

DENMARK TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2011

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Kathy Higgins, Steve Kramer and John Kummer

ABSENT: Joe Moore and Jim Keller

STAFF PRESENT: Attorney Troy Gilchrist- Kennedy Graven

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order @ 7:00 PM by Chair Higgins

AGENDA APPROVAL: Higgins added DNR information request. **Motion Kummer/2nd Kramer approval of agenda as amended.**

All In Favor. Motion Carried 3-0.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL: Higgins pulled claims. **Motion Kramer/2nd Kummer approval of consent agenda items which include 11/07/2011 Board Meeting Minutes, EFT payments- PERA 194274, MN Revenue Tax 99113878351, Federal Tax 55257218, payroll ending 12/01/2011 and financial reports.** All In Favor. Motion Carried 3-0.

PULLED CLAIMS- Claim #9759 Hastings Rural Fire Association \$67,779.05 reflects the 2010 rate. Claim should be adjusted to \$68,478.14 for 2011. **Motion Higgins/2nd Kummer to pay Claims #9754 through 9769 with adjustment of claim #9759 (\$68,478.14).** All In Favor. Motion Carried 3-0.

HEARING DECISIONS/ZONING ACTIONS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Lower St. Croix Valley Fire Department: Buster Schneider and Jim Stanton addressed the Board regarding options available to Denmark Township for fire and ambulance service. LSCVFD serves St. Mary's Point, Lake St. Croix Beach, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores and Afton (about 6,000 people.) Department plans on building a substation 5-10 years out. Substation could possibly be built in Denmark. Another site under consideration is on the North end of Afton at 50th & Neal Ave. If the substation were to be built in Denmark it would create faster response time. Department invited Board members to view their equipment.

Department has 2 representatives from every participating city on their Board. The Department has an annual audit in which each city sends a representative and a 5 year audit for additional city input. Department allows equipment depreciation only to a certain degree and leases some equipment to capture better financial benefit. Does not keep equipment over 10 years, has the latest equipment, defibrillators, cardiovascular units, water craft. Hard to get volunteer firefighters so a substation would help that issue. Emergency Services of LSCVFD are Basic Life Support. Department is structured as a nonprofit organization. Base charge and transport charge for ambulance. Consumable (foam use) charge for fire service. Each city pays a formula rate based 50% on their population and 50% on their property value. Annual budget is \$370,000.

Regarding staff required to take on additional area- could do if substation was in place and staffed with additional fire fighters. Department currently has 30 volunteer fire fighters, no full time staff.

Department receives mutual aid from Hudson, WI.

Attorney- Points for the Board to consider and compare for fire/ambulance service. Level of service, Haz-mat training, confined spaces, high level rescue, water rescue, specialty types of training that some departments may or may not provide. Number of fire fighters, full time and volunteer, type of fire equipment, how close are the stations, response time to different portions of the Town, cost determination, how the Budget is set, how capital purchase decisions are made, to what extent do the communities who obtain the services have a role in discussions regarding budget, equipment purchase, etc., imposition of an emergency service fee, and how the ISO rating is affected. Some municipalities do split services based on geographical constraints. Ambulance service is state regulated for the district boundaries.

As part of the Hastings Rural Fire Association, any withdrawal from the group either wholly or partially would affect the other members.

Board consensus to authorize attorney to check with State regarding ambulance regulations (districting and level of service) and continue to January agenda for full Board discussion.

Tree Trimming-Oakgreen Avenue: Resident requested trimming of trees on Oakgreen Ave. south of 90th Street. Tri-County submitted proposal of \$1500.00 to trim the trees 4 ft. off the shoulder of the road to an 18 ft. height. Contractor indicated that

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he did not think the trees would cause obstruction for winter road maintenance, but may obstruct summer grading equipment. Board consensus to hold off unless additional obstruction is noted. Contractor will meet with Kummer regarding winter roads maintenance.

Electrical Permits: State is currently performing Denmark’s electrical inspections. Attorney provided information from the State regarding electrical permitting. State indicated that as long as the permitting is put in place with a licensed inspector, the Township could arrange the change directly with the Inspector and file the necessary paperwork with the State. An ordinance amendment and an amendment to the existing agreement with Cottage Grove may be necessary. Board consensus to authorize Attorney will work out details and bring back to Board in January.

Eagle’s Watch Conservation Easement Violations: Moore and Higgins visited the site to review the trees that were planted as part of a Board approved restoration plan. Resident would like to have the trees moved. Resident would need to show that the trees were planted on his property rather than in the easement. Resident may bring issue back to the Board for further discussion.

Special Events: Attorney provided preliminary information regarding what would be involved if the Town Board decided to develop an ordinance to regulate special events. A meeting was held with Washington County regarding the possibility of the County adopting a special events ordinance; however the County did not appear to be moving in that direction. Attorney recommended further discussions with the County to create a regulatory approach that takes into consideration the County’s role and regulations. Board consensus to authorize Attorney to prepare a rough draft of an ordinance for Board review in January.

DNR Information Request: 8:30 PM Kummer, currently employed with 3M, stepped down from Board. State of Minnesota has filed a lawsuit against 3M Company concerning PFC contamination of the groundwater. On the State’s behalf, an engineering firm is requesting to meet with Denmark Township to discuss community water supply issues. Keller has historically been active regarding the groundwater issues in Denmark Township. Board consensus to have Keller contact engineering firm for meeting request.
8:34 PM Kummer resumed Board position.

2011 Financial Audit-Oberloh & Associates: Oberloh & Associates submitted proposal in the amount of \$4300.00 to conduct the 2011 financial audit. **Motion Kummer/2nd Kramer to authorize Oberloh & Associates to conduct the 2011 financial audit as proposed. All In Favor. Motion Carried 3-0.**

Final 2012 Levy Certification: Motion Kramer/2nd Kummer to certify the payable 2012 Final property Tax in the amount of \$445,327.00. All In Favor. Motion Carried 3-0.

2012	ANNUAL BUDGET	GOV'T AIDS	OTHER REVENUE	From Savings	CERTIFIED LEVY
GENERAL	79,591		55,529	0	24,062
SALARIES	66,115		0	0	66,115
ROAD & BRIDGE	413,850	0	18,000	200,000	195,850
FIRE	146,400		400	0	146,000
DITCH & TRASH	13,300		0	0	13,300
PARK & REC	54,750		14,750	40,000	0
2012 TOTALS	774,006	0	88,679	240,000	445,327

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2012 Development Review/Meeting Schedule: Clerk submitted 2012 Development Review/Meeting Schedule. Board consensus to change the 01/03/12 Board Meeting to 01/09/12 due to the New Year's Holiday. **Motion Kramer/2nd Kummer approval of the 2012 Development Review/Meeting Schedule as amended. All In Favor. Motion Carried 3-0.**

Denmark Township Development Review Schedule - Year 2012

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE	NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATES	PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING (3rd Monday)	TOWN BOARD MEETING (1st Monday)	
10/17/11	11/07/11	11/10/11 & 11/17/11	11/21/11	12/05/11	
11/21/11	12/05/11	12/08/11 & 12/15/11	12/19/11	01/09/11	01/02/12 New Year's Day observed
12/19/11	12/30/11	01/05/12 & 01/12/12	01/17/12	02/06/12	01/16/12 Martin Luther King Day
01/17/12 *	02/06/12 *	02/09/12 & 02/16/12 *	02/21/12 *	03/05/12	02/20/12 President's Day
				03/13/12	2012 Annual Meeting
02/21/12	03/05/12	03/08/12 7& 03/15/12	03/19/12	04/02/12	
03/19/12	04/02/12	04/06/12 & 04/13/12	04/16/12	05/07/12	
04/16/12	05/07/12	05/11/12 & 05/18/12	05/21/12	06/04/12	
05/21/12	06/04/12	06/07/12 & 06/14/12	06/18/12	07/02/12	
06/18/12	07/02/12	07/05/12 & 07/12/12	07/16/12	08/06/12	
07/16/12	08/06/12	08/09/12 & 08/16/12	08/20/12	09/04/12	09/03/12 Labor Day Annual Reconvening & regular meeting
08/20/12	08/31/12	09/06/12 & 09/13/12	09/17/12	10/01/12	
09/17/12	10/01/12	10/04/12 & 10/11/12	10/15/12	11/05/12	
10/15/12	11/05/12	11/08/12 & 11/15/12	11/19/12	12/03/12	
11/19/12	12/03/12	12/06/12 & 12/13/12	12/17/12	01/07/13	
12/17/12	01/07/13	01/10/13 & 01/17/13	01/22/13	02/04/13	01/21/13 Martin Luther King Day
01/22/13 *	02/04/13 *	02/07/13 & 02/14/13 *	02/19/13 *	03/04/13	02/18/13 President's Day
				03/12/13	2013 Annual Meeting

Date change due to Holiday

There is always a possibility that there may be a Board quorum at any Planning Commission Meeting.

LEGAL UPDATES:

Planning & Engineering Contracts: Attorney is working with WSB Engineering & Focus Engineering to finalize contracts. Chair to sign final contracts.

Pribnow Lot Line Adjustment: Attorney has drafted and sent Development Agreement to Pribnow's.

Legal Rates: Attorney request for approval of rate increase. Current rate \$155 an hour. New rate \$165 an hour. Current meeting rate \$115 an hour. New meeting rate \$125 an hour. **Motion Kummer/2nd Kramer approval of rate increase as submitted. All In Favor. Motion Carried 3-0.**

8:52 PM **Motion Kramer/2nd Kummer to adjourn. All In Favor. Motion Carried 3-0.**

Becky Herman
Denmark Township Clerk/Treasurer