

DENMARK TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
April 4, 2011

**SUPERVISORS PRESENT:** Kathy Higgins, Steve Kramer, Gary Dixon, Joe Moore, Jim Keller

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order @ 7:04 PM by Chair Higgins

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Higgins added Eagle's Watch. **Motion Moore/2<sup>nd</sup> Keller approval of agenda as amended. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL:** Dixon pulled claims for approval. **Motion Kramer/2<sup>nd</sup> Moore approval of consent agenda items which include 03/07/2011 Board Meeting Minutes, EFT payments- PERA 169787, MN Revenue Tax 99112155480, Fed Tax 14260601, payroll ending 04/01/2011 and financial reports. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

**HEARING DECISIONS/ZONING ACTIONS:** None

New Washington County Commissioner Autumn Lehrke addressed Board. Commissioner Lehrke welcomed discussion of any issues of concern that Denmark may have. Items of discussion included the upcoming event being held at Afton Alps and the possibility of cutting funding for the rail system.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Oakgreen resident- requested Board review and monitoring of Rumpca pit activities.

80<sup>th</sup> St. resident- questioned clarification of Supervisor residency and whether there is a time limit for a supervisor to be not living in the Township. Dixon stated that his residency remains in the Township. Board expectations are that this is not a long term situation.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**ELECTION OF CHAIR/VICE-CHAIR:** Moore satisfied with the flow of current Township business. Moore nominated Higgins to Chair/2<sup>nd</sup> by Dixon. No other nominations. **Motion Keller/2<sup>nd</sup> Moore to close nominations and elect Higgins as Chair. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

Kramer nominated Keller to Vice-Chair/2<sup>nd</sup> Moore. No other nominations. **Motion Kramer/2<sup>nd</sup> Moore to elect Keller as Vice-Chair. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

**ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS:** **Motion Keller/2<sup>nd</sup> Moore to approve the following items:**

- **Designation of Hastings Star Gazette as official Town newspaper of record, and to also place notices in the**
- **St Paul Pioneer Press, as directed by the Board.**
- **Designation of the Town Hall outside south bulletin board as the official Town posting place.**
- **Designation of Vermillion State Bank-Hastings as the official Town bank.**
- **Gopher bounty to remain at \$2.50 per gopher.**
- **Supervisor's salary to remain at \$70 per meeting and \$300 per month for Chair.**
- **2011 Annual Meeting set for March 13, 2012 @ 7:00 PM @ the Town Hall, per elector resolution.**

All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.

**Contracted Staff:** Board consensus to retain current contracted staff. **Motion Keller/2<sup>nd</sup> Moore to retain contracted staff, Kennedy-Graven Legal and TKDA Planning and Engineering. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

**Afton Alps Event:** Warrior Dash event will take place on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at Afton Alps. The event is an obstacle running race and an all day festival. The event anticipates nearly 28,000 registered runners over the weekend. Higgins has spoken with the events director, Washington County, Hastings Fire Chief and Hastings City Administrator. Consensus, after speaking with Township Attorney and County Planner O'Donnell, was that the Town does not have an ordinance in place to deal with this type of event; therefore the event will be regulated/overseen by various County/City departments. Board concerns- parking issues. Suggested apple orchards for possible parking. Traffic- possibility of closing 80<sup>th</sup> St. Higgins will keep Board updated.

**Playground In The Summer 2011:** Board reviewed PITS contract for 2011. Hastings Community Ed proposes a 2 day/week program at a cost of \$1400. **Motion Moore/2<sup>nd</sup> Kramer to approve Denmark participation with PITS proposal 2 day/week program at a cost of \$1400. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

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PITS will be at the Denmark Town Hall Park on Mondays and Fridays from 9:30 AM- 3:30 PM, June 13<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**4-H:** 4-H Federation has requested a grant from Denmark Township. County funding has been reduced. Moore has spoken with 4-H administration and fundraising staff. Federation is actively fundraising to support. Moore recommends a donation by the Township. Township pays the local 4-H clubs \$800 to clean the ditches. Suggestion made to increase the pay and have the clubs give the increase as a donation to the Federation. Higgins concerned that this would be funding a County wide organizations/services. Town responsibility is to deal with Town issues such as the roads and ditches, etc. Would prefer to contribute by paying the local clubs more for cleaning the ditches and they can donate the excess to their Federation. Suggestion to offer the 4-H clubs an opportunity to earn additional funds for working on the O'Connor Park project. Keller will identify work that could be done by the 4-H clubs and Moore will present the ideas to the clubs.

**Motion Moore/2<sup>nd</sup> Keller to authorize an additional expenditure of \$500.00 to be paid to the 4-H clubs for 4-H work at O'Connor's Park, subject to Moore's discussion with the 4-H Clubs. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

**Roads-Sealcoat bids, Dustcoating:**

**Sealcoat-** Denmark has entered into an alliance with Cottage Grove, St.Paul Park, Newport and Afton. The primary benefit to Denmark is a reduction in the cost to sealcoat as Denmark's bidding would be as a part of a larger contract. The proposal for Denmark came in at \$40,912.80. The roads to be seal coated are 127<sup>th</sup>-Hwy 10 to Morgan, Morgan -127<sup>th</sup> to 122<sup>nd</sup>, 122<sup>nd</sup> – Morgan to Neal, Neal -122<sup>nd</sup> to 110<sup>th</sup>.

**Dustcoat-** Township received 3 quotes for Dustcoating. Quality Dust Control- \$.689/gallon, Dustcoating Inc- \$.72/gallon, Luhman's Construction- \$.77/gallon. Township has used Dustcoating Inc. for a number of years. Dixon is pleased with their past performance. Company works well with coordination of gravel maintenance contractor. Board questioned some of the information sent from Quality Dust Control. Dixon will call Quality for clarification. **Motion Keller/2<sup>nd</sup> Kramer to authorize Dixon to negotiate contract with Quality Dust Control or Dustcoating Inc., per his discretion. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

**Road Sweeping-** There is quite a bit of sand left on the Town Hall parking lot and some of the roads should have spot sweeping done. Solicited quotes from Tri County Services, \$85.00 per hr for sweeper and truck and Miller Excavating, \$92.50 per hr for sweeper, \$75.00 per hr for truck and \$65.00 per hr labor. Dixon suggested Town Hall lot sweeping and spot sweeping of roads, estimating 10-20 hrs. Resident asked when looking for contracts, does the Town need to advertise or just put the word out looking for bids. Quotes were solicited and there is no obligation to advertise for bids for small projects of these dollar amounts. Board authorized Dixon to handle sweeping.

**Eagle's Watch:** There have been concerns of tree clearing on the bluffline in Eagle's Watch. Eagle's Watch resident submitted letter to Board describing some of the clearing events that have taken place. The Homeowner's Association owns the easement and the Township is the holder of the easement involved. Denmark has an agreement with the Washington Conservation District that they will look at the issue and come up with a restoration plan and monitoring of the plan. Once the plan is put together, it will come before the Denmark Board for review and approval. Homeowner's association members Scott Meier, Jeff Miles and Mark Johnson present. Concern regarding who the responsibility lies with regarding paying for the restoration. Higgins suggested coming up with a reasonable plan and expectation and then decide how to handle once the plan has been developed.

**On Site Road Evaluation:** On site road evaluation scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 5:30 PM.

**Portfolio Workshop:** Supervisor workshop scheduled for Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 5:30 PM.

**Clerk/Treasurer Performance Evaluation:** Annual review date is April 1. Current monthly salary \$2407.86.

**Motion Moore/2<sup>nd</sup> Keller to approve a 6% raise (\$144.48 per mo.) for the Clerk/Treasurer, effective 04/01/11. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0. Approved salary \$2552.34 per month.**

**Pulled Claims: Clerk added claim #9625 Tri County Services \$1140.00 and Claim #9626 Steve Kramer \$69.95. Motion Moore/2<sup>nd</sup> Kramer to approve payment of Claims #9611 through 9626. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

8:40 PM **Motion Keller/2<sup>nd</sup> Moore to adjourn. All In Favor. Motion Carried 5-0.**

Becky Herman  
Denmark Township Clerk/Treasurer