

**TOWN of MAY**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**  
**OFFICIAL TOWN BOARD MINUTES**  
**March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The Board of Supervisors of the Town of May convened their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, March 7<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; Attorney Dave Snyder; Engineer Mark Erichson, 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 Rolf to approve the minutes from the February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 Board Meeting. All in favor. Motion passed.

Pazlar moved, seconded by Rolf to approve the minutes from the Special Board Meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Review of the 2025 Proposed Levy. All in favor. Motion passed.

**CHECKS AND TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Marsha Olson presented the Treasurer's report, showing total cash and investments of \$2,184,180.42 of which \$713,124.50 is in investments. \$1,939,820.80 is committed. \$244,359.62 is non committed.

The list of escrows is in the process of clean up and an estimated 5 will be cleared up by next month.

Pazlar moved, seconded by Magner to approve the cash control statement from 02/01/2024 to 02/29/2024. All in favor. Motion passed.

Checks #21973 to #22010 and EFT030724B, EFT0307224F, and EFT030724S are also presented.

Pazlar moved, seconded by Magner to approve the Treasurers Report. All in favor. Motion passed.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

None. There was no March meeting.

**201 SEWER SYSTEM**

No updates

## **ENGINEERING AND ROADS**

### **Washington County Long Range Transportation Plan**

Mr. Erichson attended the initial workshop with Washington County. The goal was to get feedback from communities about what was important for each city/township. He did share that it was important that May Township maintain its rural character, the environment, and safe travel. The county is in the developing phase and is still gathering input from the community. Commissioner Miron will provide additional detail at the annual meeting next week.

### **Lynch Road Striping**

Engineer Erichson reports that striping on Lynch Road does not need to be done this year. There is no requirement to stripe this road ever, based on the volume of traffic.

### **Jahnke Permit Updates**

Mr. Erichson updates the Board on a Land Reclamation Permit for 13455 Partridge Road N. that ran through November 30, 2024. Much of the work was completed, but there was still some outstanding work that needed to be complete in the spring. An as-build survey was complete and reviewed. The property owner has requested a release of his \$10,000.00 security deposit. In agreement with the CMSCWD, Mr. Erichson is comfortable with the return of \$2500.00. There are still some rain gardens that need to be graded in and completed.

Mr. Jahnke would like to obtain a building permit to begin work on a shed/garage. The rain gardens should be put in after the foundation of the building is complete. Followed by finished grading of the site, topsoil and install seeding, and erosion control measures. At that point another partial escrow release could be considered. The final portion would be to finish grading the bio retention basins and getting another as-build survey verifying the elevations, seeding and plantings.

Building Inspector Kramer suggests that the town issue a building permit for the foundation of the building only. Then the applicant can complete the remaining work on his land reclamation permit, the escrow could be returned and then a separate permit could be applied for and issued for the completion of the building. Engineer Erichson is OK with that.

Pazlar motions to authorize staff to release \$2500.00 of the escrow. Rolf seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.

### **Calcium Chloride Quotes**

The Board received 2 quotes for calcium/chloride applications this year. One from Envirotech Services and another from Northern Salt. Both quotes were \$170,500.00. Engineer Erichson recommends Northern Salt as they have had good service from them in previous years.

Pazlar suggests, based on the mild winter, we apply the first application as soon as possible.

Rolf motions to approve the quote from Northern Salt, seconded by Magner. All in favor. Motion passed.

## **VIOLATIONS/COMPLAINTS**

### **Resident at xxx29 Square Lake Trail N.**

An RV has been parked on his neighbor's lawn illegally for the past 3 seasons. Sparks reports that multiple complaints have been received over the past years. The resident wished to put in a second driveway and park the RV there, but that is not allowed despite it being on a private road. Letters have been sent in past years and Mr. Sparks will send another one before the next meeting, notifying the resident for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row.

### **14xxx – 130<sup>th</sup> St. N. Follow-up**

There was a hazardous structure at this site. The owners have applied for a demolition permit from the township. Sparks will continue to follow the voluntary compliance and report back to the Board if progress stops.

### **13xxx – 120<sup>th</sup> St. N. Follow-up**

A plan and timeline for compliance has been received from the property owner. The plan is to relocate one camper and to create a prepared surface in an approved location for the other camper. Complete general clean-up of property, trim trees along driveway to allow for larger vehicles, cease using additional driveway. To be completed by August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

There is a concern about the length of time this is taking to complete. The initial complaints were received at least 9 months ago. It resulted in a public violation hearing because compliance was not gained in a timely fashion.

Pazlar agrees, the submitted time to complete the clean-up is prolonged. Also, he would like the “rare occasion” to use the additional driveway quantified. This invites future complaints and problems if it is not specific. Sparks agrees, historical ariel photos indicate this was not a driveway. By code, the township does not allow additional driveways.

Sparks suggests a modification of the plan to include revegetation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway area and that the campers be removed within a 2–3-month window.

Magner appreciates the plan, but agrees that the weather this year would allow for removal of the items much sooner. He proposes that a simple barricade be put up on the second driveway, specific dates on the tree trimming need to be solidified sooner than later, remove one camper by June 1<sup>st</sup>, get the vehicles out by May 1<sup>st</sup>, get out and get the property cleaned up by May 1<sup>st</sup>. June 1<sup>st</sup> is more realistic to complete all the work.

Rolf agrees, and suggest completion by May 15<sup>th</sup> so it can be reviewed at the June 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Special Event Application: Fat and Happy Bike Race on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Vicky Ostendorf would like to discuss and learn about the recent changes to the ordinance regarding special events. She has submitted an application for a Bike Race (Fat & Happy) for April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This event requests the use of rustic and scenic roads in the township, these roads are excluded from use with the new ordinance. These roads, given the rural nature (trees near the road), curved design, and maintenance requirements can create dangerous situations for users. There is also a request to start at 7:00 a.m., the ordinance states events are to start no earlier than 9:00 a.m.

Rolf confirms that the estimated participants is 30-40 total. A relatively low number of participants. Pazlar asks if the rural and rustic road map can be added to the online special event application for future reference. He confirms that there is some “wobble room” with approving events for the first year, given the new ordinance rules just went into place.

Magner is open to allowing some accommodations and ease into enforcement, but would like to make it clear that going forward we should hold firm to the ordinance language and requirements. He does not want to be in the same position next year with each event that was given a one-time exemption.

Pazlar motions to allow a one-time (first year) accommodation for the April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Fat Tire Bike Race. Allowing a 7:00 a.m. start and allowing them to utilize Oldfield and Orwell Roads this year. This event has a somewhat low participant count with a low impact to the roadway. Seconded by Rolf. All in favor. Motion passed.

The Clerk will add the Rural and Rustic Road Map to the online special event application.

### **Gateway Trail**

The DNR would like to discuss options for the Gateway Trail through May Township. Planner Sparks is going to connect with them to find out what specifically is being asked for from May Township, and he will update the Board at a later date. The goal is to get a clear picture of where exactly the trail would go through the township. Pazlar is against using the Town Park as a trail head/rest stop for this trail. It may overwhelm the town hall park, especially on the weekends.

Magner notes trail systems can have negative effects such as vandalism or inappropriate use. It is important to consider and protect May Township citizens from that. If a trail head for the trail is at the town park, it then becomes a public domain and becomes open to all of these issues and loses privacy. The county and DNR have acquired thousands of acres in the township, those acres are where the trails should be located. The County is asking for a trail that runs from East to West and the DNR is requesting a North South diagonal trail.

Rolf also states that there isn't a retail gas or grocery store in the township that would benefit the users or the township.

### **Historical Structures Study**

There is currently a moratorium on the issuance of demolition permits of structures on large tracks of land. The intent is to protect historic structures around the township. There is a desire to preserve viewsheds, scenic and rustic roads, and historic structures. Analysis needs to be completed. The

moratorium applies to the township as a whole. Planner Sparks suggests a task list be created and then the Board could decide which ones to address at any given time. Perhaps at the top of the list could be the Kelley Lands. A WMA is set to go in the area, the township has been told the process is on hold until the buildings are removed. Pazlar would like to get going to on the issue with the Kelley Land Buildings and get back to them with a decision sooner than later.

Magner notes that the DNR went to the historical society and requested a review on the Kelley Land Structures. The historical society looked on the national historic list and the state historical list and determined nothing on this property was deemed historical. It did not look at the local designation. Once it is locally designated, then one has to go through federal requirements. The first step is to do a survey to identify these places. He would like to identify historic preservation sites in the township. If the buildings do get torn down it might be a good idea to do some salvaging of the materials on the buildings. Some folks in the area have shown interest in keeping a piece of that history. He is willing to volunteer his time to complete this process.

Sparks will create a task or check list for the Board review for the Kelly Land property. Included in that is visiting the site with specialists, take pictures, and document historical aspects of the buildings. Magner is open to completing that as soon as possible.

Rolf has been part of historic preservation processes and notes it is an ambitious effort, time consuming and expensive. He likes the concept and believes there is a lot of history in the township. He questions how far we can take it given our resources.

Magner notes that cost does not prohibit the township from creating its own historic inventory and creating local historic designation. From there, set some guidelines that property owners would need to be in compliance with. Removing buildings without review is a drastic move, documenting and reviewing would be beneficial for historical purposes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. without objection.



Bobbi Hummel  
Clerk/Treasurer



John Pazlar  
Board Supervisor, Chair