

Ravenna Township, Dakota County

1. Supervisor Mike Waxon called the September 10, 2015 regular board meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Carl Reuter and clerk/treasurer Caroline Spurgeon were present.
2. Carl moved to approve the agenda as printed. Mike seconded; motion passed unanimously.
3. Carl moved to approve the regular board meeting minutes of 08/13/2015 as printed. Mike seconded; motion passed unanimously.
4. Carl moved to approve the printed Financial Cash Control Statement ending August 31, 2015 as presented. Mike seconded; motion passed unanimously.
5. Road maintenance was discussed. A work order was given to Tom Groh of Minnesota Sodding Company as he was in attendance. Roadside mowing will be done at the end of September or beginning of October. Tom will bring pricing next month on a new option for tree trimming/removal.
6. Pavement Resources completed the spray patching 190th Street on 9/3/2015.
7. JAAK LLC has completed the 2015 sign replacement program except for a couple of street name signs. Those will be completed later this month. Three street signs had already been replaced within the last two years, so those signs are now part of our inventory. Tom Groh will go through the posts and pull out ones that could be reused. Carl will scrap all other items.
8. Jill Trescott – Groundwater Protection Supervisor – Dakota County Environmental Resources presented the 2013/2014 nitrate testing results. 4 out of 10 wells in Ravenna Township exceeded drinking water standards for nitrates. The sandy soils and bedrock levels contribute to this fact. U of M has new fertilizer guidelines, a revised nitrogen fertilizer management plan was issued 4/2015, follow-up sampling will be done, and there is a potential to restrict fall nitrogen. No samples in Ravenna exceeded the acceptable levels of manganese.
9. Call in from the agenda sign-in sheet: Gene Groebner of 20175 Rhoda Avenue and a member of Pheasants Forever presented information on the Minnesota Pollinator Partnership for the prairie land at the town hall. Site preparation would be elm tree removal, site burn (Spring 2016) and then planting. Financial assistance requested is \$1250. Upon consensus, the board would like to move forward with the project. Caroline to draft a resolution and it will be presented in September.
10. Mike Slavik – Dakota County Commissioner presented information on the county level. 2016 will see a 4% increase in home valuations and 0% increase on farmland. Dakota County will be debt free February 2016. New election equipment has arrived and is being tested.
11. Carl moved to approve building permits 2015-00061 to 2015-00064, 2015-00066 to 2015-00073, 2015-00075 and 2015-00076 and septic permits 2015-00065 and 2015-00074. Mike seconded; motion passed unanimously.
12. Carl moved to approve payroll #6738 and claims #1508, 6739 to 6753. Mike seconded; motion passed unanimously.
13. Comments from the floor: Dawn Lanning stated there are small trees in the road right of way on her property that can be removed when tree trimming/brush cutting occurs.
14. Giese: 12 Old Deerfield Rd update –Franke Construction completed their work on the Giese property. Discussion ensued on how to cover the expenses until it is paid back on the Giese's property taxes. Caroline to draft a resolution and present next month.
15. Dakota County Board of Commissioners adopted a moratorium on solar gardens/solar farms under Dakota County Ordinance No. 50. Discussion ensued that our township has no language on solar gardens/farms. Mike moved to have Troy Gilchrist prepare a moratorium on solar farms/panels/gardens within our township for up to one year until language can be adopted. Carl seconded; motion passed unanimously.
16. Mike called for a short recess at 8:40 p.m. to sign checks and miscellaneous documents. Mike called the meeting back to order at 8:45 p.m.
17. A land split application from Leon McNamara 16738 Orlando Avenue was in boards packets prior to the meeting for their review. 1.5 acres is to be taken off parcel 33-00600-51-010 (70.99 acres) to cover the new drain field/septic system on parcel 33-00600-52-010 (current house). Carl moved to approve the land split application. Mike seconded; motion passed unanimously.
18. The Joint Powers Agreement for Ordinance Enforcement Services with Dakota County Sheriff's Office expires December 31, 2015. The sheriff's office would like to renew for another three years. Their hourly rates may increase. Mike moved to renew the Joint Powers Agreement for three years. Carl seconded; motion passed unanimously.
19. Caroline reviewed the communications in & out. Dakota County Officer's Meeting is September 29th at 7pm. Caroline to post notice.

20. MATIT has hired OSI to review insured property valuations. OSI will be meeting with Caroline Friday, September 11th.
21. Forms were in the boards packets prior to the meeting for Dakota Electric's 19th Annual Township Outstanding Leader of the Year Award.
22. Time sheets are due 9/30.
23. Carl noted that the supervisors will work at the town hall during the month of September to pull trees from the prairie. Caroline to post notice.
24. Comments from the floor: Gene Groebner asked if the solar panel moratorium applied to roof panels. The board advised that it did not.
25. Mike adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Spurgeon
Ravenna Township Clerk/Treasurer