

Vermillion Township

Regular Meeting

May 18, 2021

Attendance:

Chairman Larry Ring
Supervisor Bruce Lohmann
Supervisor Audrey Felty
Clerk Cindy Ladzun
Treasurer Nick Rueger

Chairman Ring opened the meeting at 7:30 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Ring announced that the previous meeting's minutes will be read aloud this night, but, in the future, they will just be posted on the website.

The meeting minutes from the April 20, 2021 regular meeting were read and a motion was made by Felty to accept the minutes as read. Ring seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer Ruger presented a verbal summary of the Treasurer's report and claims were reviewed. Bank balance, gravel tax, dust control and fire protection were discussed. Motions were made by Felty and seconded by Ring to accept the treasurer's report and approve the claims submitted; all were in favor and the motions carried.

Permits:

- Lenertz to build a deck. Motion to approve was made by Felty and seconded by Ring; all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Taylor to build a house addition. Motion to approve was made by Felty and seconded by Ring; all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Endres to build a 3-season porch. Motion to approve was made by Felty and seconded by Ring; all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Beskau to build a deck. Motion to approve was made by Felty and seconded by Ring; all were in favor and the motion carried.

General Discussion:

- Wes King and father Gerald King would like to remove a sand hill between their houses and partially replace with black dirt in order to improve hay growth visibility to the pond. Ring inquired about the approximate volume to be removed and replaced.
- Gary & Melanie Tharalson – there was a complaint from L. Kahl regarding automotive repair activity at the Tharalson home. He stated there is a lot of automotive-related work occurring and is very noisy. Tharalson's interpretation from a discussion with Attorney Fluegel last fall indicated that if he is not charging, there's no problem and can go ahead. Felty indicated that the supervisors will discuss the matter with Attorney Fluegel.

Old Business:

- CTAS adoption status report – Rueger had an appointment set up with the Clerk at the City of Coates, but it was canceled and needs to be rescheduled. Felty requested a demonstration of CTAS.
- The FBI indicated that all info has been copied from the confiscated township laptop and the it will be returned. No date was given.
- Felty has completed the action of changing the town hall locks; new keys are available. Key holders are the supervisors, clerk and treasurer. Dennis Rother (who mows the lawn) will have a key to the gate padlock.
- The power poles used for official postings need a form of document holder, but are boxes allowed to be attached? Ring questioned whether we need to be posting on the power poles or if posting on the township website is sufficient. Resident J. Sathra, thinks it's a waste. Resident W. Stoffel indicated that it's tradition and has been done that way for a century. Lohmann checked with Dakota Electric and indicated that boxes are not allowed to be attached to the power poles.

Other Topics:

- MATIT insurance coverage; Nick provided the correct address.
- Resident J. Sathra asked if the change of meeting site to Pace Hall had been published in a newspaper. Ladzun indicated that it was discussed and Attorney Fluegel indicated it was not required by law.
- Green emergency signs used by the fire department for address identification. The county no longer provides them and the cost for each is \$32.50. Ring made a motion for the township to provide the signs as part of an approved new home project and to include that communication in the building permit. The motion also includes asking the homeowner to indicate when they would like the sign. Also, part of the motion - for all other signs (replacements for lost or damaged signs), the cost would be charged back to the requestor. Felty suggested including a sign fee in new home building permits. A motion was made by Felty to charge the cost of new and replacement signs to the requestor and that payment is due prior to ordering the signs. Motion seconded by Ring; all were in favor and the motion carried.
- W. Stoffel clarified that home owners are responsible for maintenance and cost of culverts in their own driveways, emphasizing that the township does not maintain or cover the cost of culverts.
- Rosemount Robert Trail South Quarter amendments. No issues by Supervisors. Motion by Ring to indicate that the Vermillion Township supervisors have no additional comments to the City of Rosemount regarding the Robert Trail South Quarter amendments. Seconded by Lohmann; all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Pace Hall liquor license. This license application is something normally approved by the board, but when discussed with Jim Hoffman in March, Hoffman indicated it was delayed. Motion by Felty to grant the United Steel Workers Local 662 liquor license scheduled for April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022. Seconded by Lohmann; all were in favor and the motion carried.
- Clarification of the earlier discussion about the reading of the meeting minutes and agenda. J. Sathra expressed concerned about the month-old minutes not being heard. Lohmann suggested putting copies of the previous meeting minutes and current agenda on a table for

anyone interested in reading them the night of the current meeting. Motion by Felty to adopt Lohmann's suggestion. Seconded by Lohmann; all were in favor and the motion carried.

- Forego (stop) reading the previous meeting's minutes during the current meeting. Motion by Lohmann and seconded by Felty; all were in favor and motion carried.
- Simones acquiring a portion of the Poepl property. The 30-foot property adjustment will involve working with the county for a proper transition.
- Question emailed to the Clerk. Someone would like to purchase a 4-acre property and was wondering how many acres are needed to keep a horse. The clerk contacted the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (the governing body that controls feed lots) and the MPCA indicated even 1 horse is considered a "feed lot". Jim Ostlie from the Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture did not indicate an animal unit limit... Ask Fluegel about house acreage? Dakota County does not have any zoning ordinances concerning this, so it's up to the Vermillion Town Board to define a feedlot. The definition of a feedlot involves manure accumulation. Ring recommends deferring the subject to Attorney Fluegel.
- Fire Board update by Lohmann – the board submitted a contract offer on April 1st, but there's been no response from Hastings city administrators; the offer involved a 2% increase, but the concern is that a Hastings city administrator may want a 5% or 6% increase.
- Ralph Stoffel has attempted contact with Supervisors Lohman and Ring requesting payment concerning procurement and disposal of office chairs. Previous conversations were held last fall concerning this matter, and Attorney Fluegel recommended no payment.
- J. Sathra requested an update concerning the sentencing of the former clerk. Lohmann explained the process. J. Sathra and K. Kasel want input concerning sentencing and the board recommends contacting Attorney Fluegel. The restitution plan will be formulated after sentencing. Lohmann emphasized that this is a federal case (not state or county). J. Sathra and K. Kasel will reach out to Attorney Fluegel about making an impact statement at the sentencing.
- K. Kasel inquired about the future Hwy 52 & 66 project. Ring inquired, but found that there is no budget at this time and it's targeted for construction in 2024 or 2025.
- C. Larson requested copies of the Vermillion comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance.

Adjourn:

Lohmann motioned to adjourn and Felty seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Cindy Ladzun

Vermillion Township Clerk