

## **CASCADE TOWNSHIP**

### **OLMSTED COUNTY – MINNESOTA BOARD MINUTES**

**JUNE 8, 2010**

Members present were: Chairman Lenny Laures, Supervisor Arlen Heathman, Supervisor Harold Atkinson and Clerk/Treasurer Joe Vroman.

Call to order at 6:00 pm at The Calvary Evangelical Free Church Meeting Room. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendees present: Deputy Val Coe, Roger Ihrke from TCPA, Richard Hettwer from SMMPA, and 18 township residents.

#### **Sheriff Deputy's Report:**

Deputy Val Coe updated the Board on her patrol activities and reported 45 calls for service in May. This included 5 service calls for dog problems and 2 mail boxes smashed.

#### **Township Board Continuing Business.**

- A motion by Heathman to approve the minutes from the May 3rd meeting as presented, seconded by Atkinson, motion approved.
- Supervisor Heathman made a motion to pay the May Joint Powers bill of \$14,768.63, seconded by Atkinson, motion approved.
- A motion to pay the remaining Cascade bills was made by Atkinson, seconded by Heathman, all voted in favor to pay the total bills of \$24,600.12, motion approved.
- Treasurer Vroman gave the financial report at the meeting. The checkbook balance at the end of the May 3rd, 2010 meeting was \$276,857.08. Added to that total was the deposit in May, checking interest of \$48.73, for an end of May checking balance of \$276,905.81. Checks written at this meeting totaled \$24,600.12 for an ending checking balance on June 8th, 2010 of \$252,305.69. Motion to approve the treasurers report was made by Atkinson, seconded by Heathman, motion passed.

#### **Township Board New Business**

At 7:00PM, Roger Ihrke from TCPA gave the opening remarks and staff report on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the 3000 foot extension of a 161 kV transmission line from its present location along US 14 north to a new substation being constructed by Rochester Public Utilities on 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW. The application was submitted by Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA).

The Board then asked the people attending the meeting if anyone wished to speak for or against the EAW. No one spoke.

After some discussion on this subject, a motion by Heathman to include a one word change to the resolution to say Cascade Township Board approved the resolution from SMMPA. The Board determined that the development known as the SMMPA 161 kV Transmission Line Extension does not have the potential for significant environmental effects and that preparation of an environmental impact statement is not mandated in this instance. This was seconded by Atkinson, motion approved.

A motion by Heathman to approve the Application for Utility Permit for the 161 kV Transmission Line in Cascade Township, and allow Chairman Laures to sign the document when it has been filled out. This was seconded by Atkinson, motion passed.

At 7:15PM, Chairman Laures opened the discussion with the 18 people in attendance about a Town Hall/Community Center addition to the Cascade Maintenance building on 75<sup>th</sup> Street NE. This subject had been advertised to all Township residents by postcard a week earlier requesting their input.

Chairman Laures stated that he was looking for two statements from those in attendance. First, look at approving the construction of the building, and second, set a limit on the cost of putting up the building.

Laures stated that the meeting room and offices addition would be about 3260 square foot in size.

The residents in attendance reviewed 4 different layout proposals and discussed 4 different estimates from contractors. Discussion followed.

A motion by Joe Kocer to proceed to investigate building a Town hall up to \$200,000 and get construction drawings to get accurate bids.

Also, investigate how the assessment on a homestead only and not on the additional farm land would affect the assessment. This was seconded by Mike Brown, motion passed, 1 person opposed.

All the resident people in attendance are to come back to the Tuesday July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting (Monday is a legal holiday) and hear the results of the bids and the assessment question.

Next on the agenda was the public comment period on the new proposed Parking Ordinance and Access Management Ordinance for the Township.

Supervisor Heathman read aloud the Parking Ordinance to the public as it is only a 1 page document. Someone questioned why not just a winter ordinance and not a year around ordinance? It was stated that this pertains to other things that may hinder the road during the year.

Then the Access Management Ordinance was discussed with very few questions.

After the public comment was closed, the Board discussed the comments and a motion was made by Atkinson to approve both ordinances as written, seconded by Heathman, motion approved.

**Meeting was recessed at 9:20 PM** and will reconvene the meeting on Wednesday June 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30PM at Supervisor Atkinson's home to finalize the new building layout from the 4 designs to go forward to get firm bids. After reviewing the designs, a final building layout was chosen and the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Motion by Laures, seconded by Heathman, motion passed.

Submitted: Joseph Vroman, Clerk