

MINDEN TOWNSHIP

2989 GOLDEN SPIKE RD NE
SAUK RAPIDS, MN 56379
EST: 1858

Minutes for **July, 16th, 2025 7:00 PM**

Public Meeting

Monthly Township Meeting called to order @ **7:01 pm** by **S.S.**

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Board Members Present:

☒ Steve Simones	Chairman
☒ Mark Ebnet	Supervisor
☒ Bruce Bonebright	Supervisor
☒ Sabrina Hess	Clerk-Appointed
☒ Esther Ebnet	Treasurer-Appointed

Others Present: **Jean Ebnet, Stacie Hughes, Pam Benoit, Gary Benoit, Randy Henry.**

1. Agenda Additions

- S.S.** requested to add **MS4 Items, Website Discussion, & the MPCA Audit Letter** to agenda.
- Motion by: **M.E. add above items to the agenda.** Second by: **B.B.**
- Vote was called for all-**Yes, 0-No.** Motion **Carried**
 - Agenda items added.**

2. Approve Minutes of **June 10th, 2025.**

- Motion by: **S.S** Approve Minutes. Second by: **M.E.**
- Vote was called for all-**Yes, 0-No.** Motion **Carried**

3. Approve Treasurer's report **July, 16th, 2025.**

- Motion by: **M.E.** Approve Treasurer's report. Second by: **B.B.**
- Vote was called for all-**Yes, 0-No.** Motion **Carried**

4. Approve Claims, Bills, & Payroll for **July 2025.**

- Motion by: **M.E.** Approve Claims, Bills, & Payroll. Second by: **B.B.**
- Vote was called for all-**Yes, 0-No.** Motion **Carried**

5. Joint Planning Board Meeting Discussion

- MS4 Permitting Process issues & resident complaints were discussed. The ordinances of the annexation document, section D, will be changed & reevaluated.
- Township to review a copy of ordinances to for desired changes pertaining to section D.
- Township to review section D and intends to change this section to fall in line with County regulations vs City.

6. MS4 Fees & Solar Discussion

- New legislation is coming down the pipeline concerning public consumables, (vegetables, foods, etc., but not animal livestock.) & solar fields.
- 7 access points, stem from township roads, for lay-down fields. Approximately 15 ponds for the Benton Solar Project. Ponds are outside our MS4 agreement aread, and do NOT need to be inspected every year for MS4 compliance by the Township..
- Township would need an egress agreement with property agencies.
- Blatner Energy has reached out to schedule a meeting/call to discuss upcoming projects and permit requests. Date is TBD.
- Road use and repair agreement with NextEra.

- f. Purchase Acrobat Pro, live scan documents. BB/ME
 - i. Approved
 - g. Need to set a meeting with all aggrieved parties once permits and fees are set.
 - h. Potential meeting before the next monthly meeting.
7. Website
- a. Discussion on the newly updated permit fee schedule.
8. Policies:
- a. Updated Costs for permitting was updated on website, the board is reviewing its accuracy as it's not sure the assigned fees are fair or consistent.
 - b. The board's policy handbook was updated and printed out for review. All members received a copy. Updates and changes to be discussed in August meeting.
9. MPCA Audit Letter
- a. Minden Township is currently MS4 compliant.
10. Visitors/Audience Input, Questions, Issues
- a. A resident raised a park Question about if the township can put a fenced in dog run in pleasant point park and/or add a new sporting feature.
 - b. A resident raised a question about paving and shouldering being too steep. This is regarding 52nd Avenue NE, with improper shouldering because of a steep ditch which causes the shoulder washing out. It will need to be redone to an extent, the board to decide later as to final resolution.
11. New Business:
- a. Meeting Changes & Scheduling Communications
 - i. Meeting invites a week beforehand to have been requested.
 - 1. Clerk to test out Microsoft Teams invites for all board members & Public during September Meeting.
 - ii. Clerk to look at automated email functions on website.
 - iii. Group Email reminders can also be set up via outlook.
 - b. CD/Bond
 - i. Bond is Due August 14th, for R&B-Bond fund. Decision to be made on what to do with Bond funds at August 11th meeting.
 - c. ACH For R&B Bond
 - i. Check would be mailed 15 days late due to reschedule of meeting and late receipt of statement. Solution is to set up ACH withdrawals for payments.
 - 1. Motion by: **B.B** Approve ACH for R&B Bond. Second by: **M.E.**
 - 2. Vote was called for all-**Yes, 0-No**. Motion **Carried**
 - a. Document Signed and mailed with check for payment.
 - d. Wix Payments- Accessibility Fees
 - i. Board opted not to persue.
12. Old Business:
- a. Water Heater- Installation is Pending
13. Fire Calls
- a. New fire calls have been received, and bills need to be added to next month's claims.
14. Blatner Energy Meeting on 7/31/2025 @4:30pm Minden Townhall:
- a. Access points, Road Use and Utility permits and fees were discussed.
 - b. Road Use Permit Pending

15. Northern Reliability Project Meeting 8-4-2025 @1:00pm Teams Application:

- a. Access points, Road Use and Utility permits were discussed as well as Aviary concerns and farmland irrigation concerns.

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

- Monday, **August, 11th, 2025, @7:00 PM**
 - MINDEN TOWNSHIP MONTHLY MEETING @MINDEN TOWNHALL
- Tuesday, **August, 12th, 2025, @7:00 AM – 8:00 PM**
 - MN State Primary Elections @MINDEN TOWNHALL

Benton County Department of Development:

- *Assessment Search:*
 - *No Assessments Requested*
- *Benton County DOD: Permits/Other*
 - **Parcel ID: 0901344.00**
 - **Estimated Value of Improvements: \$5,000.00**
 - **Description: Repair & Replacement of pre-existing deck**
 - **Parcel ID: 0900781.00**
 - **Estimated Value of Improvements: \$14,249.00**
 - **Description: Replace Windows In Existing Structure/Openings**

Meeting Dismissal:

Motion by: **M.E.** to adjourn @ **9:18 PM**. Second by: **B.B.**

Vote was called for all-**Yes, 0-No**. Motion **Carried**

Respectfully Submitted by, _____, *on behalf of,*
Sabrina Hess, Clerk

Jim Simones, Chair

On this, Tuesday, August 19, 2025.

*Minutes are in "DRAFT" state, until signed by the Clerk, and a Board Supervisor.