

Becker Town Board Meeting  
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, January 23, 2023  
12165 Hancock Street

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**Attendance**

Board members: Chair Brian Kolbinger, Vice Chair Brad Wilkening, Luke Babler, Joe Danielson, Clerk Lucinda Messman, Treasurer Tanya Danielson, Deputy Clerk Fran Seeley, Deputy Treasurer Marilyn Danielson

Absent: Robin Boros

Others: Sherburne County Sheriff's Department – Commander Zawacki, Wes Davis – Township Engineer (online), Ben Wikstrom – Township Planner, Jacob Sanders – City of Becker, Mark Kolbinger – The Patriot Newspaper, Tony Wruck – Wruck Excavating, Phil Ramola.

*Zoom platform was available for any member of the public who wished to attend virtually.*

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Meeting called to order at 7 pm. Quorum verified by Chair Kolbinger.

Pledge of Allegiance

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS APPROVED**

Approval of Minutes as listed

- a. Road Tour Minutes November 18, 2022

Upcoming Electronic Fund Transfers/Automatic Payment Approvals

- b. City of Becker – water/sewer
- c. Xcel Energy – gas/electric
- d. Midco Business – phone/internet
- e. Payments Related to payroll:
  - a. Federal payroll taxes
  - b. State payroll taxes
  - c. PERA, etc.
- f. State of MN for building permit surcharge fees

Correspondence/Information

- a. Northland Reliability Project
- b. LTAP Newsletter
- c. Danish Cemetery Contribution Request
- d. Monticello Energy Guide
- e. MAT District 7 Election Notice
- f. Turf Workshop flyer

Approval/Acceptance

- a. Resolution 2023-01 [full text on file]: A Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the March Township Election
- b. Resolution 2023-02 [full text on file]: A Resolution Appointing the 2023 Absentee Ballot Board for the March Township Election

**Motion to approve consent agenda as listed above by Wilkening. Second by Danielson. Motion carried all voting in favor.**

**Motion to approve a regular agenda after adding discussion items for Town Hall and CD's by Babler. Second by Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

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**ANNUAL SHERIFF'S REPORT – Commander Zawacki**

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Annual Sheriff's report presented.

- There is a facebook page can sign up on for notices
- Kids ATV Class highlighted

Monthly Sheriff's report presented.

- 193 calls for service
- No concerning items at this time

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**OPEN FORUM**

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No open forum items.

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**ENGINEER'S REPORT – Davis**

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- 97<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Resolutions from City and Townships were submitted for DOT funding letter
  - Comments received last week from Sherburne County
  - Repackaging this week and final review, then it will go to the State Aid office for review.
  - Bidding mid-end of February

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**SOLAR OVERLAY GROUP - Sanders**

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- Activity
  - Met last Friday
  - Good discussion, hearing Township concerns
  - Key step – the City has to figure out realistic 40-50 growth analysis and actual land where they plan growth rather than just a large area encompassing the majority of the township. This will be an important step to have everyone on the same page. It is important to be realistic rather than pie-in the sky planning as has been done in the past.
  - Supervisor Wilkening asked that they look more at the last 20-30 years of growth, that includes ups and downs rather than the pie in the sky approach that is often used when reviewing comprehensive plans and work such as this. Realistic growth can be obtained by reviewing past history and using those to estimate future. He gave example when original comprehensive plan was being worked through for Becker they were using population of 20,000 by 2020 which was not realistic.
  - Apex presentation and timeline gives a bit of time to work through analysis as they are anticipating the Becker Solar Project, if Township Ordinance allows solar in general rural district, to be submitted for a 2025 Xcel Energy RFP..

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## PLANNING COMMISSION/JOINT PLANNING BOARD UPDATES – Wikstrom

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- Activity
  - Discussion items reviewed from last Town Planning Commission meeting, no actions at this time so no Joint Planning Board meeting this month.

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## SUPERVISOR REPORTS

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### Fire Board – Supervisor Babler

- Still waiting on Grass Rig updates from Ford. They update every 45 days.
- 598 calls in 2022
- Donations
  - \$150 from Pizza Depot
  - \$150 from Ralphs Autobody

### CMRP – Sanders/Kolbinger

- Nothing at this time

### Roads – Supervisor Boros and Supervisor Danielson

- Snowplowing/weather discussed.
- GPS looks like it will work into our system. Contractor to acquire enough for all trucks to use when completing township work.
- CSAH 11/HWY 10 Resolution request by Sherburne County. Board noticed the Sherburne County version had a different whereas statement than the one provided by the County for the Township to use. **Motion to approve Resolution 2023-03 [full text on file]: A Resolution of the Becker Township Board Supporting Corridors of Commerce Funding of US 10 and CSAH 11 Rural Safety and Mobility Interchange Project after changing the first clause to read, “WHEREAS, US 10 between Elk River and St. Cloud carries in excess of 35,000 vehicles a day with an additional 12,800 side street movement served at this location; and” after verification with Sherburne County that the current version contains typos in the clause by Danielson. Second by Wilkening. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

### Town Hall

- Security and Sound estimates
  - Projector hdmi port no longer works. Cheaper to replace the 11 year old projector with current technology than to replace the port.
  - Sound board is not digital technology and causes some issues with sound between devices that the clerk has been able to mitigate to a point. Recommended for replacement as sound board is in excess of 11 years old.
  - **Motion to approve replacement as indicated in the estimate by Wilkening. Second by Babler. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

- File Cabinets
  - Clear Lake Township has upgraded their fireproof storage and has a room so no longer needs their fire proof cabinets. We can purchase 2 legal size for \$100 each. Board directive given to clerk to obtain and have all cabinets in the building painted the same when possible.
  - Moving the cabinets from Clear Lake to Town Hall will have to be done. Joe's Bobcat and more does have the proper equipment for moving the Fireproof filing cabinets. Board directive to have Joe's Bobcat and Supervisor Babler work together to get the cabinets to the Town Hall and in place.
  - Cabinets will be used prior to painting, but painting will be arranged.
- Iron Mountain or other Shred Service – clerk requested permission to have a shred service come in the first quarter of the year to handle records retention related shredding. Typical shredding is handled by Options, but we have many boxes that need to be done. Thinking February/March. Board directive to have done.

#### Other

- Recycle days information came out. At this time, continue as we have been. **Motion to allow clerk to sign documentation as required by Wilkening. Second by Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

#### Treasurer's Report

- **Motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented by Wilkening. Second by Babler. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**
- **Motion to approve payment of**
  - **Warrants 8453, 15858-15888**
  - **PO's 1506a, 1510-1513**
  - **Void 15247, 15810, 15811**
  - **in the amount of \$119,032.56 by Wilkening. Second by Babler. Motion carried 3-0-1. Danielson abstained as his company had submitted an invoice.**
- CD's
  - Currently the Township holds 2 CD's earning .25% and .45%.
  - Muni-fund is at 3.56%.
  - Treasurer recommends that the board move CD's to muni-fund even if penalty. Will request a waiver of the penalty, but even if there is a penalty to pay, the earnings would more than cover. **Motion authorizing the Treasurer to move funds from the CD's and into the money market account even if there is a penalty to pay by Babler. Second by Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**
- Becker North Fund
  - Waiting until property ownership has taken place and will budget for this beginning next year. A portion of the ARPA funds will be used to establish the base fund for this building.
  - Fund to be established separately from others in the accounting.

**Other**

- Treasurer brought up that she has seen on Linked in that the City of Becker is hiring a building official. Board asked how this would impact Becker Township. Sanders stated no one has been found at this time, but it should not change any of the reporting the Treasurer handles at this time.
- Reminder that Local Board of Appeal and Equalization is Tuesday, April 6

Meeting Adjourned 7:38 pm.



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Brian Kolbinger, Chair



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Lucinda Messman, Clerk