

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2024**

SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP TOWN HALL
20381 FAIRLAWN AVENUE, PRIOR LAKE, MN

Present:

Doug Berens - Supervisor
Melissa Hanson – Clerk

Lisa Quinn – Supervisor
Sara Domer – Deputy Clerk

Ted Kowalski - Supervisor

Also Present:

Matt Stordahl - Stantec

Absent:

Dave Johnson - Treasurer

- 1) a) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kowalski at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.
b) Changes to the agenda. Staff requested to add an additional item to the consent agenda: Approval of January 4th Special Meeting Minutes- Orderly Annexation. Quinn made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Berens seconded. All in favor.
- 2) **Public Commentary**
 - a) Christian Morkeberg, Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Update:
 - i) Fish Lake Management Plan has been approved with recommendations for internal and external loading issues to be discussed the week of 1/14/2023. Township will be included in conversation; work continues on funding opportunities.
 - ii) Concern about effectiveness of Storm Pond on Vergus was noted as it is overgrown. Requests that Prior Lake and Spring Lake work together to fix the issue. Stordahl to review.
 - b) Tom Wolf, Scott County Commissioner Update:
 - i) 2024 Commissioner Roles: Barb Brekke elected Chair, Dave Beer Vice Chair.
 - ii) Met Council Task Force work continues and thanks given to all who participated and contributed to listening session.
 - iii) Sand Creek and Jordan are in disagreement over planning and zoning for areas of the Township.
- 3) **Agenda Items**
 - a) Consent Agenda- Those items on the Board Agenda which are considered routine or non-controversial are included as part of the Consent Agenda. Unless a supervisor specifically requests that an item on the Consent Agenda be removed and considered separately, items on the Consent Agenda are considered under one motion, second and vote. Any item removed from the consent agenda shall be placed on the council agenda under Items Removed
 - i) Approval of December 14, 2023 Monthly Meeting Minutes.
 - ii) Consider Approval of General Engineering Budget.
 - iii) Approval of January 4th Special Meeting Minutes- Orderly Annexation.

Berens made motion to approve consent agenda. Quinn seconded. All in favor.

- b) Consider Revisions to the Township Fee Schedule Ordinance - Staff presented revised fee ordinance 14-003 with updated costs for municipal sewer and water connection fees, an increase in ROW/Utility permit fee, inclusion of fee for swing away post for mailbox and a process change to how the driveway fee is allocated \$200 for initial appointment and \$200 for “final” inspection. Each additional inspection charged at \$200 per inspection to cover costs of engineer. Permit will be updated. Quinn made a motion to approve amended ordinance 14-003 as presented. Berens seconded. Approved 3-0.
- c) Consider Resolution Approving Temporary Liquor License for the Jordan Lions Club- The Jordan Lions Club have rented the town hall on March 16, 2024 to host a Euchre tournament and plan to sell alcohol. Therefore, at the County’s direction, the township is asked to consider Resolution 24-001 in support of a temporary liquor license for the day. Kowalski made motion to approve Resolution 24-001-A Temporary Liquor License for the Jordan Lions Club. Berens seconded. All in favor.
- d) Orderly Annexation
Staff gave an overview of the current annexation history and explained that the City held a workshop on January 9th and their response was provided on January 10th. Board discussed provided additional context around annexation and asked for questions from attendees.
- Bob Erkel, 1860 Spring Lake Circle - Asked about the 1900 acres that would be part of the new agreement and if that entire area can be served and how the area will grow with annexation. Board explained the Met Council, County and Prior Lake have planned that this area would be served. He asked if there are any known failing septic systems on Spring Lake Circle and noted that, as a resident of Spring Lake Circle, most properties have 2.5-4.5 acres and have sufficient space for secondary septic sites; he does not see services as a “give up” for him but recognizes the concern for health of the lake.
 - Wesley Steffan, 2350 Raymond Ave - Noted that a formal presentation of annexation hasn’t been given and asked about the 20% surcharge for services the City has proposed. He also asked about costs of storm water management. Stordahl noted that pipes and catch basins can last 100 years with periodic cleaning. He also stated concerns about the storm water basin on Vergus that has not been cleaned for a while and believes it is on Prior Lake property. He requested that the Township consider similar ordinances and regulations as the City, particularly for impervious surfaces. He is hopeful road construction on South Shore Drive is pursued and eventually Vergus and Raymond. Asked about costs for road work. Question about islands and how and why they can exist.

- Charlie Pehrson, 2881 South Shore Drive - Asked how long they would be part of the township and if he would need to continue to have septic compliance inspections.
- Tom Quinn, 1796 Spring Lake Circle - Expressed concern that the current Orderly Annexation Agreement, which includes clause for sewer and water for unsewered areas, will be a lost benefit if the agreement is not executed as written. Stordahl noted environmental concerns from failing septic systems are a concern to both Spring Lake Township and Prior Lake and a separate agreement providing for an alternate grinder pump solution for properties with failing septic systems will be drafted.
- Christian Morkeberg, 17556 Vergus Ave - Thanked the Board for their hard work and appreciates the opportunity for a win-win-win agreement. He shared that Raymond Park is an Oak Savannah and that neighbors have worked collaboratively with Spring Lake Township, Prior Lake, PLSLWD and would like to see the collaboration continue.
- Bobby Harnist, 17425 Vergus Ave – Expressed his preference to be part of Spring Lake Township.
- Gale Molden, 17344 Vergus Ave - Asked about difference in property taxes in Township vs City.
- Tom Hanson 2750 South Shore Drive – Explained that it was his assumption that he would be annexed and expressed his appreciation for the work that the Board has done and is happy to stay in the Township.
- Chris Rieck, 1725 Vergus Avenue – Asked who will police the area and questioned the curb and gutter placement on Vergus Ave when the project was completed.

Berens moved that we have the attorneys put together a final document for review, possible further negotiation, and execution based on these terms, but wishes to clarify that this motion is only to cause the drafting of a final document to be commenced, not to formally bind the Township, and that the Township will not be bound to any agreement until such time as the Township formally approves and signs a final document. Discussion on secondary agreements and material changes. Quinn seconded.

4) Engineer's Report

a) Miscellaneous

- Dairy Lane & Hwy 282 – MnDOT has declared that they have done what they are going to do, attempting to make this a Township issue. We have filed a complaint and are communicating with the MnDOT Ombudsman (a mediator) to try to find a resolution.
- Vergus Tree Maintenance – Cole Cuts has been awarded the project work.

- 2024 JPA Project – The roads are being reviewed for 2024 crackseal and sealcoat work. The JPA project is generally started around February, so while the road conditions are still favorable, we’re getting an early start on project planning and estimating. We’ll also work to incorporate this information into the GIS system as it is developed. Considering seal coating of Mushtown

b) Development

- Orderly Annexation Agreement –Prior Lake submitted their framework document on December 21st. The Township held a special meeting on January 4th to discuss the framework and to provide a response to the City.
- Developments –
 - Nomadic Homes & Schieffer 7 – There are some early discussions surrounding possible development in the area of TH 13 and Cty Rd 10. Nomadic Homes would like to construct a 50,000 SF warehouse facility on the west side of TH13, and a preliminary discussion with Mr. Schiffer was had to determine his interest in doing something with his parcels on the east side of the highway. These projects would involve a Comp Plan amendment, and preliminary discussions with the County lead us to believe that they would support the projects. Meeting to be held in January.
 - Stantec drafting application and study scope for submission to Scott County Development Association (CDA) for grant for road study for industrial area.

5) Road Report

- a) Berens commented that our snow plowing costs will be down with so little snow so far this season.

6) Town Hall and Parks Report

- a) Sand Digger has been installed.
 b) Question asked regarding Zoom capabilities of new audio equipment.

7) Water Resources Report

- a) PLSLWD – focused on decreasing total daily load in lakes to keep off impaired lists and WBIF Grant for Fish Lake.
 b) McMahon Lake Update to be held on February 15th at Spring Lake Town Hall.

8) Treasurer’s Report

- a) Johnson presented the December, 2023 Treasurer’s Report. In December total receipts were \$563,668.93, total disbursements were \$55,588.30, and the ending cash balance was \$3,225,703.76. Quinn made a motion to approve the December, 2023 Treasurer’s Report. Kowalski seconded. All in favor.

9) SCALE

- a) January meeting will be a panel discussion of current and emerging trends in the court system, particularly in District 1 and in Scott County.
- b) Emergency Planning Training -Kowalski will try to attend. Staff is encouraged to attend.

10) New Business/Old Business

- a) Annual Town Meeting to be held March 12th, 2024 at 7:00 pm.
- b) All resident letter regarding annexation-
 - i) bids for postcard printing received in the amount of:
 - First Impression Group \$570 + postage
 - RiverFront Printing \$658 + postage
- c) Martin Luther King Day Presentation to be held at Prior Lake High School. Hanson to attend.

11) Approval of Disbursements The Board reviewed the January, 2024 disbursement ledgers and approved checks numbered, 14648 to 14677, to be issued. The checks were signed and given to Hanson for mailing.

12) The following items were included in the Board’s information packets for informational purposes:

- List of upcoming meetings

There being no further business before the Board, Kowalski made a motion to adjourn. Quinn seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Melissa Hanson, Clerk
Spring Lake Township

Minutes approved _____

Ted Kowalski, Chairman

Melissa Hanson, Clerk