long time and tabled repeatedly over the years...

Roehl expressed/said he didn't think we needed a planning commission... we have about three house permits per year. White said we don't want to lose rural ag community...

Clerk noted administrative responsibility is substantial for community, and is kept local... seen as good we are not giving responsibilities over to the County for planning administration. Some of zoning type errors can be costly and hurtful, but better planning would benefit everyone.

Darcy White moved that we create a Greenvale Township planning commission. Langer made second. White and Langer voted in favor and Roehl voted no. Motion passed.

8:20 White said she was for shorter more succinct application of the two presented. White asked if there were any spots on road improvement committee. Langer said there was room for five volunteers. A question at our last meeting was how do you get on the road improvement committee? This would be an application that can be used for that as well.

White: I like draft #2, it still covers what we like. White made a motion to approve the second draft and Langer made the second. Roehl voted against and Langer and White voted in favor.

Langer recommended Clerk mail out application form. White said what about adding it to Township Website? Moore asked about serving on more than one committee? Ed Treinen asked who decides on members? Supervisors will interview and choose from applicants.

8:30 Road Work Contract RE-REVIEW – Langer suggested setting aside the Gleason quote as it was substantially higher than the other two. Two others are amazingly close. The Otte's have lots of townships that stretch their resources. A couple questions for T.J. Grossman. During winter months getting here to do snow plow work can be challenging.... what would you do that we might find interesting? Would keep a blade at his house in the township and has other equipment... Roehl asked about equipment? Servicing New Market and have 9 operators in company. Langer read letter for 1st time from Tim Rud... he is supporting you as provider... letter says he would recommend you... T.J. "I own a paving company and a trucking company and have taken over his work...."

Otte shared he has 5 townships and 3 graders.

Langer noted some of the prices are lower and some higher... Otte was at \$110 per hour and TJ was at \$105/hour. Otte said travel time on blade one way and on truck two ways.

Langer asked about labor per hour per person. Skid loader is less, and closer to the township.

Roehl moved to approve Otte but there was no second.

Charles Anderson commented he has been in lots of contracts in the past... should vote on it at next meeting... Langer said contract expires end of month... Wayne Peterson said he kind of likes what Charles said... Langer said he we could schedule a special meeting...

Roehl asked when we will be graveling next... Otte: Thursday.

Langer moved to schedule a special meeting for Monday July 31st at 6 p.m. to review and award road work contract. White gave second and all voted in favor. Bryce and TJ okay with that.

Letter to Town Board from Attorney Jonathon Reppe - Langer read letter. Dear Chair and Supervisors... letter made a "data practice" request... Clerk has responded to request.

Langer: Early on when I visited with MAT attorneys I sent them the same documents we sent to Reppe... recalling the things we worked on... the approval of the levy which is on the chalk board... and there were two approved resolutions, one for event and one for the planning commission... Where these odd statements came from I don't know and I don't recall ever stating people are not sufficiently educated, that is offensive...

Roehl asked if our attorney has a recommendation if we should do anything? Langer: we've already spent \$1000 on this... what would we gain? Would we change the levy? Would we disregard the community event or strike out the resolution to support forming the planning commission? The board already has authority... 200 people voted in the election and less than 30 attended the annual meeting.

People also moved on time and date of next annual meeting... there was a place for discussion of any concerns... now do we want to revisit concerns in the petition? Langer said he has already stated he doesn't think we have to do anything with the petition.

White said the Minnesota Association of Townships has explained we aren't required to do anything with this proposal. Langer: based on what we have shared with them, at the annual meeting people should have said something then, if there were concerns. According to MAT.

Out of courtesy to signers we can listen to what they have to say... but with legal we have always been instructed to turn it over to our insurance carrier. Roehl asked what is legal ramification to new survey? Langer: We don't know. Roehl: Can you shed any light on that? What might happen? Someone referenced "wise man and public opinion..."

Clerk recommended tabling and asking town attorney. Roehl said it's \$1000 either way. Malecha said there's no reason for litigation. Someone asked if there would be some personal satisfaction for people that maybe would come to a new annual meeting?

White read petition: Solar has already been addressed... Planning Commission is being addressed... Peterson asked what state statute would even allow us to reconvene the annual meeting? Studied annual meeting and studied new petition...

White: I'm all about being fiscally responsible... I am in favor of spending the deductible on this if we need to. Patrick Edwards asked why should we spend \$1,000 as opposed to letting them spend?

White reviewed pages in the Township Government Manual and then moved to table the petition. Langer made the second and all three supervisors voted in favor.

9:20 Tour and Annual NCRWMO Meeting – Langer is Board member and will attend tomorrow evening at 7 p.m. Many interesting items. Recently a common plan (one watershed one plan) was voted up and it will last for 10 years up to the year 2028.

Area Intergovernmental Meeting will be tomorrow as well. Clerk and Roehl will attend. Open Meeting Law is not an issue with these as they are educational meetings.

Summer Short Courses – White, Langer and Peterson attended recent education courses. Talked about OML, Road Work, Traffic Sign Maintenance, MN Noxious Weeds, Alternative forms of Government... White had an information sheet on rules for posting special meetings.

District 4 Meeting – Monday August 7th 5:30 p.m. Q&A with MAT staff, and 6:30 registration.

MNSPECT - Kandis Hanson, relationship manager, has request for joining our August meeting.

Review Bills – Claims were studied and paid.

Peterson would like to look at a new approach to our website... talk to some different people (firms) and would like to get some information.

White moved to support Peterson on website research. Langer seconded and all voted in favor.

White had photos of wild parsnip...

Roehl will try to schedule spray contractor for our next meeting.

At 9:55 p.m. meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest,

Linus Langer | Clerk