

**TOWNSHIP OF CLAY  
CLAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2013, 7:00 PM  
MANTRAP VALLEY CONSERVATION CLUB  
PARK RAPIDS, MN**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** The September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Meeting of the Clay Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Andy Kietzman, and those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ROLL CALL:** Present: Supervisors Andy Kietzman, Norm Leistikow, and Jeff Haukebo, Treasurer Del Holz, and Clerk Margie Vik. Absent: None. Others Present: Chuck Backus, Dave Gansen, Al Bruns, Carolyn Maloney, Michael Maloney, Bill Buggert, and Ralph Wyngarden.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Leistikow, seconded by Kietzman, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A. Clay Township Regular Meeting Minutes-July 24, 2013:** A motion was made by Haukebo, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to approve the Clay Township Regular Meeting Minutes for July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**B. Clay Township Reconvened Annual Meeting Minutes-July 24, 2013:** A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to approve the Clay Township Reconvened Annual Meeting Minutes for July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**5. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**A. Rezoning Request to Change Zoning Classification from Rural Residential District to Conservation District:** A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Ralph Wyngarden, representing Verizon, stated they wish to erect a 250 foot self-supporting tower on the 80 acre Mantrap Valley Conservation Club (MVCC) property. In order to do that the property has to be rezoned to conservation district, which would also be consistent with its present use. Currently, there is no residential development on the property.

Dave Gansen, President of the MVCC, stated the club has been doing community activities for the past three years. Any money raised goes back into the community. All of the time spent here is by volunteers. The club supports this rezoning change.

Michael Maloney stated I'm a landowner here. I don't have a problem with it. Where is it going to be put? Bill Buggert, MVCC Treasurer, stated it would be put out past the parking lot.

A citizen questioned if you're going to be making income on this are you going to use that to sound proof the gun range? Dave Gansen stated it's all in the works. The building will be sound proofed. We are working on that. Maloney questioned what is the timeline for that? Gansen stated it depends on the money. We're not going to jeopardize the finances of the club. Maloney questioned if there were any plans? Gansen stated it's not public yet. The membership would have to be asked if they want to release them.

Bill Buggert, MVCC Treasurer, stated he has been working as the point of contact of Mr. Wyngarden. There have been reams of paperwork so far. He added he is looking forward to the project and is thankful for the support of the community for the tower. We can't let the gun range leave, but we can maintain it through the help of Verizon. By having the tower here it will help with our cash flow. Doing a gun range building won't be cheap, but it will help to keep the public safe. Gansen stated the NRA has recommended that we do a building.

Leistikow stated he was a member of the MVCC and would not be voting on the rezoning issue. Vik stated she was in favor of the tower to get better cell phone reception. Kietzman questioned if the tower would have lights on it. Wyngarden stated it would have safety lights and would be supported by a generator. Haukebo questioned how tall would it look at 250 feet? Buggert stated it would look like all the other towers you see around.

**A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Haukebo, and unanimously carried to close the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.**

**Discussion:** Haukebo stated when the ordinance was created in the 80's it had two districts. It defined permitted uses and conditional uses. The club is here and it is a grandfathered used. He questioned do we need another hearing to allow the use in the conservation zone? Vik stated the use has been continuous so it should still be allowed regardless of the zoning.

Leistikow stated I'm in favor of it. The MVCC has been here for as long as I have. If the club membership is in favor, I'd be hard pressed to oppose this.

Holz stated the club builds blue bird houses. They have educational activities for children. They do their share to generate funds for the club. Gansen stated we also do duck and bat houses. Our donations to the community have tripled.

Haukebo stated you're asking for a change of zoning and no one is opposed to it. Kietzman stated the constituents are here supporting it. He added the ordinance states the land is to be rezoned from rural residential district to conservation district with its location described as PID #04.35.03080, Mantrap Valley Conservation Club, Section 35, Township 142N Range 34W, 80.00 AC, S1/2 SE1/4, Club & Shooting Range.

**A motion was made by Haukebo, seconded by Kietzman, to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-01 Rezoning Land to Conservation in the Township of Clay, PID #04.35.03080.**

**The vote was called. Supervisors Haukebo and Kietzman voted in favor. Supervisor Leistikow abstained. The motion carried.**

## **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Road Sign Survey:** Leistikow stated he's been doing the road sign survey. Once it's done he will have a recommendation for the board.

**B. Jack Fish Drive:** Leistikow stated Al Bruns is concerned about sealcoating Jack Fish Drive because the bituminous is cracked and the lines are worn off. We don't have jurisdiction to place speed limits, watch for pedestrians, or slow speed signs on the road. It's the only road in Clay Township that is paved. It was the DNR that paved it. Kietzman suggested calling the county about it. Haukebo suggested giving the road to the county. Leistikow agreed to call Hubbard County Engineer Olsonawski about it.

Kietzman stated we need a list of what we are responsible for and what we are allowed to do. Leistikow stated we are allowed to make repairs, but are not allowed to put up signs. Kietzman stated it's a safety issue. Someone has to be responsible and be consistent with the proper maintenance of the road.

**C. Jigsaw Drive:** Leistikow stated Carolyn Hanson on Jigsaw Drive says she has water running down the road and into her driveway. This is not a new problem. It was that way when they brought it. We did put in some sand, but we should use aggregates. I will talk to Cumber for some advice. She is satisfied with the response she received to her inquiry. She talked about doing a blacktop driveway but that might make the problem worse.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Website:** Kietzman stated the Clay Township historical documents have all been scanned. Each page is a PDF file. Now they have to be combined and then uploaded to the website. MicroTech is backlogged with work. Our documents should be online by our next meeting.

**8. APPROVAL OF TREASURERS REPORT:** Holz stated the June property tax settlement of \$31,185.59 was received this month, and interest in the amount of \$19.07. The checking account balance is \$143.95, and the money market balance is \$75,128.48. The total funds are \$75,272.43. The outstanding invoices for this month are \$13,410.00 for Cumber Construction, \$69.00 for property taxes, approximately \$1,300.00 for wages/reimbursements, \$360.00 for estimated IRS, and \$11.74 for the Enterprise. Total payables are \$15,150.74.

Holz stated the CD rates are earning .3%. He recommended that the township's money remain in the money market account.

**A motion was made by Haukebo, seconded by Kietzman, and unanimously carried to approve the treasurer's report and to pay the outstanding invoices.**

**9. ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Chair Andy Kietzman

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Margie M. Vik  
Township Clerk