

# Greenwood Township Supervisors Board Meeting Minutes

**DATE: July 9, 2024 - 6:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Roskoski

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting was recorded for transcription and archival purposes.

**ROLL CALL** - Chair Roskoski / Vice Chair Skubic/ Supervisor Gilbert/ Supervisor Stoehr/Supervisor Bassing / Treasurer Maus / Clerk Spicer - **all present**

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Lee Peterson - read his email previously sent about creating ambulance service through SafeTech Solutions, combining Ely, Tower and Babbitt and suggested forming a committee for ambulance. Lee stated the letter to the county requesting widened shoulders on County Road 115 helped. Lee negatively criticized the new walking trail sign that was gifted to Greenwood Township.

**Motion** – Bassing/Stoehr to link the SafeTech Solutions video to the township website. **5/0 Carried**

Chair Roskoski welcomed Deputy Mike Rocklin to the meeting.

Joann Bassing - Asked Chair Roskoski to explain Schedule 1 reports and asked what rules of order the board follows. Joann stated the current Errors and Omissions insurance coverage is not through the Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance Trust. Joann stated the Special Meeting Info was inadequate.

Steve Lenertz – States he likes the board meetings being “live streamed” on Facebook and asked the board to bring back the Local Board of Equalization.

Sue Drobac – complained the agenda packets are not printed out for meeting attendees.

**Motion** – Bassing/Stoehr to provide printed copies of the Agenda, Meeting Minutes, and financial reports at the board meetings. **5/0 carried**

Jet Galonski – commented on the lack of transparency when the prior Board fired the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief and safety offices, as well as himself and other firefighters. He stated the Board policies were not followed and said the firefighters that were pushed out had provided more dedication and assistance to the Greenwood residents than any of those Board members. He asked if the former Board adopted the Data Privacy Act (MNDPA) and asked if they made

sure information was provided to the citizens, as they claim. He read from his original data request dated May 12, 2022, requesting a list of residents that had filed lawsuits, litigation or legal action against Fire Department, Board of Supervisors, the Township or personnel in the last 10 years and the cost of those actions in attorney fees and compensatory amounts. After months of inquiries into the request, he was ultimately told by the former Clerk in early in 2023 that she was too busy with the election to get the requested information. He never did receive his request. He had wanted the information before the election, because he knew who brought most of those actions against the Township and wanted the Township to know who those people were. He also stated the actions of these people were the reason our then insurance carrier dropped us, causing increased premiums with new carriers, and our then attorney dropped us, due to being the most controversial Township in the state. Mr. Galonski then criticized two of the other Supervisors for their harsh criticism and accusations toward Chair Roskoski of not being transparent and for her motion to rescind the Minnesota Data Practices Act. He then mentioned the onslaught of Information requests made by current and former Board members in the week after adopting the MNDPA. He believed the purpose was to create violations, due to the Clerk not being able to provide the information in the limited time provided by the MNDPA and to put pressure on the Clerk to cause her to quit or be removed from office. He also praised Chair Roskoski for her compassion, honesty and truthfulness and stated she would provide, within reason, any information requested. An applause broke out by the meeting attendees.

Mike Ralston – stated he was a former Supervisor and former Chair. He congratulated new Board members and Chair Roskoski for keeping everything together, especially with the negative comments she has had to deal with. He addressed Fire Chief Maus, stating last fall he had requested a full roster of the Fire Department with their level of certifications and job descriptions and still hasn't received it, but hoped it will be provided in the near future. Mike discussed the behavior of Supervisor Stoehr stating that, as Stoehr often pulls out the MAT booklet and uses it as gospel, he should know that as Supervisor, he is equal to Chair Roskoski. The only difference is the Chair has some additional duties, such as running the meeting and signing checks, and, therefore, he shouldn't be demanding and harassing her to do anything. He was referring to his demand to Chair Roskoski to remove the posting of the water test, and noted Mr. Drobac was asking about water results the meeting before that, so the public was wanting and should have that information.

Mike Ralson also addressed the accusation by Supervisors Bassing and Stoehr that the Special Meeting was illegal. He listened several times to the meeting and doesn't understand the issue of why they would call it an illegal meeting. Mike asked "do you always sit through a meeting that is illegal? Is that normal for you to claim it is illegal, but to still participate?" You were given the option to leave, but you stayed.

Mike Ralston then asked Supervisors Bassing and Stoehr why, after being Supervisors/Chair in the last two years and having majority of the vote during that time, they didn't adopt the

Minnesota Data Practices Act and if there was an ulterior motive? Mike agreed with Mr. Galonski's earlier opinion that they tried to overwhelm the Clerk with unnecessary requests.

Supervisor Bassing said the Special Meeting was an obvious violation of the Open Meeting Law and he stayed because he thought further along, he could stop what was going on and it was a willful violation.

Jeff Maus responded to Galonski's statement of the former Fire Chief and Assistant Chief and Safety Officer being fired, and stated the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief were demoted to firefighter and the Safety Officer said that wasn't fair, so he resigned. Mr. Maus said they had 6 months to reapply. He also said he witnessed Mr. Galonski threaten John Bassing.

### **ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Rick Stoehr requested that Item #5, Old Business, be removed because the status of that road is still in question.

**Motion** – Stoehr/Bassing to remove Item 5 under Old Business. **Vote 5/0 carried**

Chair Roskoski requested that clarification of a data request be added under New Business, Item #8.

Bassing requested that rules discussion be added under New Business, Item #9.

**Motion** – Skubic/Gilbert to accept the agenda, with the additions of New Business- #8 Clarification of Data Request, #9 Rules discussion and removal of Item #5, Old Business. **Vote 5/0 carried**

Discussion – Bassing wants (Thank you) removed from page 4, third to the last paragraph, as it is not part of the record.

**Motion** -Gilbert/Stoehr to approve minutes from the June 11, 2024, meeting, with (Thank you) removed from page 4. **Vote 5/0 carried**

Regarding the minutes from the June 20, 2024, Special Meeting, Bassing requested changes regarding to the language that referred to asking Bassing and Stoehr if they want to leave, and to show the town was being transparent by adopting the Minnesota Data Practices Act.

**Motion** – Skubic/Stoehr to approve minutes from June 20, 2024, Special Meeting, with the recommended amendments. **Roll call Vote** – Roskoski-N, Skubic-Y, Gilbert-Y, Stoehr-Y, Bassing-Y **4/1 Carried**

### **TREASURER REPORT**

Maus complained about the Clerk's note in packet stating no Treasurer information was included in the packet, which made him look like he wasn't doing his job. He stated there were issues with Frandsen Bank and LPL but got them resolved.

Maus commented on CTAS inaccuracies and noted the ADP/IED were entered wrong in CTAS.

Fund Balances ending June 30, 2024:

Checking Account - \$98,608.13

Building/Capital – \$63,059.40

Broadband - \$50,918.83

Trail Fund - \$21,029.98

Road Fund - \$34,497.47

Jumbo CD - \$257,559.61

All accounts Total - \$545,673.42

**Motion** – Stoehr/Bassing to approve Treasurer's Report. **Vote 5/0 carried**

**Motion** – Skubic/Gilbert to approve Claims, in the total amount of \$24,502.79. **Vote 5/0 carried**

**Motion** – Skubic/Bassing to approve Payroll for June 2024. **Vote 5/0 carried**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Standard Operating Guidelines for Fire Department. – **Items a thru c were still not done, Tabled again**
  - a. Updated copy.
  - b. Proposed amendment to Article 3, Section 1, Officers.
  - c. Proposed amendment to Article 18, Section 1, changing alcohol level to 0.0% and use of cannabis derived prescription drugs.
2. Updated copy for Paid On-Call Policy. – Fire Chief Maus provided updated compensation for the policy but did not update the entire policy. **Tabled again**
3. Capital Replacement Plan – **Tabled again**
4. Internal Control Policy.  
Chair Roskoski reviewed three amendments to the Internal Control Policy.  
**Motion** – Roskoski/Skubic to approve the Internal Control Policy, as amended. **5/0 carried**
5. Plan to brush Township Road 4136 from Fire Chief Maus/Supervisor Gilbert.  
This item was removed until it is determined if Birch Point Road Extension is a township road.

6. Township water supply –  
Information from MN Department of Health regarding public water systems was included in the packet. Chair Roskoski noted Greenwood Township does not have to meet the requirements of the federal drinking water standard for arsenic, as they are not enforceable at Transient Noncommunity Public Water Systems, which is the designation of the Greenwood public water system. She stated Greenwood Township will continue to test for arsenic monthly and post the results for the public to see. Mark Drobac asked if the filter had been changed in the Brassmaster filtering system. Supervisor Gilbert stated it had been changed.
7. Rd 4136 update.  
Chair Roskoski stated the Township Attorney has been requested to provide a legal opinion on whether Birch Point Road Extension is actually a township road. A packet of information was sent to the Township Attorney to review, but no response has been received.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. New walking trail signage provided by Linda Smith.  
**Motion** – Roskoski/Gilbert to send a letter of thanks to Linda Smith for donating a new sign for the Greenwood Walking Trail. **Vote 5/0 carried**
2. Resolution appointing election judges for 2024 Primary and General Elections.  
**Motion** – Gilbert/Bassing to adopt Resolution #8 to appoint the election judges for the Primary Election to be held on August 13, 2024. **Vote 5/0 carried**  
**Motion** – Bassing/Skubic to adopt Resolution #9 appointing election judges for the General Election to be held on November 5, 2024. **Vote 5/0 carried**
3. Mission Statement for Greenwood Township.  
Chair Roskoski requested the board to submit suggestions at a future meeting for a mission statement for Greenwood Township.
4. Quote for accounting reconciliation.  
**Motion** – Skubic/Gilbert to accept the quote from Pam Rodgers, to assist with CTAS accounting reconciliation, at the rate of \$25/hour, contingent upon checking with the Township Attorney if the contractor needs to be bonded. **Vote 5/0 carried**
5. Annual performance evaluations per Personnel Policy  
Per Chief Maus, this hasn't been done for years. Roskoski states, per policy, it should be done annually. Chief Maus stated he will obtain some forms from other departments that could be used in the performance evaluations.
6. SafeTech Report – Bassing stated Lee Peterson already covered this topic
7. Cleaning Service needed.  
**Motion** – Skubic/Bassing to place an ad in both newspapers to look for a cleaning service to clean the Town Hall. **Vote 5/0 carried**
8. Clarification of Data Request.  
Chair Roskoski stated a data request was received from Jeff Maus to review camera footage from the town hall security cameras. She stated a policy is already in place, which allows

two Supervisors to be present to view camera footage. Perpich TV and TechBytes would be involved in the process, as they hold the passcode. The request also included review of all comments on the Greenwood Township Facebook page, where the meeting videos are posted. Chair Roskoski stated a fake Facebook profile had posted over 50 comments on the last meeting video, and was blocked, as the comments included vulgar and discriminatory remarks. Chair Roskoski stated the fake profile could be unblocked, if the board agrees. No action was taken. The request also included viewing several emails, including personal emails, which Mr. Maus stated can be discussed later.

9. Rules discussion.

John Bassing wants to know what “rules of order” the Board is following. Chair Roskoski states that the board has not adopted any rules of order. The Minnesota Association of Townships recommends that township do not adopt any rules, as they are too complex and can cause problems if they are not followed properly. Townships use an informal meeting order.

**SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

**Skubic** Road Supervisor - none  
Lodging Tax Board - none

**Bassing** Joint Powers and Recreation - none

**Gilbert** Grounds and Maintenance – disconnected power to Recreation Building - it will be moved next week.  
Broadband Liaison – nothing new, will check on grant balance.

**Stoehr** Noxious Weeds - none  
911 Assignment – wants to continue running ads for 911 signs.

**Roskoski** Ambulance Commission – no meeting yet

**Motion** – Roskoski/Skubic to request the Treasurer to provide the Clerk with access to all financial information by Thursday.

**Roll call Vote** – Roskoski-Y, Skubic-Y, Gilbert-Y, Bassing-N, Stoehr-N **Vote – 3/2 Carried**

**Motion** – Roskoski/Skubic to request the Fire Chief to provide the Clerk with access to all Fire Department records by Thursday. **Vote – 5/0 Carried**

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT**

Fire Department meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday monthly. Grant work for radios is complete and been submitted.


Landing zone – no license, no waiver to operate – add to next agenda.

**CLERK REPORT:** (Correspondence)

Clerk requests August Board of Supervisor Meeting to be changed to Wednesday, August 14, 2024, due to Primary election scheduled for August 13.

**Motion** – Skubic/Bassing to move the August Board Meeting to 6:30 PM, Wednesday, August 14, 2024, to be held as a Special Meeting. **Vote – 5/0 Carried**

**ADJOURN**: Motion by Bassing/Skubic to adjourn at 8:24 PM. **Vote – 5/0 Carried**

Chair 

Clerk 

**NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 14, 2024 TIME 6:30 PM**