

Becker Town Board Meeting
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Monday, July 17, 2023
12165 Hancock Street



Attendance

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

Absent: none

Others: Sherburne County Sheriff's Department – Sgt. Frank, Wes Davis – Township Engineer, Ben Wikstrom – Township Planner, Jacob Sanders – City of Becker, Mark Kolbinger – The Patriot Newspaper, Tony Wruck – Wruck Excavating, Kelli Bourgeois – Township Attorney (online), Isaac Swanson

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS APPROVED

1. Approval of minutes, June 25, 2023.
2. Approval of upcoming electronic fund transfers/automatic payments.
 - a. City of Becker – water/sewer for Town Hall
 - b. Xcel Energy – gas/electric for Town Hall
 - c. Midco Business – phone and internet
 - d. Upcoming EFTS related to payroll
 - i. Federal and State Taxes
 - ii. PERA
 - e. State of MN for building permit surcharge fees
 - f. Monthly credit card reader fee
3. Correspondence/Information
 - a. MAT District 7 meeting August 10, 2023
 - b. City of Becker Letter to Becker Town Board [full text on file]
4. Approval/Acceptance with no comments
 - a. Holiday Station Store 598 Renewal of Tobacco License

Motion to approve consent agenda as listed above by Boros. Second by Babler. Motion carried all voting in favor.

Motion to approve a regular agenda by Babler. Second by Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

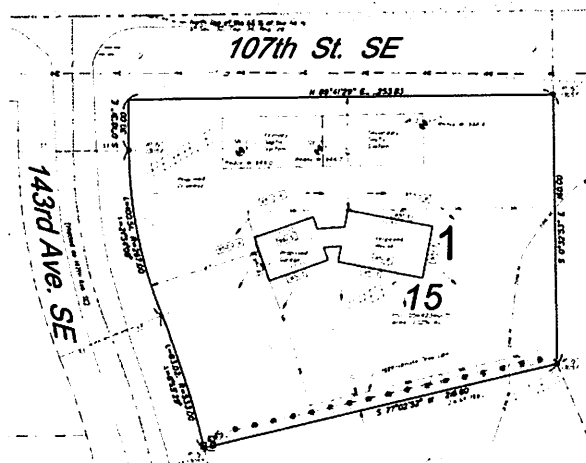
Typical month, nothing out of the ordinary

- 188 calls for service
- 78 traffic stops – Towards Zero Deaths enforcement going on right now – will see officers from other areas helping with enforcement. Speeding is an issue. Primary area this month is highway 10 and county road 11. Especially county road 11.
- Irrigation complaints coming in. Reminder it is not against the law for irrigation to hit the roads.
- Before the next meeting, August 1st, it will be legal for ATV's to be in the ditches south of Highway 95.
- Q: how is the Mental Health Officer going? A: Very busy. Still an asset and very helpful to our citizens. He is out on many calls.
- Property line issues continue.

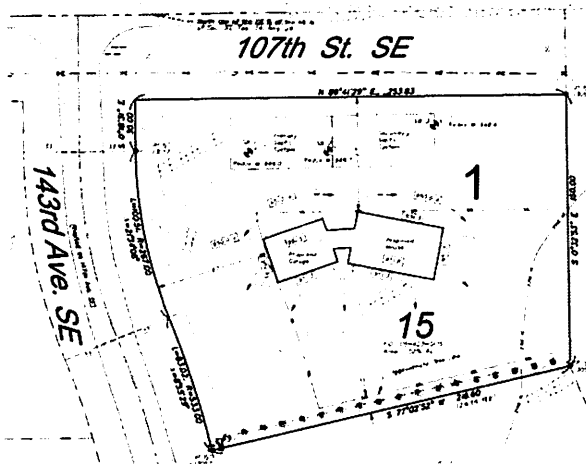
OPEN FORUM

- Isaac Swanson – driveway request.
 - Davis introduced the exhibits displayed.
 - Mr. Swanson is building a new SFR in the Pebble Creek Pines subdivision.
 - Proposed driveway location is at 100' from the stop sign rather than the required 180' distance called for in ordinance. Certificate of Survey for each option distributed to board members.
 - This is not a standard 2.5 Acre lot – it is 1.1 acre lot.
 - 180' from an intersection is the Township Standard.
 - Question regarding twisting the home site? Or is it curb appeal? A: it is set the way it is for lighting/enjoyment of the family. If we twist more, less light comes into the large windows.
 - Is there practical difficulty?
 - Yes, in order to turn the home, would require more cut and fill to have the 180' location from the stop sign.
 - Wikstrom – not anything further than Engineer Davis presented.
 - Findings
 - These are dead end rural residential roads.
 - Located in subdivision East of the golf course and west of the river.
 - Ariel view of the location viewed.
 - This is a dead end on 107th Street north of golf course. After the intersection it turns into a gravel road that dead ends at the river. Graveled area shows in the certificate of survey.
 - Very little traffic vs. other areas of the township. Slower traffic as well due to location.
 - This deviation is from engineering standards, not statute.
 - This is not anything that sets precedence. It is a straight up determination by the Town Board – similar to when driveways wider than the standard are requested.
 - 143rd Ave is low speed, dead end road and lots are approximately 1 acre in size. Much closer than typical.

- There is a stop sign at 107th street and 143rd Ave.
- There is no stop sign on 107th east of the intersection and one home east of the intersection.
- There is no stacking issue in this instance due to the two dead end roads.
- This standard on a 2.5 acre lot looks much different than it does for this 1.1 acre lot. The lot looks similar to a residential, city type lot.
- The 1 acre lot size does impacts things. Turning a home is not as simple due to space constraints.
- Our typical lot is 2.5 acres or larger. This is an older lot put in prior to current zoning.
- Cannot move the driveway without impacting the house.
- Lot has been vacant for quite some time.
- Based on the findings above
- 100' Driveway location:



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- 180' Driveway location – Township Engineering Standard
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- Engineer recommends the location at 100' based on the reasons given by the board.

- **Motion to approve the driveway location at 100' based on the above findings by Wilkening. Second by Boros. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

PLANNING COMMISSION/JOINT PLANNING BOARD UPDATES – Wikstrom

- **Activity**
 - Last month's Joint Planning Board
 - Approved Fantails and Flags Three preliminary and final plats
 - Good discussion on subdivision ordinance. Another public hearing this month with anticipated approval in August
 - This month's Planning Commission meeting
 - IUP for a long-term camper placement on 2.5 acre lot in Turnquist farms was heard. One letter came in against allowing. A neighbor came in to state he was in favor of allowing the campers. Decision was tabled last month as the Planning Commission asked staff to do more research. Staff did find an ordinance that allows a single camper as an accessory dwelling unit. Our ordinance does not allow these. The Planning Commission recommended denying the application for two, long-term campers. Application was extended to September 8th.
 - Rezoning the non-conforming Agriculture district parcels along the private road, 166th Street, SE to General Rural was recommended. These parcels are guided for General Rural in the Comprehensive Plan.
 - New Items
 - Preliminary and Final Plat application for 6 new lots next month.
 - Subdivision ordinance amendments process continues.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Davis

- **97th Street**
 - Started last week with clearing.
 - There is an overage due to mistake. Plans indicate 0.6 and 0.5 was bid. 1.5% overage, but believe cost will decrease overall due to time and materials.
 - Still anticipate Becker portion will come in under budget.
 - TS Dirtworks finished grubbing last week.
 - Knife River reclaimed bituminous.
 - TS Dirtworks is putting silt fencing down.
 - Fridays are site meetings.
 - Quote from Braun came for testing as required by State Aid. Q: are there more quotes? A: waiting to hear if more are available. Q: when will the project be completed? A: planning mid-September.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Fire Board – Supervisor Babler

- Annual meeting is tonight at 8 pm.

CMRP – Sanders/Supervisor Kolbinger

- A meeting is coming up.

Roads – Supervisor Boros and Supervisor Danielson

- 97th street looking good.
- Road Supervisors requested and received a quote from Astech for chip seals. Would like more quotes. Will meet with Town Engineer on Wednesday to discuss obtaining.
- Fire Signs – we will handle them and have a list.
- September – need to work on the CIP. Expect bad shape on some roads. Making sure the plan is in alignment with what exists. It is continually evolving, but we are try to keep things planned for the best.
- Supervisor Babler – Autumn Ridge wanted the contact for Knife River. Clerk provided to two different people earlier today.
- Several garbage pickups were completed.

Building Permits

- Wikstrom – software working well. No special trips for permits have been required at this time.
- Davis – system seems to be working well.
- Clerk –
 - works well, inspectors can use in the field.
 - Once the module for roads is ready to be incorporated for Road Supervisors, it will save office staff a lot of time each week with records.
 - Statistic summary report included in packet – no questions

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 16093-16117**
 - **Void check 16078**
 - **PO's 1556-1560**
 - **Void PO 1561**
 - **in the amount of \$ 44,051.91 by Babler. Second by Boros. Danielson – abstained as his company had submitted an invoice. Motion carried all voting in favor. Motion carried 4-0-1.**

Meeting Adjourned 7:29 pm.



Brian Kolbinger, Chair



Lucinda Messman, Clerk

Attachments:

- 1. Becker Fire Board 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes**
- 2. Becker Fire Board 2023 Meeting Agenda**

On file:

- 1. Becker Fire Department History compiled by Marilyn Danielson and Doug Kolbinger**
- 2. History of the Becker Fire Department compiled by Lester and Grace Dyson, Harold Cox and Mark Kolbinger. Edited by the Becker Fire Department**
- 3. List of Fire Chiefs from 1928 to present**
- 4. Monthly call statistics**
- 5. CIP and Budget information as distributed**