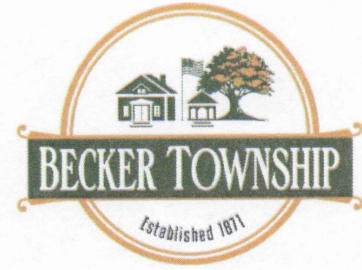


Becker Town Board Meeting
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Monday, November 18, 2024
12165 Hancock Street



Attendance

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

Absent: Deputy Clerk Megan Schmidt

Others: Sherburne County Sheriff's Department – Sgt. Frank, William Tessmer - Township Engineer, Ben Wikstrom – Township Planner, Kelli Bourgeois- Township Attorney (online), Jacob Sanders -City of Becker Community Development Director (online), Austin Peterson - City of Becker Community associate planner (online)

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

1. Minutes approved - October 2024 Minutes
2. Upcoming electronic fund transfers/automatic payments approval: 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) Sherburne County Public Hearing – Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan
 - b) Nature Talks Newsletter – October 2024
 - c) Local Climate Action Grants information
 - d) Hospital District Resolution of Dissolution
4. Approval of Resolution 2024-15 [full text on file]: A Resolution Designating Polling Location within the Town of Becker.

Motion to approve consent agenda by Boros. Second by Danielson. Motion carried all voting in favor.

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

SHERIFF'S REPORT

227calls for service.

- 81 traffic stops.
- 7 motor vehicle accidents
- 97th Street/Highway 25 – most accidents are distracted driving. Distracted driving is a large factor in most accidents. Stopping people from being distracted is not possible.

Public Hearing – Flood Plain Ordinance – 7:03 pm

Attorney Bourgeois – This ordinance has been in process for quite some time. DNR updated their model, recommended ordinance. How to handle was a back and forth discussion with them due to Becker Township’s unique situation regarding who is the regulating authority.

- The Town Board enforces building code and septic regulations.
- The Joint Planning Board enforces zoning ordinance.
- Both bodies have enforcement.
- Both entities are required to adopt the ordinance/publish/post/etc.. Public hearing for Joint Planning Board is next.
- Ordinance details – went through prior meeting, some substantive changes, most administrative. You have the ordinance in front of you. The copy has been online as well and available for distribution the past 30 days. Copies available on front table as well.
- No comments into office
- **Motion to close public hearing by Wilkening. Second by Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.** Public hearing closed 7:05 pm

Board Discussion

- Model floodplain ordinance based on DNR recommendations.
- **Motion to approve Floodplain Ordinance [full text on file] as presented by Boros. Second by Wilkening. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**
- **Motion to approve Summary Floodplain Ordinance by Boros. Second by Danielson. Voting: Kolbinger – aye, Wilkening – aye, Danielson – aye, Babler – aye, Boros – aye. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

Public Hearing – Right of Way Ordinance 500 – 7:06 pm

Bourgeois and Tessmer reviewed various items with boards

- Gravel shouldering for roads, no secondary driveway accesses in cul-de-sacs, concrete driveway language.
- 2.2.2 any second access requires Town Board approval – does this need to be clarified? Only allow secondary accesses in unique circumstances or review all requests?
 - CDS are tricky as additional cause issues with snow removal – no new ones should be allowed – all should have permits. If no permits, they should be removed.
 - Board wants to review all driveways before approval – remove verbiage ‘in unique circumstances’.
- 2.2.6 edit the text driveways to read roadways with shoulders of a minimum of 2’ width.
 - Add sentence to state that Town Engineer, with Town Board approval may recommend additional shoulder width based on design and specifications. Ex:

109th – may need 3’ due to wetland credits as it is a safety improvement. Still reviewing requirements on this project.

- 2.2.7 reviewed and discussed – whichever gives larger distance is the one to use. Good as presented.
- 2.2.8 reviewed – we are not putting in concrete driveways. Text as presented is good.
 - Tessmer – 2.2.8 – we did have to go a bit further for grade match, could adjust projects to pull some material off site due to existing structure (Bridgeview example)
 - Works as presented for a standard, but in some cases, adjustments may be required at recommendation of Town Engineer.
- Any Additional Comments? None in person or through clerk.

Motion to close the public hearing by Boros. Second by Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor. Public hearing closed 7:18 pm.

Board Discussion

- Good as indicated with changes noted.

Motion to approve Right of Way Ordinance 500 [full text on file] with changes as noted above (2.2.6 and 2.2.7 have changes), by Wilkening. Second by Babler. Motion carried, all voting in favor.

Motion to approve Summary Ordinance 500 by Wilkening. Second by Babler. Voting: Kolbinger – aye, Wilkening – aye, Danielson – aye, Babler – aye, Boros – aye. Motion carried, all voting in favor.

Revised Engineering Standards, based on revisions in ordinance and what is distributed to residents, were reviewed by Town Board members. No concerns. **Motion to approve revised handout by Wilkening. Second by Boros. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

Residential Open Forum

None

PLANNING COMMISSION/JOINT PLANNING BOARD UPDATES – Wikstrom

- Last month a vehicle sales CUP was approved by JPB on 137th Street SE with a few conditions.
- This month, 3 IUP’s came before the Planning Commission. They will move to JPB.
 - Short term drop yard at Wruck Excavating.
 - They applied a few months back and site wasn’t compliance. It has come into compliance now so they re-applied.
 - Need to screen the cars in the short-term drop-yard.
 - New impervious surface calculations required as it appears about twice as much as a few years back.

- It is recommended for approval pending review of impervious surface report.
 - IUP's on Frank Kasowski, Jr. Property on 137th Street SE
 - Stockpiling activities.
 - Recommended approval, though still working through the county as a more detailed site plan was requested by Sherburne County.
 - No increase in pile size allowed.
 - Material to be removed by end of 2025.
 - IUP would expire end of 2025
 - Toilet Storage – recommended denial as it does not meet ordinance requirements.
 - Actually, falls as commercial seasonal storage and is only allowed in existing buildings on Ag sites.
 - Doesn't meet ordinance.
 - Can't be stored on Ag at this time.
 - Other items
 - Floodplain ordinance – mentioned before, approved by this board earlier this evening and will go to Joint Planning Board's next meeting.
 - Shipping container ordinance
 - Want to finalize this.
 - Likely building permit for larger ones, by code
 - Smaller ones, same as any other building <200 sf.
- Cannabis – Attorney Bourgeois reviewed documentation received from Sherburne County.
 - Draft amendments presented that will be before the County Board this week.
 - Draft business licensing ordinance.
 - Draft Joint Powers Agreement if the Township would like to have the County handle cannabis, similar to how they handle alcohol and tobacco. License authority can be granted to the county, and they would enforce, if the board desires. Similar to how alcohol and tobacco are handled.
 - Two pieces to this
 - Zoning ordinance amendment that the Joint Planning Board will have to do, regardless of how enforcement is handled. JPB is the zoning author
 - Town Board question – do you want to have the county enforce the business licensing aspect of the new cannabis regulations or if you want to keep that to yourselves. It is similar to the liquor licensing that is done currently.
 - There is some time to think about this. It will be brought back in December.

- Need Board directives for the work to be completed how they wish.
- Attorney recommendation is to have county handle licensing for them.
 - County will do at no cost to township
 - Township does not receive any cannabis funding anyway
 - Likely good to have a larger entity handling as it is anticipated to get very intricate very quickly.
 - There are some questions on the JPA that need answering before ready for signing.
 - If county handles, there will be items to approve in December.
- Board directive
 - Do what is necessary to establish the JPA and have Sherburne County handle cannabis licensing for us/treat like alcohol.
 - In December, bring what is required for board approval to keep things moving forward.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Tessmer

Eagle's Landing

- Garbage truck fire load – burned hole in pavement a few days after we had finished paving. Fire Hall will get the report to us.
- Repairs for next year? MPN back with existing contract or find someone else? Patch would work. Believe it can be cut and repave with 2 lifts next spring.
- Resident reported this. Supervisor Babler also provided information to road supervisors.
- Attorney Bourgeois – likely needs Attorney Toven involved case of civil action. Estimate of damage needed right away with formal notification. Should file claim with our insurance company as well.
- William will take some measurements and create an estimate.
- Clerk to gather information (including pics, fire report and estimate) and get to attorneys

137th Street – appears to be raveling at the seam where we had to stop due to rain.

- Pics on file.
- Tessmer has notified Mike Puhalla with Knife River as it will be for next spring.
- It will go on punch list for spring.
- Plants closed at this time, we are still holding retainage.

97th Street

- Current project
 - Done. All punch list items are finished.
 - Finished reviewing all prevailing wage paperwork.
 - Still waiting on Knife River to submit some paperwork to the County.
 - Final bill to be coming soon.

- Our remaining amount includes entire retainage.
- 97th Street Rumble Strips/Crash Statistics
 - Sherburne County, Dave Roedel, asked if we would potentially add transverse rumble strips to the township road.
 - Goal to make people pay attention
 - County suggested we use a HSIP grant, but that is due on the 28th of this month. This is not something William has done before and doesn't have good sense of cost. Townships do not typically put in rumble strips.
 - Not sure this is a good idea. Engineering time to apply for the grant would likely exceed the cost of the rumble strips.
 - Other options?
 - Larger stop signs?
 - Lighted stop signs?
 - Are stop ahead signs in place now? Yes – on both sides. This area is wide open and easy to see.
 - Can we talk to the state? Yes, Tessmer will reach out to MnDot. The stop signs are theirs. Let us know next month.
- 2025 projects
 - Plans are ready for Majestic Ponds and one other
 - Wetland delineation was able to go in for 109th Street this year due to weather. It will go out for bids with the other projects.
 - Wildwood looks to be most trouble
 - We have potholes that we think are tree stumps. We don't know this.
 - May get complicated during the mill and overlay as the stumps will need to be dug out.
 - All projects moving forward.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Fire Board – Supervisor Babler

- 3 donations for public education
 - Millacs Veterinary
 - Bogart, Pederson and Associates
 - Liberty Paper
- Normal business otherwise

CMRP/River Crossing Group – Sanders/Supervisor Kolbinger

- A number of alternatives were produced for another river crossing. Narrowing down options. Some editing to occur later this week, but there are three they plan to move forward, in addition to a no-build option.
 - Purpose and need for the new bridge crossing – mainly - vehicular safety and mobility. Also bike-ability and walk-ability.
 - Alternatives reviewed – those removed did not meet the purpose and need.
 - D1 and C1 and C2 were not recommended to carry forward. Monticello residents strongly opposed these alternatives.
 - B1, and B2 were not considered viable alternatives
 - D2 and D3 and B3 were carried forward.
 - B3 – minimizes impact to river

- D2 – East of nuclear plant – most attractive to freight carriers and fewer property concerns.
- D3 – goes through a lot of solar fields that were just put in
- D4 - goes through Microsoft piece and old Google property – freight didn't think much of this one.
- Form of non-profit for the organization – 501-3C4. Grants powers the old organization did not have. Township contribution should be smaller moving forward.

Roads – Supervisor Boros and Supervisor Danielson

- Made it through first snow
- There was a culvert on 185th Ave that was clogged. A beaver had dammed the area. They have caught 5 beaver so far. Open and flowing right now.
- Road tour – not this fall, wait until spring.
- Grading – continue to wait. Will do what we can, depending on weather. Several people continue to call and ask about their roads.

Facilities - Town Hall & American Legion

- New carpeting coming in. Joe will handle moving filing cabinets with the special dolly.

Treasurer's Report

- MATIT work comp – do we stay with them? Yes, for now.
 - For meetings/hours/etc. Suggest that if there are not minutes taken, it should not count as a meeting. The other items considered meetings should not be paid out as a meeting. Just count as 2 hours instead. Feels we have too many meetings right now. Need to connect to minutes. Smaller things considered meetings now, ex. meet with someone at a road or other situation should be hours and not meetings. Board said ok to do this.
 - **Motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented by Wilkening. Second by Boros. Motion carried all voting in favor.**
 - **Motion to approve payment of**
 - **Warrants 16725-16786**
 - **PO's, 1668- 1674, Voiding 16749**
 - **in the amount of \$ 86, 627.23**
- by Babler. Second by Wilkening. Danielson – abstained as his company had submitted an invoice. Motion carried all voting in favor. Motion carried 4-0-1.**


Other:

- Calendar for next year presented to board. Board approval of dates. Jan/Feb meetings are now on the third Tuesday to maintain payroll compliance.
- New statute requires us to change to .gov website. Some are close to our current costs. Clerk still gathering costs. Names BeckerTwpSherburneCoMN.gov or BeckerTwpSCMN.gov are best choices at this time. It will take time to get this in order. More information will be coming. Securing domain at this time.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 PM.



Brian Kolbinger, Chair



Lucinda Messman, Clerk