

Regular Meeting Minutes
Hybrid meeting
September 13, 2022
6:30 pm

Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance, and Chairman Sandy Hagan called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with Mike, Sandy, Harlan, and Peggy at the town hall. Linnea was present via zoom meeting. Minutes of the last meeting were read with Mike Miller approving them, and Sandy Hagan seconding them. Peggy gave a treasurer's report with an itemized list of bills paid. Mike made a motion to accept, and Harlan Bellin seconded it.

Roads

1. MSA updates

- a. Brian Swanson development will be building 4/6 houses along the new road in the next few months, and the question is whether or not the township would like them to install driveways once the buildings are up or do we want them in place when road is being built? The township would like them to install 4 driveways now and do the others when the remaining houses go in. James will communicate this to the Swanson's.
- b. Correction process for Pigeon Loft Road- Steve Winter from MSA shared their inspection report with township, however the board has not had a chance to read the inspection report yet. The report did bring up some of the options that were less environmentally friendly for our consideration. However, the permanent solution would be to pave this road. Mike asked if MSA could help us budget for the township paving 1 mile of road per year. Steve replied that each road would have to be looked at to see what it would take to bring it up to standard prior to blacktopping. MSA is going to try and have a proposal ready by January, so the board can present to Oxford residents in March at the annual meeting. James also said to be

aware that by year 2-3 on Typo Creek Drive, we should be budgeting for sealing cracks that start to form. Mike said that 254th Court also needs to be looked at, as it has been in existence for about 3-4 years. James will send someone out to see if there are any cracks that need to be sealed. Mark Faust wanted clarification of how the board plans to address dust control if the township is only able to pave 1 mile of road per year. He also asked the board to reconsider using chloride products. Mike will reach out to LTAP to see if they have information or data on how chloride products affect the environment.

- c. Peggy had a question on the Swanson Development billing and was wondering why the township is acting as the “middle man”, since it would be more efficient if MSA billed directly. She also reported that she has not received payment for the bills sent. MSA said that it is not standard practice for the engineering firm to bill directly and that the township should set up an escrow account. Townships have the authority to stop work until we get the payment. In addition, the township has taxing authority, the engineers do not. Mike will call Brian Swanson and ask him to pay the bills.
2. Mike Miller gave an update on the question of what obligation the township has toward compensating for vehicles affected by the dust suppressant. From a legal aspect, the questions the board should ask are: is this a coating that can come off or is there permanent damage to the car. For most situations, townships are not liable. The lawyer compared it a situation of living on a dirt road and accumulating mud has to be cleaned off. Mike then described our road bid situation and that we recently asked Bart to take over maintenance of 253rd. Keller Excavating was not happy with this decision, and Mike asked if the township has any liability. The lawyer answered that since we do not have a contract, and since the township is not obligated to take the lowest bid, the township is

- within it's rights to do this and there does not appear to be an issue with how this was handled. Moving forward, our board needs to discuss best practices for bids and how that feeds into a contract for road maintenance.
3. Regarding the 253rd road maintenance change for September, Bart has bladed it twice this month, and the road is getting better. Sandy inspected the road yesterday, and all driveways look like they meet the road correctly.
 4. Oxford-Linwood town line road agreement – Linwood is in the process of reviewing the agreement.
 5. Bart has cleaned up 259th and Mike asked him to trim some other trees that are currently hanging over township roads. Timeline requested is within the next couple of months

Old Business

1. Mike is looking into our township insurance and is currently talking to a private organization in Wisconsin. He has requested the original MATIT documents describing our coverage and costs.
2. Harlan Bellin gave a summary of the last fire district meeting.

New Business

1. Platting in Isanti County
 - a. The Isanti County Board of Commissioners have set and will hold a public hearing on this ordinance change on **September 20, 2022 at 9:30am** at the Isanti County Government Center in the County Board Room. Will be discussing the proposed changes for new platting in the county. Sandy and Mike plan to attend.
2. Steve Kingsbury reminded everyone that this weekend is the Anderson Park fall festival. The event will have a naturalist led woodland walk, music, a climb theatre, and free food!

Sandy Hagan made a motion to adjourn and Mike Miller seconded that motion. Motion passed was passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Linnea Lentz
Oxford Clerk
13 September 2022