

San Francisco Township Monthly Meeting  
February 8, 2021

Board members convened at 6:45 Supervisors reviewed accounts payable and authorized payments. Present were Board members Doug Weber (presiding), Larry Schmidt, Scott Selken, Treasurer Denise Andersen and Clerk Heidi Schmidt, 5 residents and 48 zoom attendees also attended. Doug called the meeting to order and all recited the pledge of allegiance.

The January minutes were reviewed via email. Doug wanted to add that he was not in favor of the Saturday trucks from the Hanson pit as it was one of the concessions in the original Ordinance.

Motion carried to approve with corrections.

Treasurer reported \$205,693. in checking and \$388,114 in CDs. Report was Approved.

**Zoning:** Larry attended the county zoom meeting. There are upcoming changes to the zoning codes that the township should stay on top of. Work sessions are after the monthly P & Z meeting.

**Road and Bridge Report:** Dahlgren Road agreement has not been reviewed yet.

**Mining:** Doug presented resolution 21-01 to temporarily allow trucks to haul from the Hanson pit on Saturday's for the County Rd 11 project. This was approved last month. Larry made a motion to adopt the resolution. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed. Copies of Resolutions will be posted on the website.

Doug reviewed the process for the EAW (Environmental Assessment Worksheet) the township has received from Ron Olson for a mine on Joyce Road. Last month the applicant announced the proposed project and the township hired an engineering firm to review an EAW. Once the review is complete it will be published in the MN Environmental Quality Board – Monitor. Once it is published it begins the 30 day review by the public and the governmental agencies like DNR, EPA etc. This is planned for Feb 16-Mar 17<sup>th</sup>. All questions about the EAW must be addressed. Board will then determine if an EIS (Environmental Impact Study) is needed. If not, it is expected that Ron would apply for an IUP (Interim Use Permit). The township then has 60 days to approve or deny that permit. During that time there is a planning commission meeting where the public can comment. The planning committee is the same people as on the Town Board. The committee then makes a recommendation. Board decides if it will grant or deny the IUP. If approved an Operations Agreement will be written up.

The EAW is expected to be complete the first week of April. The town attorney has advised the board not to comment on an application they do not have. The Board has hired WENCK Engineering to review Ron Olson's EAW when presented. Doug took questions on the Application process:

John Duwalter: At what point does the Ordinance come into play? Doug: During the IUP process. The EAW was triggered by the ordinance already.

Lori Cox: How do the 3 mining ordinances work? Doug: Ordinance 8 was the original Ordinance 12 & 14 amend Ord 8. They only hold the changes. Read Ordinance 8 be sure it is a copy with changes noted.

Glen Cozine: In the EAW does neighborhood affect get addressed? Doug: Done in the IUP.

Tim Thomas: Is any work allowed on the site now? Doug: No.

Carver County does allow 999 Cu Yds to be removed from a site one time.

Ron Olson: Jason at the county is monitoring that Admin permit for the 999. There is no time limit, just an amount.

Christine Johnson: Has submitted a letter to the board should she resubmit? Doug: Yes during IUP process.

Toni: Has talked to DNR. They advise commenting now to have items addressed in EAW. Neighbors are concerned about the road.

Phil: People should write letters during the 30 day EAW comment period. All comments must be addressed.

John: Does the board decide if the EIS is required? Doug: Yes

John: Did the board approve last summer's activity? Doug: The town board was not asked, it went through the county.

John: It is obvious this site does not meet the ordinance requirements. Why are we going through this process? Doug: The process must be followed to address those items.

The engineering firm will address all questions on EAW, not the town board.

Larry: This application is no different than a resident asking for an oversized shed.

Ron: I have followed all the regulations so far. He asked the county for the 999 CY permit as instructed. They did not send him to the township.

San Francisco Township annual meeting is MARCH 9<sup>th</sup> for all residents. The 2022 budget will be addressed. Time for residents to suggest how they want the township run.

Resolution 21-02 was drafted by the town attorney. Scott read the resolution determining that the Environmental Assessment Worksheet was complete and authorized the next steps for the proposed Ron Olson interim Use permit for a new sand and gravel mining operation within the town. Motion was made to approve. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.

**Citizens Committee:** The town hall has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This is an important step in applying for State Grant funds for restoration. A conditions assessment was done in January. This identified condition of building and maintenance items needed to stabilize it. It also listed potential restoration items to be done. Phase 1 is mostly exterior repair of the brick and mortar, window and drainage. Cost is estimated at \$162,000. Phase 2 includes bathrooms, heat & cooling and a 2<sup>nd</sup> exit. The next step is to apply for the state grant by July 23<sup>rd</sup> for phase 1. Then apply for phase 2 money in 2022. Todd Grover did the condition assessment. He stated we will need plans and specs to apply for the grant money. He suggests getting the whole project planned at once. Township will have to put in some money to get grant money. Committee is asking Board for up to \$40,000 for plans and specs to be done. This also includes cost estimates and project supervision. Scott asked about Historic specifications. Todd said that the building can be restored as we wish, but grant money is only for the historic preservation items. There was consensus that the building had not been maintained for 50+ years. There is much deferred maintenance that needs to be addressed. Scott pointed out we would have engineering fees no matter how we repaired it. Phil stated that the community has to put in some money for a building in the next few years. To rebuild a new hall would cost about \$200,000. Ron asked if we know the chances of getting the grant? Phil says all we know is it is more likely if it is under 200,000 and the township has also put money towards the project. Larry thinks it is a big bill for plans and specs. Scott agrees, but doesn't see an alternative. Motion made to approve upto \$40,000 for P&S needed to apply for State Legacy Grant money. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed. Committee asked about a historic plaque. Decision to address later. February newsletter items: Hall designation, annual meeting, EAW process, snow plowing, internet?

**Old Business:** Solar Escrow is signed off. Other items no progress.

**New Business:** Reviewed 2020 financials. BP fire fund is missing deposit, inadvertently designated as general funds. Covid funds went into the General Fund and were dispersed from there. Motion made to accept the 2020 financial report with Fire Fund correction. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

Budget for 2022 tax levy was discussed. Dust coating was discussed because it takes more sand in winter the 2021 program may be cut back. Compared to 2020 expenses the budget was slightly adjusted for 2022. Motion made to present to residents a \$356,900 2022 levy at the annual meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.

**Notes from the clerk:** Clerk and treasurer will both be gone at annual meeting. Board of Appeals before April meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:43PM Respectfully submitted: Heidi Schmidt - San Francisco Township Clerk