

ELLSWORTH TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Tipka – Chairman Supervisor; Dave Jutz-Supervisor, John Smith – Supervisor,
Elvera Smith Treasurer, Lori Johnson-Clerk

OTHER ATTENDEES: Todd Walters; Jan Jutz; Jeff Nygaard; Sue Dibb; Kent Dibb; Jilann Axt; Mike Schiesl

APPROVE AND ACCEPT MINUTES – Correction Huhn instead of Barrick name. *Motion by John Smith and second Dave Jutz.*

TREASURER’S REPORT: Bills to pay:

- Payroll \$ 3,903.00
- Mid Minnesota Hot Mix \$21,542.95
- Meeker Washed Sand & Gravel \$33,522.30
- Hutchinson Leader \$71.84

Motion to accept Treasurer’s report and pay bills by John Smith and second by Dave Jutz.

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: None

CLERKS REPORT:

- Annual Meeting Sept 27 at Litchfield Eagles reminder

OPEN MEETING:

Kent Dibb requesting a variance for his well. It is not tucked back and the septic system is in front and not a lot of property on the side. Wondering if he could come up toward the road – a spot is marked by the road. There is one marker approximately 36’ from center of road and another approx. 26’. Dave Jutz said he drove by tonight to look at it. Dave Tipka said he has to be 50 from well to septic. One flag is not quite 50’ and the one closer drainage tile is for sure 50’. John Smith said they are pretty particular about the distance. The well company he is using is Traut Well. The closest one would be into the right of way. Dave Tipka said the only time it would be a problem is if would have to work on the road. Lori Johnson brought up that the county said the Dept of Health would have also have to approve. We can approve the new placement, as long as the MN Dept of Health is contacted and signs off as stated by Meeker County . They will look at drainage, depth etc. It would be far enough away from any snow plowing issues. Dave Jutz made a motion to approve pending approval of the Health Dept. Dave Tipka asked if it would be an issue for snowmobiles – it is right on top of the road approach behind culvert to recommendation to flag the well shaft in the winter.

- Jeff Nygaard – he has purchased Tom Daggett’s property on 673rd – gave brief description of himself and said he will be using property as a cabin and also renting it out. He wants to rent out as VRBO. He has proof of good reviews on the times he has already rented it. Dave Jutz described that we are in the process of setting some regulations for VRBO’s in Ellsworth Township so that there are some rules and guidelines ie. septic, noise, parking. He will rent approximately 3-4 times a month, and he said he will live there also. Can table for now pending information from lawyer. The first problem will be with complaints from neighbors. It should not be an issue in the winter anyway. We have Jeff’s phone and can contact him with further information.

- Todd Walter re: 672nd. Contacted Phil Schmalz regarding acceptable turn around – it has trucks, school buses – showed drawing 50' x 40' so would be acceptable. On Tim's road they would not recommend doing a circle turn around. Dave Jutz said he looked at turn around – put in stakes to dig out soft spots. He said past Tim's driveway there is a 40' x 40' would have to take down a few trees. Dave Jutz will meet with Tim and contractor.
- Jilann Axt – asked about putting minutes on Meeker County website. They were inquiring about when the mail balloting issue comes up. It can be brought up at an annual meeting, however it would be put on an agenda for a future meeting as it was last year. No decisions would be made at the annual meeting. The issue had come up previously and a meeting was set for May and there was minimal participation or discussion. The annual meeting is for the township members and follows the regular township voting.

Motion to close open meeting by Dave Jutz and second by John Smith

OLD BUSINESS:

- Furnace Repair – John said still no one has committed. He has not heard from Limitless – John has him coming next Tuesday to his residence, so will get an answer.
- VRBO – John said Planning and Zoning still not willing to do a lot at this time. Licensing fee is a way some are getting around some rule/regulations. Will table until we have more information.
- Shelter: John Smith said they will come out to build shelter when they have time. We may need more rock in front of hall. Lori will check to see if a contractor has time. *Motion made by John Smith to have contractor add rock if possible – Lori will e-mail cost if he has time and second Dave Jutz.* Cost to do will come from American Rescue Act funds.
- Tree Trimming: Dave Jutz said he is having trouble getting Gabrielson and finding time to meet because he is so busy.
- File Cabinets: Lori reported that of the two companies she checked with – one was approximately \$60 shipping and the other one was free. *Motion made by John Smith to purchase 2 of the cabinets and second by Dave Jutz.*
- Dave Jutz said that owners are wondering when the legal work is done for the turn around on Lake Willie. They would like to get posts in the ground.
- Elvera's position will be open for Treasurer in March.
- Elvera reported that we did get the bonding money and the cost of \$3,000 would come out for bonding company. She will keep separate spreadsheets to account for funds.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion of plugged culvert by Gordy Seifert – after talking to Gordy – it is no longer plugged.

ADJOURN: *Motion to adjourn by Dave Jutz and second by John Smith*

Adjourn at 8:05 PM