

ROLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARINGS + ZONING + GENERAL MEETING, September 11, 2023
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PUBLIC HEARINGS were opened at 6:55 p.m., September 11 in the Quilt Inn meeting room by Chairman Mike Hall with Supervisors Vern Jacobson, David Thompson, and Michael Sivertson, plus Zoning Administrator Tim Kihle and Clerk Glenore Gross. About ten visitors were in attendance with several arriving later in the meeting.

#1- Road Vacation for Steve & Nancy Olson/Lake Metigoshe Park: Request is to vacate and discontinue that portion of Lake Metigoshe Park Road lying adjacent to Lot 5, 6 & 7, Lake Metigoshe Park which was platted but never used as a road. The petition was signed and posted. No public input was given other than a request to clarify the location. Vern noted that the rest of this platted road had been vacated previously.

#2 - 2024 Budget Hearing: The budget as approved at the Annual Meeting in March was presented again as required by state regulation, with the option that it could be lowered but not raised. Clerk explained in response to questions that budgeted amounts are estimates based on past use and expected future needs plus planned reserve amounts for anticipated road work. Needs vary year to year so some categories are overspent, some are underspent, and excess funds are placed in reserve. The township mill levy for the 2024 budget is 13.71. With no further discussion, the Public Hearing portion of the meeting was closed.

The Roland Township ZONING BOARD was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chairman Mike Hall. Supervisor John Warberg was absent. Visitor attendance was as noted above.

Minutes: August 14 Board minutes were approved as written. **Treasurer Report** was presented with Cash/Fund balance of \$664,622.39 and a request to pay current bills of \$4,792.55. Clerk has \$205 in permit fees and zoning book sale to deposit. *MOTION by David to approve the Treasurers report and pay the bills, 2nd by David. CARRIED.*

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Tim submitted three completed permits; these were discussed:

- **Permits for Metigoshe Ministries (storage shed) and Metigoshe Lutheran Church (columbarium):** Permits are filed for church bodies, but no fees are charged.
- **Pre-Permit Query with Question on Variance:** Owner said he used the Variance form to have the adjacent neighbors sign for the purpose of showing agreement to property lines; one later questioned what they had actually signed. He suggested perhaps there could be a form set up more specific to that purpose.
- **Replacement of a Non-Conforming Business Sign on Road to Dockside:** Mike said the posts for the large grandfathered sign had been damaged, the county removed and discarded the sign in error, it was returned and set back in but it became more damaged. Bryan Schweitzer will replace it with a nicer new sign keeping the same dimensions, with the approval of the county and the property owner.

OLD (Unfinished) ZONING BUSINESS:

1. **RVs Without Permits – On-Site Follow-ups:** Mark Kihle reported on progress of checking for RVs not on the Permit list, saying there may be 50-60 that need follow-up. He has photos of each RV, will continue to work on confirming addresses. He suggested a friendly reminder be sent for payment of the \$75 fee for 2023 use; Board agreed that to be fair to those who have paid the \$125 RSD fee, that payment should also be made.
2. **Shoreland Issues - Topography & Fill/Grade Projects + Wetlands Mitigation:** Tim said he and John checked over some areas in question. He asked whether the dirt work being done by Henes needed a permit, but shoreland permits haven't yet been set up. The mitigation question was not addressed.
3. **Request to LMRSD to Cancel Collection of RV Fee-Letter Sent:** LMRSD Board addressed the request and agreed to no longer have the township collect their fee for RV use; however, they may request use of the township's list of renewals next year to pursue their own fee payments.

NEW ZONING BUSINESS:

1. **Road Vacation Request – Discuss/Vote:** With no further discussion. *MOTION by Vern to approve the order vacating and discontinuing the portion of Lake Metigoshe Park Road adjacent to Lot 5, 6 & 7 as presented,*

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2nd by David. VOTE-4 YES = CARRIED.

GENERAL MEETING called to order at 7:30 p.m.

OLD (Unfinished) GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. **Sale of Township Property on Aspen Ave Turnaround - D Henes/ Hidden Bay:** Jessica Tagestad from Wold Engr. is continuing to work on the project.
2. **Road Issue Updates:**
 - **Cabin Roads:** Mike noted a number of places where ditch work is needed to fix flooding where road work changed slopes; more work is still needed in the N Lake Park area before coming up with a billing amount.
 - **Rural Roads:** David said graveling is done; Michael reported the gravel used on 108th St NE ended up slimy after the rain. David and John will work on the ditch slope project after harvest is done.
2. **Mower/Tractor Update:** David will check on a mowing request in the northwest area, past Biberdorf's.

NEW GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. **Explanation of Proposed Road Change in Burnetts 1st Addn – Steve Fritel/Burnetts:** Fritel showed the 1905 plat map with deep lots along the shoreline and the planned road up and over the hill along the north edge of the lots. The road long in use is below the hill and cuts through the western lots fairly close to the shoreline, eventually meeting the original road further up and east near Lot 171. In order to expand, Fritel said they need to use their land north of the road and rather than have to cross the road to be at their shoreline have determined that moving the road to its original plat location is preferable and are willing to cover the cost. Fritel briefly described the road as it's being planned with Mikkelsens, stating it will be a better road for all who use it. He explained how he is following the process for road closures and openings, and assured all that the old road would not be closed until the new is ready for use, probably two years away. In answer to Mike H who questioned how it will tie in to the current road on the west end, Fritel said owners he has talked with prefer a stop sign rather than having it curve in. Vern requested and received confirmation that the road from Lot 171 and beyond would not be changed, due to concerns of the property owner there. *MOTION by Vern to approve construction of the proposed road by Steve Fritel, provided the current road would not be closed before the new road is completed and approved, and provided that the road cannot be changed starting at Lot 171 and beyond, now or in the future. 2nd by David. ROLL CALL VOTE – David-YES, Vern-YES, Michael-YES, Mike-YES. MOTION CARRIED.* Vern said a public hearing was not needed due to having 100% of affected owners signing the petition, and since Fritel has met with most everyone with concerns about the road it appears there isn't a need for a pre-construction information meeting as suggested by Mike. Fritel said if others have concerns, let him know and he will meet with them personally. Vern requested the Clerk send the motion to our attorney for his confirmation to Lot 171 owners.
2. **2024 Budget – Discuss – Vote to Keep Same or Lower:** Without further discussion, *MOTION by David to keep the 2024 budget the same, 2nd by Vern. VOTE- 4 YES = CARRIED.*

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE:

- Grant application date extended to October 6 for NDDOT Township Assistance Program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Next meeting is October 9.
Glenore Gross, Clerk/Treasurer