

**Hobart Township Monthly Meeting
December 20, 2011**

Present: DuWayne Sonnenberg, Ray Sonnenberg, Terry Hockett, Kathy Glawe, Debi Moltzan, Rich McCrady, Rick Sonnenberg, Dean Haarstick, Kevin Zitzow, Ije Fischer and Ray Sazama.

Chairman Hockett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

D Sonnenberg made a motion to approve the November 2011 minutes as read. R Sonnenberg second. All in favor. Motion carried.

R Sonnenberg made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read. D Sonnenberg second. All in favor. Motion carried.

D Sonnenberg made a motion to approve the disbursements as read, with the exception of the claim by R Sazama. D Sonnenberg explained that in the past, the road maintainer had always received a minimum of \$1000 a month and felt that Sazama should receive the \$1000 for the month of November rather than the \$965 of the actual work.. R Sonnenberg second. All in favor. Motion carried.

D Sonnenberg stated that Eckhoff's from Delight Lane contacted him as to what it would have to be done in order for the Township to take over maintenance of their dedicated public road. Consensus of the Board was that, since there is now a permanent home with mail service and the road is built to TWP specifications with the exception of gravel, that winter maintenance could begin immediately and gravel could be added in the Spring, at the property owner's expense. R Sonnenberg made a motion to accept the maintenance of Delight Lane based on the fact that the road does meet township road specification, with the exception of gravel; that there is one permanent home with mail service on the road; with winter maintenance beginning immediately with the stipulation that the appropriate amount of gravel be placed on the road in the spring at the owner's expense. D Sonnenberg second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Kevin Zitzow and Dean Haarstick, City of Vergas, explained that there is a grant available through MN DOT for local road improvements. Zitzow explained that the City of Vergas is looking at improving Town Line Road, improving the ditches, straightening the road and tarring the road, along with improving the railroad crossing. Since Town line road is partially shared with Hobart Township, the City would like Hobart's support and cooperation in the project. Discussion included the increase in train traffic, the railroad moving their switch location, what type of work would be done on the road, getting the railroad's cooperation in improving the crossing, eliminating the stress on the 228 crossing, improving the safety of the road, improving the ease of maintenance on the road, what the grant covers, if the project could be looked at as one or two projects since a portion of the road is entirely in the City and a portion of the road is shared by the City and Township, amount of the grant, sharing the cost of the project that the grant does not cover, deadline of applying for the grant, administration of the grant and timeline for

completion of the project. Consensus of the group was that the grant should be applied for and if awarded, then decide how much of the project should or should not be done. R Sonnenberg made a motion to write a resolution of support of the Town Line Road project based on the fact that the road improvements would benefit the community by increasing the safety on the road. D Sonnenberg second. All in favor. Motion carried.

The condition of the roads was discussed and the consensus of the Board was that touch up grading should be done when weather conditions will allow.

Jeff Stabnow gave an update on the culvert replacement permit application. Stabnow stated that Land and Resource Management commented that they had no concerns about wetlands as long as the work was done within the road right of way and that the Army Corp of Engineers commented that culverts could be replaced, but the bottom of the new culvert must be installed at the same elevation of the current culvert.

Rich McCrady commented on ways to get more people informed when meetings are changed (notice on web site and email reminder lists). McCrady also questioned why Tin Can Alley was not offered to the Township instead of the City of Vergas, since the land is in the township and what the process is when the City annexes property into the City.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of having a guest speaker at the Annual Meeting. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding getting the roads north of State Hwy 228 surveyed and recorded. D Sonnenberg made a motion to begin the surveying process in preparation of getting the roads recorded. R Sonnenberg second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the office terms that will be expiring, filing dates, setting a date for the Audit & Budget Meeting, and date for the March monthly meeting.

Since there was no further business to come before the Board, Hockett adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Moltzan, Clerk