

State of Minnesota

Blue Earth County

Lime Township

Minutes for February 11, 2025

ALL MOTIONS ASSUMED TO BE UNANIMOUS UNLESS NOTED

Present: Cody Hilgers, Kevin Oldridge, Steve Flo, Jill Hilgers, Karl Friedrichs, Rich Resch, Members of the Public, ZOOM: Christine Skarpohl Gregory, Linda Rossow, Joe Holtmeier, Mark Smith, Rebecca Brooks, Jimmy Blount III, Chris Austin, Mark Konz

Cody Called the Meeting to Order at 7:30 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion 2025.02.01 Rich, Second Kevin to Approve the Minutes as amended.

Motion 2025.02.02 Cody, Second Kevin to Accept the Financials as presented.

Motion 2025.02.03 Rich, Second Kevin to Pay the Claims and Payroll.

Staff Report: Mark Konz connected with Ruppe about the platting of the property south of the airport. He supplied a response. The site has to be 3 acres in size and the transfer of development rights can be "put back the way it was" prior to the initial plat. This will be a correction, rather than a new plat.

Road Report: Deegan's has been salting and sanding as needed. Cody asked that the Hensonshire grade be looked at for possible tile installation during the road project. Rich wanted to know the approximate distance and time needed to install tile in the area, which would be done during the road resurfacing project to eliminate issues of going through the end of driveways.

Hensonshire Road Project: Cody got estimates from WW Blacktopping and Nielsen Blacktopping for doing a reclamation with a total 4 inch asphalt surface. Both estimates have included running 3 feet into existing driveways, which may be enough to place the tile line on the west end of Hensonshire Drive. Cody brought estimates and wanted feedback to see if we should present these numbers to the residents.

Nielsen Blacktopping's estimate: \$ 318,000.00 (\$150,000 less than B&M thought)

WW Blacktopping's estimate: \$258,000.00.

Cody also got a paper quote from Bargaen, Inc. who only do chip seal and crack fill. The Bargaen representative thought that chip sealing would gain 5-7 years of life on the road. The quote was just under \$40,000.00. Typically the Township covers the total cost of chip sealing. This may give us time to get a reclamation project ready and give residents time to save for the project. Rich's comment was that a chip seal seems like a bit of a waste, considering the current road condition. Mark Smith's comment was that he talked to a few residents who are ready for a full reclamation project. He is willing to share Cody's contact information to the residents so Cody can send information directly in regards to these estimates.

Motion 2025.02.04 Kevin, Second Rich to present the estimated numbers to the Residents of Hensonshire.

Highway 22 Turnback: Cody and Rich met with Forrest Hasty about the turnback. They have a diagram showing the Pfeffer, Miller and Township portions of the road as it will be constructed. The Township portion will be 22 feet wide going north to Pheasant Run.

MnDot will also be dealing with moving the Pheasant Run sign to a temporary location. The Township Board will check the placement during the Annual Road Tour in April.

Rich also mentioned the tree replacement on the Highway 22 project. Apparently there is no money allocated to the Highway 22 corridor since Highway 22 is considered a “rural project” versus an “urban project” like Highway 169. Kevin met with Nick Frentz, Erica Schwartz and Terry Stier. Rep. Stier was going to be meeting with MnDot later that week and would bring it up in his meeting.

Citizen Questions and Comments:

Jody read in the St. Peter Herald about a scholarship awarded through MAT. She would like the board to advertise the next opportunity. She also wanted to thank the Board for their advocacy in the matter of the Highway 22 project’s deforestation.

Linda asked about a solar system application that was supposed to be presented at the planning commission meeting, but Cody let her know that they will be recommending denial of the project since it was adding a second site to an existing site without all of the neighbors signing off on the project.

Jim H. wanted to talk about the acreage issue in moving his lot of record. The site is approximately .3 acres shy of the three acre minimum in Airport Zone B. He asked if the township would grant a variance. If not, he could possibly vacate the end of Lakeview Road, which gives access to the Kvitex property, to add the strip he owns along the lake. Mark K. said the Joint Airport Board would be the entity that would need to give the variance, not Lime Township. Trying to get that board together would be hard and might not yield the results Jim wants. He suggests either vacating the road or purchasing land from the adjacent land owner.

Mining Committee: There was no February meeting. The mine owners have a March 5th due date for the 2024 Annual Report. Joe stated there is a draft report in the works. Cody requested that it be complete by the end of February for the mining committee to review prior to the March Township Board meeting.

Solar Moratorium: The amendment language was sent to Staff. Victoria had a couple of items she wanted to add. She wanted to add a Submittal Requirement Checklist section, along with a pre-submittal meeting. Staff only has 10 days to review once submitted, but it was hard to get through all of the information to ensure it was complete in that time frame.

Recreation Work Session: As of that meeting, Ruppe had not contacted Cody with comments. They reviewed the language line by line to ensure language was complete. Ruppe did finally comment. His main comment on the section “The Township May, at the Township’s discretion, allow limited recreational use on adjoining parcels” was that the township can’t use the wording “at the Township’s discretion”. You can either allow or not allow that. The worry is that the existing parcel owners may just keep buying parcels to add to their project exponentially. Cody would like to schedule another work session to go over Ruppe’s comments. Monday, March 3 at

7:30 pm. Christine would like to ZOOM in. If an issue arises, Cody will reschedule the meeting. Joe would like to have Ruppe's comments prior to the Work Session for review.

150 Hensonshire Drive Enforcement: Cody and Rich weren't able to connect on an official visit. Rich drove by and noted debris and trash on the property. An email was sent to John. His reply is that they are not living in the camper any longer. Rich sent the Ponderosa landfill hours and rates. The Ordinance has a section about "Trash and Debris", where we can send them a notice to abate in 10 days, at which time we would send a clean up crew over and bill the resident. The south side resident has had trash come over. They also took a tree down that is on his property as well. The camper mattress is laying out in the yard. Christine's comment is that this is a health concern. Is it time to give them an ultimatum and then go in to clean it up? This shouldn't still be on the agenda. It needs to be taken care of. Based on the Board's conversation, Cody will send an email stating the 10 day abatement notice and if not completed, we will clean it up and assess the cost to the property for the betterment of the neighborhood.

Board Member Reports:

Kevin: He attended Township Day at the Capital with MAT. There are 1776 townships, with over 55,000 miles of roads, 6000 bridges. Currently the state supplies \$42 million for township roads. The townships would like to see an increase to \$100 million. 400 bridges are currently listed in the "deficiencies list". Townships are pushing for more rural broadband coverage. Rural Emergency services funding is very short. He met with three legislators and spoke on the Highway 22 project. He didn't know about the MAT scholarships and liked to see that. He also got a county planning meeting agenda on an aggregate mine in Judson Township.

Rich: Resident stopped at his house for an update on the Solar Moratorium. He said it was close, but to keep an eye out for the Township Newsletter for more information. The January Fire Meeting didn't happen on the date that was sent. Apparently it was done earlier.

Jimmy: None

Christine: Attended half of a MAPO TAC meeting. They presented information on their new electric vehicle fleet. She was able to talk to Christopher and Mark about the signage on 3rd Avenue on the merge by Industrial. They said to email them and they'd look into it.

Cody: He went to the bank to be added to the signature card. We require at least two signatures, even though the bank doesn't enforce that. Beth emailed him about some old business. She wondered if Rich completed a report on the Solar Inspections. We need to send notice to the Lorentz Property on 3rd Avenue. They never completed the berm/screening and are in violation of their IUP. We never set a date of completion of the berm, but Cody will talk to Mark and Victoria to ensure we know if we need to send a compliance notice.

Clerk: Board of Audit needs to be complete. Posting and Publishing of the updated Solar Ordinance language will happen tonight. The County Assessor's office has set the dates as April 21-25 for the Open Book Meetings where residents can petition to change their property values. Our Annual Meeting and March Regular Meeting Dates will be posted and published shortly. Northstar Companies sent a letter that they are available for vegetation spraying in the township. The Weed Inspector will reach out to them. MAT is holding their Short Courses at the Mayo Clinic Event Center. The township will pay the cost of that training. MNL TAP is holding a

work session on “Extending Pavement Life” in April. Anyone wanting to register can. Should the Clerk put together a Google Calendar for the Supervisor’s benefit? Unanimously supported. Rich wanted to know if we should be storing the Township documents in an offsite location due to liability to the Clerk. Cody will look into the cost and availability at Storage Lounge.

Motion 2025.02.05 Rich, Second Kevin to Adjourn at 10:08 pm.

Minutes Prepared By: _____
Jill Hilgers, Clerk

Cody Hilgers, Chairman

Rich Resch, Supervisor

Jimmy Blount, III, Supervisor

Kevin Oldridge, Supervisor

Christine Skarpohl Gregory, Supervisor

Steve Flo, Treasurer