

**TOWN of MAY**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**  
**OFFICIAL TOWN BOARD MINUTES**  
**January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The Board of Supervisors of the Town of May convened their regular monthly meeting on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the May Town Hall. Those present included: Board members John Pazlar, Steve Magner, and Don Rolf. Clerk/Treasurer Bobbi Hummel; Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Marsha Olson; Planner Nate Sparks; Engineer Mark Erichson; Attorney Dave Snyder and those with business before the Town. Chair John Pazlar called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Pazlar moved, seconded by Magner to approve the minutes from the December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board Meeting. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Pazlar moved, seconded by Rolf to approve the minutes from the December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Special Meeting, approving final checks for 2023. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

**CHECKS AND TREASURER'S REPORT**

Chair Pazlar presented the Treasurer's report, showing total cash and investments of \$2,186,738.97 of which \$712,124.50 is in investments. \$1,599,626.10 is committed. \$587,112.87 is non committed.

Pazlar moved, seconded by Rolf to approve the cash control statement from 12/1/2023 to 12/31/2023. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Checks #21927 to #21947 and EFT010424B, EFT010424F, and EFT010424S are also presented.

Pazlar moved, seconded by Rolf to approve the Treasurers Report. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Pazlar addresses JE23-2, open from last month. Funds were moved from the 201-sewer fund to the general fund for 2023 costs of pumping, replacement costs, and administrative costs.

Pazlar motions to approve JE23-2, transfer of sewer funds. Seconded by Rolf. All in favor. Motion Passed.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Pazlar motions to re-appoint Ted Nesse to the Planning Commission, extending his term to 2027. Seconded by Rolf. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

**201 SEWER SYSTEM**

Total Control Systems has installed a new tele metrics system. Everything is working properly to monitor the dosing station and both lift stations.

Mapping of the 201 system is underway. This will give the township a clear picture of where the infrastructure is located and how they are connected now and how they will be in the future. A new application for future connection requests is also in progress.

## **ENGINEERING AND ROADS**

Graders are still out this year and will be out until no longer possible. Higher traffic roads were all completed last week. As soon as the ground freezes they will stop grading.

The Panorama Ave. project has not started yet. Mr. Erickson has shared some long-term concerns with CMSCWD, particularly long-term maintenance of the road and the equipment needed to care for new road. Mr. Erichson will send a follow email to gather more information on final plans and timeline for the project.

Quotes for calcium chloride applications in the spring and fall will be gathered now.

Quotes for street sweeping will be gathered at a later date, this will be dependent on how much sanding is needed over the next few months.

## **VIOLATIONS/COMPLAINTS**

### **17xxx Olinda Trail N.**

Sparks summarizes that several complaints have been received about the volume of debris on this property. A drive-by site inspection noted junk and debris on the property. A violations letter was sent on May 12, 2023. Another visit was conducted on June 15, 2023, at that time the property had been somewhat cleaned up and the property was monitored over the summer. A visit in August with pictures was completed, another letter was sent in September 2023. Noting that while items had been removed, it was still out of compliance. Another letter was sent identifying additional violations. Inspector also spoke with the property owner in October. Another visit was conducted in December 2023 with the owner and a Washington County Public Health official. The condition of the property is still out of compliance at this time, and remains in violation. Pictures are presented to the Board. The next step for the township is to hold a violation hearing, adopt a resolution finding the property to be in violation, and turn the matter over to the town Attorney for correction and final enforcement.

Property Owner Jeremy Johnson of 17750 Olinda Trail explains that this is a hobby for him and all the cars that are not drivable are donated to the Scandia Fire Department for drills. When he has time, the cars are then turned in for scrap. Several cars on the property are street legal, licensed, and insured. Currently, there isn't much noticeable by a drive-by, everything is hidden behind a berm. There is currently a metal scrap pile, aluminum scrap pile, an appliance scrap pile, and some cars that all will get scrapped eventually. He does not understand what the issue is. He is not running an auto reduction business. 6-7 cars currently on the property are used by his children.

The codes states that outside storage of a vehicle requires it be licensed, operable, and parked in a manner consistent with the townships parking ordinance.

Snyder remarks that the fundamental activity of scrapping appliances, vehicles, metals, or aluminum is not permitted under town code/town ordinance. It appears, based on pictures, inspections, and the explanation given by the homeowner that this use is not permissible. The visibility or non-visibility of the debris on the property is irrelevant.

Magner suggests the homeowner work over the next 30 days to clean up the property. Clearing out the aluminum, white goods (refrigerators, water heaters and washers), and line up the cars in an orderly fashion, defining which ones are drivable and which ones are being donated. Then returning at the next Board meeting with pictures of the same areas, indicating the progress that has been made.

Mr. Johnson indicates that disposing of the aluminum and gutters will be difficult right now. It is frozen to the ground. He will try to dispose of all the white goods on the property next month and arrange the cars in a better fashion. Mr. Johnson reports that he has recycled 30 tons of scrap in the past 3 months and does not dump antifreeze on the ground.

Attorney Snyder recommends this be scheduled for a violation hearing and ask that staff be permitted to inspect the property just before the February Board meeting and provide updates. If progress has been made, the Board could consider that in making further decisions. If cleanup is ordered the cost would be paid for by the township and then assessing the property owner for those expenses.

Rolf has concerns about ongoing issues and questions how to handle future violations should Mr. Johnson continue to pursue his hobby.

Magner motions to continue this conversation at the next meeting with the expectation that Mr. Johnson self-submit photographs from the same locations/angles as previous inspections by township staff. Possible future action will be determined in February. Seconded by Rolf. All in Favor. Motion passed.

### 13xxx – 120<sup>th</sup> St. N.

Multiple citizens have complained about a property that has cut in an illegal second driveway and placed 2 campers with miscellaneous items around them. Neighbors report that there are people living in the campers. A site visit and pictures were taken in September 2023. Further complains were received. A letter was sent October 5, 2023. An email response from a relative of the property owner was received detailing the circumstances, disagreeing that they were in violation. An extension was requested by the relative of the property owner and the township responded asking exactly what they were asking for. There has been no response to township emails or phone calls from the property owner since that time. Inspector Jack Kramer went to the site today, pictures are presented. Tracks indicate multiple vehicles coming and going from the newly installed driveway and charcoal grills outside the campers strongly indicate someone is living in them. Historic aerial photos indicate the driveway has not been there previously.

Planner Sparks recommends proceeding to a violation hearing next month. There are a couple different code violations at this property, both somewhat common violations. These, and other violations, are bothersome to neighbors, becomes a public health issue, and the township is required by the Metropolitan Council to not allow multiple dwellings on one property. Issues such as this can become detrimental to an entire neighborhood. It is important to be consistent with enforcement.

Magner motions to schedule a violation hearing for 13xxx – 120<sup>th</sup> St. N. in February. Rolf seconds. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

14xxx – 130th St. N.

There is a hazardous structure on this lot. The property owner has decided to tear the structure down. Sparks requested they send a letter stating their intension and a date by which it would be demolished. As of tonight, that letter has not been received. There are concerns that this site could be a danger to the public at large.

The zoning authority on this lot is Washington County. The owners have not received confirmation from the County that they would not loose their grandfather rights if they tore the structure down.

The structure was secured by the township at a cost of \$480.00. That invoice was paid by the township, and will be billed to the property owner.

Magner motions to continue this violation to the February meeting, giving the property owner one month to obtain a demolition permit and pay the cost of securing the structure. Seconded by Rolf. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Plowing along the private section of Panorama Ave. N.

Attorney Snyder will be out of town for our February Board meeting and will address the property owners with a phone call in the near future.

The position of Chair Pazlar and Supervisor Rolf remains unchanged.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Assessor Pat Posheck requested an increase recently, effective January 2024. An increase from \$1300.00 per month to \$1600.00 per month. A percentage increase of 23%. This is outside the pubic approved allowance. An increase has not been requested for several years. A conversation with Mr. Posheck will also need to be considered if he would like an increase in 2025 so the township can budget accordingly.

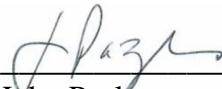
Overall, the township must be mindful of tax dollars and how funds are spent.

Magner motions to approve the increase and request Chair and staff work to find the funds to cover the increase for 2024. This new cost will be included in the 2025 budget. Rolf seconds. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m. without objection.



Bobbi Hummel  
Clerk/Treasurer



John Pazlar  
Board Supervisor, Chair