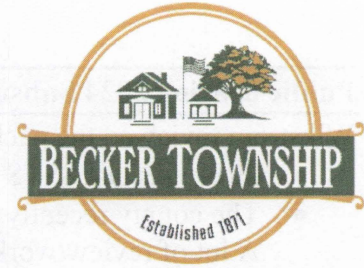


Becker Town Board Meeting  
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, August 19th, 2024  
12165 Hancock Street

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### **Attendance**

Board members: Brian Kolbinger, Brad Wilkening, Joe Danielson, Robin Boros, Luke Babler, Clerk Lucinda Messman, Treasurer Tanya Danielson, Deputy Clerk Megan Schmidt, Deputy Treasurer Marilyn Danielson

### Absent:

Others: Sherburne County Sheriff's Department, William Tessmer - Township Engineer, Ben Wikstrom – Township Planner, Kelli Bourgeois – Township Attorney (online), Mark Kolbinger – The Patriot Newspaper, Jacob Sanders -City of Becker Community Development Director (online), Dave Roden

*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**

1. Minutes
  - a. July 2024 Minutes
2. Upcoming electronic fund transfers/automatic payments approval
  - a. City of Becker – water/sewer, Xcel Energy – gas/electric, Midco Business – phone and internet, Upcoming EFTS related to payroll: Federal taxes, State taxes and PERA - mandated rates, State of MN for building permit surcharge fees, monthly credit card reader fee.
3. Correspondence/Information
  - a. MAT District 7 Meeting information- Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup>,2024
  - b. Election went well, we did exceed the 3% turnout expected.
4. Approval/Acceptance

**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 after a by Danielson. Second by Wilkening. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

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### **SHERIFF'S REPORT**

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203 calls for service.

- 75 traffic stops
- 14 security checks.

Wikstrom reviewed the packet materials.

- 2011 was last SSTS (Subsurface Sewage Treatment System) update.
- The county recently updated their ordinance, and their changes were driven by the state. A lot of review/work has gone into this ordinance over several months. By state law, city and township septic ordinances must be as restrictive or more restrictive than the county.
  - The county ordinance went back to their Planning Commission a month ago this version was passed on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- MPCA has reviewed and approved of the ordinance as presented this evening. Only minor edits
  - Jurisdictional items required needed clarification from the county ordinance. This was reviewed by MPCA, the township attorney, planner and clerk to make sure the wording was correct.
- A few items to note
  - House additions. They may need septic compliance more often. In the past, 10 years was good. It still is unless
    - Bedroom addition
    - Water usage increase
  - Use permits – any change in use for a property requires septic compliance review.
  - Compliance for many permits is still valid for 10-years.
- The other item of note is we need 3 days’ notice for inspections instead of one day notice. This was discussed with Metro West; they will try and get it done sooner if possible.

Board chair called for further questions: none

**Motion to close the public hearing at 7:06 PM by Wilkening. Second by Babler. Motion carried all voting in favor.**

**Motion to approve Ordinance 2024-01 Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Program by Wilkening. Second by Boros. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

**Motion to approve Summary Ordinance 2024-01 Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Program by Babler. Second by Boros. Motion carried 5-0.**

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**Open Forum - Residential Requests**

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Dave Roden

- Resident of Bridgeview
- He talked to the board tonight regarding a recent road project in the Bridgeview addition.
  - The old pavement was milled and repaved, bringing the new asphalt up a few inches. The paving looks good and turned out nice.
  - The project required soil to be brought back in to have the shoulders flow into the existing yards.
    - The soil that was brought in was in poor quality.

- There was a lot of debris in this soil such as sticks and weeds.
  - They hydroseeded the area that was two to three feet from the paving.
- Main complaint - there is no grass growing in the areas where they hydroseeded
  - The whole project has no grass growing other than one property where they planted their own grass.
  - Water is not the issue
    - A lot of rain this year
    - Many in the development have irrigation up to the road.
  - We now have sandburs growing in our front yards.
- He had emailed the township project inspector, asking what the expectations are from the township contract. He received no reply.
- Mr. Roden believes there should be some standards and funds withheld from the contractor who is responsible for the hydroseeding. This is our tax dollars being used for this poorly done portion of the project.
- Quality of the products used for the hydroseeding is questionable.
- Mr. Roden did present the board with a few pictures of the yards and the weeds. He wants to see the contractor held accountable for the job they are doing.

Township Engineer William Tessmer in response to the hydroseeding issues in Bridgeview.

- Problems with seeding are a common issue with projects, there is no positive mechanism for addressing the issue without having the contractor come back out and reseed again.
- There are two different contractors, one that completes the shouldering and one that does the reseed.
- There could also be other factors that could have potentially caused the failure of the reseed also. We have experienced this in other areas as well, on 97<sup>th</sup> where they had to come back and reseed that area 3 to 4 times.
- There are several other townships have gone strictly to the graveling instead of reseeding because of continual problems.

#### **Board Discussion:**

- Is there justification for the contractor to come back out and reseed?
  - A (Tessmer) We can try, but not sure how successful that would be.
- Board directive to reach out to contractor to reseed.
- It is possible that some of the rain may have washed some of the seed away.
- What is our standard, are there better options?
  - Graveling could be an option, but board does not believe residents of Bridgeview would want that.
  - Using millings for the shoulders is becoming a standard in some locations.
  - Gravel all three feet from the shoulder, some contractors are a little bit different in the size that they gravel.
- Does the contract with the seeding company define for how it will grow? Do they guarantee it to a certain extent? A (Tessmer) will check specifications of the contract and get back to Road Supervisors.
- Board to Mr. Roden. We will see what we can do, to improve the right of way area. We do have a retainage on this project, we can bargain with them a little bit. Check for updates with the clerk or it will be brought up at next meeting as well.

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## PLANNING COMMISSION/JOINT PLANNING BOARD UPDATES – Wikstrom

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- Planning Commission
  - Public Hearing this month include recommendation of the following:
    - Boundary adjustment, moving the property line from one side of the county ditch to the center line of the ditch to eliminate non-accessible portion.
  - Two applications:
    - Front yard setback variance. This variance was approved four years ago but the applicants never went through with the project so had to re-apply.
    - Rezoning, Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan review for United Sales Incorporated. This is a bus company that plans to have a 22,000 sf 2 story building on this plat. Including display area for buses for sale in the front along the highway/frontage road, retail store, offices and parking for over 200 buses behind the building in certain seasons.
      - Good application for this site. The property is guided for commercial; the CUP is required for bus sales and repair. They do not do any diesel work on the buses.
      - The site plan review had a lot of similar conditions to the CUP. Since the CUP pertains to the business rather than the site, the Planning Commission and Joint Planning Board have been keeping site plan as one resolution and the CUP as a separate resolution. Compliance with the Site Plan is a standard condition within the CUP.

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## ENGINEER'S REPORT – Tessmer

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### 137<sup>th</sup> Street

- Was reclaimed and shaped up last week, they paved the base course today. Should be back on Thursday to work more on the project.

### 67<sup>th</sup> Street

- They started paving, they will be there for a few days as the farmers on 137<sup>th</sup> ST have been pulling their harvest and it has gotten dusty. They would prefer to wait to put the tac coat on until the dust settles down from the harvest.

### Bridgeview

- We have finished everything except for 3 driveways, that still need to get fixed. Still waiting to hear back from the concrete contractors on when they will be available for that.
- Would like to ask the board to authorize a payment for \$436,143.72 for Bridgeview.

### Board discussion:

- How much was the retainage. A) \$22,954.93
- The seeding is \$14,437, so we will have the retainage for that until we figure it out.

**Motion authorizing a payment for Bridgeview, for \$436,143.72 to MPM by Boros. Second by Danielson. Motion carried all voting in favor.**

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## **SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

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### **Fire Board – Supervisor Babler**

- Fire Board will be a week off.

### **River Crossing Group – Sanders/Supervisor Kolbinger**

- Options to be socialized on all the options for the bridge. Still working on the nonprofit portion. There will be community outreach in the coming months for the options of the bridge sites. These will be at different community events to get the word out. There may be one at Fall Fest that the Becker Chamber is hosting

### **Roads – Supervisor Boros and Supervisor Danielson**

- Working through a few issues in Bridgeview. 137<sup>th</sup> ST is going and 67<sup>th</sup> ST was just started.

### **Facilities**

- **Town Hall & American Legion**

- Clerk updated board on the following

- NAS System- information sent to the board.

- Two of our computers are out of hard drive space.
- Examples of how staff is getting around this was explained, but it is tedious and time consuming.
- The NAS system is basically a central hard drive, allowing all office computers access, eliminating need to increase the storage capacity of those that are having issues now.
- As we move towards more digital records, our data storage needs are increasing.
- Two estimates, one is for a system as it comes with a 3 year warranty and the other is for a 5-year warranty. Most tech people say 5 years is the furthest you would want to go out with the NAS system due to security changes that will likely be needed in the future due to technology updates.
- Request for system now or after the first of the year. Not sure where this falls budget wise. We are very short on space here.
- Costs reviewed
  - The 5-year costs \$2,070? This also comes with an extra base so we can expand in the five years if we need to. It also runs a dual backup. Not prepared to halt any of our backup systems right now. Example – hard drive on clerk’s system crashed. With backups, it took less than a day (once new parts arrived) to get the system up and running again. Data was easily restored. The backup system is what alerted us when corrupt files were found.
  - Is there a costs for somebody to come in set this up? A (Messman) It is included in the price. 4 hours at \$150/hour is the estimate.

- **Motion to approve the quote for \$2069.97 for DataSuccess by Wilkening. Second by Boros. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

- Clean up day information reviewed.

- Basement door estimate – only one at this time. Another will be coming. **Motion to approve a not to exceed amount of \$4,228 by Danielson. Second by Babler. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**
- The French drain is now in place and should help keep moisture out of basement area.
- Flooring estimates have been sent to the board and we have another contractor coming tomorrow. Looking at Commercial grade for both buildings.
- The ceiling at the Legion has been repaired.
- For the primary election we had 324 voters, which beat the county average. Last primary election we had over 1200 voters.
- Mark Swanson had brought up a joint venture with the food shelf, City of Becker and the Township making a Christmas dinner for the community. Meeting in September to discuss this further.
- Larry Shermack is still the fire warden for Becker Township. Website has been updated. There is also another couple who are also permitted to give fire permits for Becker Township as well.
- Tri-County animal control wants to change their contract, they do not have it to us yet. We will have a conversation once paperwork is received.
- Covid preparedness plan, this is still in place, requiring covid positive tests to be out 2 weeks. Current CDC guidelines are 3 to 5 days depending on various factors. Would the board be willing to end the existing Covid Preparedness plan and have the decision for time off to be between the employee and their doctor? Or does the board want to keep the existing policy? **Motion to end the existing covid preparedness plan by Danielson. Second by Babler. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**
- A copy of the SSTS ordinance approved tonight was emailed to all installers on record in our permit database.
- Permits are going well. 224 permits issued to date for the year. We had estimated an average of 250-300 before handling permits.

### **Treasurer's Report**

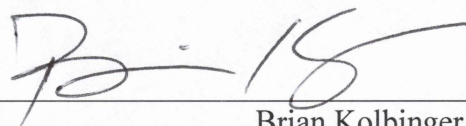
Election judge payment was discussed, such as if a Town Supervisor works the election they should be paid as an election judge and not as an employee as it appears to be discriminatory if we pay as a supervisor. **Motion to approve paying Town Supervisors at the same rate as election judges by Danielson. Second by Wilkening. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

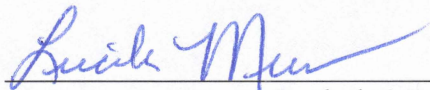
**Motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented by Babler. Second by Wilkening. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

- **Motion to approve payment of**
  - **Warrants 16562-16639**
  - **PO's, 1650- 1656**
  - **Voiding 16609-16614 and 16617**
  - **in the amount of \$638,353.75****by Wilkening. 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 7:43 PM.

  
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Brian Kolbinger, Chair

  
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Lucinda Messman, Clerk