

**TOWNSHIP OF CLAY  
CLAY TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 26, 2014, 7:00 PM  
MANTRAP VALLEY CONSERVATION CLUB  
PARK RAPIDS, MN**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** The February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 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: William Buggert, Dave Ganum, and Randy Iskierca from Faulk & Foster.

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

**4. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**A. Conditional Use Permit Request for Verizon:** A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing at 7:01 p.m.

**Public Comments:** William Buggert stated as Treasurer of the Mantrap Valley Conservation Club we've been working with Verizon on this. We have not come across any opposition of the tower. This is a good fit for what we do with our land.

Dave Ganum, President of the Mantrap Valley Conservation Club, stated he had nothing to add to those comments.

Randy Iskierca from Faulk and Foster stated a tower would improve the emergency services for this area. We would move the telephone pole. Everything the township asked for is there in the application packet.

Haukebo stated at the public hearing for the zoning change it was stated that there would be red lights on the tower. There was a legal notice published in the newspaper, for the required environmental review, that mentioned strobe lights.

Iskierca stated that should be included in the statement that was provided to you. It will not be a flashing strobe, but would be a red light. Ganum stated I recall them saying it would be a red light. Iskierca stated it is an FAA requirement that the lights on the tower be red. Haukebo stated the board certainly made the condition that there be no white lights. Iskierca reiterated that the FAA requires red lights. Buggert stated there were some towers on Highway 34 that had a white strobe light on them at night. That should not have happened and DeLaHunt got in trouble

for that. Iskierca stated the FAA requires a flashing strobe light in certain areas like airports, but that is not the case here.

Haukebo recommended that the conditional use permit include some of the conditions that are part of the township's zoning ordinance. The conditions would be met prior to the building permit being issued. There are no other concerns, other than the white flashing light. It seems like we have addressed every piece of the township's ordinance.

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

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A. Clay Township Regular Meeting Minutes-January 22, 2014:** A motion was made by Kietzman, seconded by Leistikow, and unanimously carried to approve the Clay Township Regular Meeting Minutes for January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Snowmobile Race:** Leistikow stated he called the race organizer prior to the start of the race to inquire about the use of part of the township road on race day. I also talked to the Hubbard County Sheriff about it. There doesn't seem to be any damage to the road with the exception of a lot of dirt being exposed. They were careful and cautious.

**B. Noxious Weed Treatment:** Vik was instructed to send the 2013 noxious weed report into Greg Hensel.

**C. Deep Lake Subdivision:** Haukebo stated he received an email from Nyberg Surveying from Alexandria regarding the platting requirements in the zoning ordinance. We don't have any requirements besides lot sizes. This inquiry was about the Deep Lake piece which used to be part of Val Chatel. They are proposing to subdivide it into five lots. I gave them a copy of the ordinance and informed them of the minimum lot sizes for lake frontage. There should be no problems if they meet the 300 feet of shoreline with five acres of land. Kietzman stated this situation should be more favorable to Mr. Backus, as he had concerns with what would happen to the property.

**D. MAT Short Course:** Kietzman stated the Minnesota Association of Townships Short Course will be offered in Walker on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.

**E. Conditional Use Permit Resolution:** Haukebo stated I don't want white flashing strobe lights on the tower. Kietzman suggested tabling the resolution until the next meeting to allow time to get a written verification from Verizon about the lights. Haukebo stated the people that live here do so to enjoy nature. A flashing white light would not be compatible with that concept. **A motion was made by Leistikow, seconded by Kietzman, and unanimously carried to table, until the next regular meeting, the conditional use permit to**

**allow the construction of a telecommunication tower in the conservation zoning district at 20115 Jewel Drive, PID #04.35.03080, to allow time for the clerk to incorporate the points from the zoning ordinance requested in the application by Verizon, and also the verification of the lights on the tower.**

**F. Calcium Chloride:** Leistikow stated he doubted that the township would use any calcium chloride in 2014. It's too expensive since you can purchase gravel for the same price. Kietzman stated the county should be informed that we don't want to be part of their group purchase.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Road Signs:** Haukebo stated he was informed by a county employee that the county has no jurisdiction on township roads unless it intersects with a county road. Leistikow stated the original question was can we put up a "slow down child playing" sign. The answer is no. The state says no. They no longer use deer crossing signs, as an example. Kietzman stated we can ask the attorney about this at the short course meeting. We've been encouraged to not put up signs that we don't absolutely need for public safety regarding the road. We've been asked to get away from ambiguous signs. Research has shown that the more signs there are, the less people pay attention to them, and it opens up liability issues if something were to happen. Haukebo stated we also have the responsibility to appease the taxpayers. Kietzman stated we will get clarification from the attorney, and we'll weight the liability risks. We will get the best answer that we can.

**B. Website:** Kietzman stated Microtech is overloaded with work. The township has already paid for the technical support for the website. They said they will write down the instructions for uploading minutes to the website in the next couple of weeks. They don't do web design anymore because it's too time consuming.

**8. APPROVAL OF TREASURERS REPORT:** Holz stated he received this month's interest in the amount of \$21.35. The checking account balance is \$84.28, and the money market balance is \$84,096.00. \$13,000.00 is being held in a dedicated building fund. The total useable funds are \$71,180.28. One check in the amount of \$2,131.25 has not cleared the bank yet. The outstanding invoices for this month are Cumber Construction for \$1,954.50, \$805.00 for MN Benefit Association Group Life Insurance, \$54.20 for the Enterprise, and \$775.00 for MATIT insurance. Total payables are \$3,588.70.

Holz stated the CD rates have not improved and recommended no changes. Kietzman questioned if the building fund should be pulled out to grow interest on its own. Haukebo stated not at these rates. It would not amount to anything.

**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 Haukebo, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.**

ATTEST:

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Chair Andy Kietzman

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Margie M. Vik  
Township Clerk