

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MIDDLEVILLE TOWNSHIP
3014 CO. RD. 6 SW
HOWARD LAKE, MN 55349
September 10, 2024

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman James Raymond, at 7:00 pm followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Also present were Supervisors Walt Barlow and James Jacobson, PZ Administrator Jessica Elfmann, Treasurer Judy Forst, Clerk Joey Berg, and Maintenance Man Randy Klugow. Others in attendance are noted on the sign-in sheet included with the approved minutes.
2. A public hearing was held for John Walter. He is requesting a lot line variance on his property in Section 17, PID 212-000-174101. He wishes to place a new pole shed closer to the west line of his property than is allowed by ordinance. This is due mainly to the shape of his parcel. Ordinance requires a 30-foot side boundary set back and he is asking for 15 feet. Joey read the notice that had been printed in the paper for 2 weeks and listed the neighboring property owners who had received letters informing them of this request. No one had responded either written or in person. Walt made a motion and James J. second to grant the variance as requested. Carried unanimously 5-0.
3. David Larson has concerns about the speed of traffic on 60th St. east of town. He is wondering if some sort of sign could be placed that maybe would slow people down. He suggested something like "Trucks Hauling" or "Trucks Entering." The board assured him that they would investigate that.
4. Hanna Skoog had questions about splitting their property, PID 212-000-131201, on the east side of Highland Lake into several parcels. This is a 64-acre parcel with about 20 acres of it under water. The board explained that there are no remaining building entitlements, and that the only way that could maybe be changed would be by rezoning the property; and they didn't feel that this option would likely be approved at this time. Hanna thanked for the information.
5. Trevor Sherwin is concerned with the slow pace of getting his permits back for the house he is moving on to his property. The house has been sitting there for some time now, but he's not able to do anything more until he gets the permits. It was explained to him that the septic designer needs to get the required corrections done on the design before our inspector can legally sign it; and also the building inspectors need to get the paperwork back to us too. He wanted our septic inspector's phone number so he could obtain the list of corrections that need to be made.
6. Karen Erickson was present and declared she had discovered some "public land" on the west side of Locke Ave going north from 49th St. It amounts to about one-half acre of usable land after the road right of way is off. She wishes to place a variety of Smith Lake Townsite memorials there to educate people about the past in that area. She is planning on publishing a letter in the surrounding town papers and setting up a "go fund me" account to raise funds for this project. The board advised her to hold off until we could do a little research on this little sliver of land, but Karen seemed to feel she could wait no longer.

7. Travis McIlree gave an update on the progress of the legalities with his mother's house. The lawyer has filed papers regarding probate, so things are moving slowly along. This is in reference to the ongoing issues with moving out of the property on 10th St.
8. Joey presented the Clerk's report: The August minutes were reviewed. The September misc. receipts in the amount of \$2,297.00 and claims in the amount of \$31,483.98 were reviewed. Walt made a motion and James R. second to approve the Clerk's report (including claim #s 10365-10373 & EFT#s E092401-E092407). Carried unanimously 3-0.
9. Judy then presented the Treasurer's report: she stated that the balance on hand at the end of August was \$631,417.95. She pointed out we had received our "Voter Operation" State funds from the County, \$797.70. She noted that there had been interest income of \$158.60 in the month of August of which \$151.16 was reinvested. James R. made a motion and Walt second to approve the Treasurer's report. Carried unanimously 3-0. The board then did an audit of the Clerk's August books along with the Treasurer's report and bank statements. A motion was made by James R. and second by James J. to approve the audit of the Clerk's August books. Carried unanimously 3-0.
10. Jess reviewed some of the issues we already had talked about and then she asked about the septic issue out at the Littfin site. It basically amounts to the old one "blowing up" due to more people than it was designed for. Joey will forward her a copy of the new design. Walt made a motion and James R. second to approve the PZ report. Carried unanimously 3-0.
11. Road Maintenance Report: Randy reported 1) the gravel hauling for the year is pretty well done. 2) he is going to get at mowing the road ditches. James R. made a motion and James J. second to approve the Road Maintenance report. Carried unanimously 3-0.
12. Old Business: we had received notice from the Sheriff's Department that they had received an anonymous call regarding the property at 1607 Keats Ave. There are several RVs there with people living there. Upon investigation, a deputy found this to be the case and suggested our inspectors should investigate. After the meeting, upon hearing the news and the concern with sewage, our septic inspector reported the issue to the State Department of Health. They are now handling the issue.
13. New Business: none
14. Meetings:
 - Oct 3 – Twp Officers Ass'n mtg, Corinna Twp Hall, 7:00 pm
 - Oct 8 – monthly mtg at 7:00 pm
15. Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Joey Berg, Clerk

James Raymond, Chairman