

**MINUTES  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Anderson, Brueckner, Lee, Linn, Pozzini-Stedman; Supervisor: McCune;  
Town Finance Officer: Kelly.

Absent: Advisor: Christopherson, LeBlanc, with notice.

Present at the Town Offices were Supervisor McCune, Anderson, Brueckner, Lee, Linn; LeBlanc and Pozzini-Stedman were present via conference call.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Additions/Deletions):** Brueckner moved approval of the agenda as submitted. Anderson seconded. Ayes all.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 2021 (Additions/Deletions):** Anderson moved to approve the minutes of June 3, 2021. Brueckner seconded. Ayes all.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Anderson moved to receive the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Receive Ramsey County Sheriff's Reports; B) Receive Sheriff's Contract Group Minutes; C) Receive White Bear Lake Fire Department Report. Brueckner seconded. Ayes all.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Town Supervisor updated the Commission on the **Pavement Management Plan**, this year is phase 1 on the south side. **The Restrooms** are getting closer to being done. It should be done by Township Day, in working order. Some aesthetic items will be completed after Township Day. **Nuisance houses** take up a lot of Township staff time. The Town eliminated one completely through home sale and demolition. The new property manager is developing the property. There have been other nuisance houses that have since been brought to the Town's attention. Infrastructure and nuisance houses are a never ending battle in government. **Township Day** is in 2 weeks from 2 pm to 9 pm on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Town staff have been working hard on **2022 Budget**. There is still some work to do, but it will be presented at the **Annual Budget meeting** in December.

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There was a question about the construction projects. **Peterson Road** was a big project with a complete construction of a paved road with water and sewer infrastructure underneath. **County Road F** is a County project, but it is being mill and overlaid. The Township did some watermain work last year prior to the County's project so the Town wouldn't have to waste funds digging into a road that had just had work done.

**NIGHT TO UNITE – REVIEW:** Anderson and Linn were present to report on Night to Unite. They met at the Town Offices to collect the items to give out to the neighborhood groups. The Town Board members were already out on the Town. Anderson noted that going in groups of one to three people is hard, and going in a swarm of people representing the Township would be easier. Brueckner reported that their neighborhood had over 100 neighbors. There was a deputy and a canine, some students came, and it was a good turnout.

**LIAISON REPORTS:** Brueckner hasn't gotten back with the school district to know how the 2021-2022 school year is going yet.

Anderson reported on the Fire Department open house on October 5<sup>th</sup>. The Department will promote from the inside for a Captain's position. One of the staff has COVID, so he's working from home. The Fire Marshall is at the fires up north.

**OTTER LAKE ROAD & LORANE AVENUE – CROSSWALK REQUEST:** The Commission discussed the resident request for a crosswalk at the intersection of Otter Lake Road and Lorane Road that is next to Tamarack Nature Center. It is a County Road, so the Township will have to make a request. There was some discussion of this agenda item. Members have noticed walkers on the trail or path, but never on the road. The Public Works Director may have some insight. There was consensus that Town staff insight would be helpful, along with more information.

**JENNI LANE – SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD SIGN REQUEST:** There was some discussion of this agenda item. Signs like "Children At Play" would be a good idea, but there is one near the park up on the top corner. Where would the sign be placed? And there would be a need for 2 signs: 1 from each direction. There was some discussion over signs: often the kids grow up or move and the signs stay. "Children At Play" or "Watch For Children" would be sufficient. The Commission decided to have Town staff look into this issue as well and report back to the Commission.

**FOREST COURT – NO PARKING SIGNS REQUEST:** There was some recollection of an issue like this in 2017. There was some discussion of this agenda item. Perhaps the road gets congested when someone has a party or something. It isn't across from a popular beach like Bellaire Beach. Anderson could have the Fire Marshall inspect and report back on his findings. There was consensus that she will make a request for this. There will be more discussion at a later date.

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**4<sup>TH</sup> STREET – REQUEST TO POSSIBLY CLOSE OFF:** The Commission discussed this agenda item. The residents most likely are experiencing the discomfort on this road during specific times of the day. There was discussion of how to regulate traffic in that area, and how some residents don't notice it as an issue, but to others it is a big issue. Ramsey County could send a Sheriff or Deputy to that area to ticket for speeders or passers, as that was a concern. Anderson will ask the Fire Marshall about this area. There seemed to be consensus about traffic deputies, as ticketing can slow things down for a bit.

The problem seems to be around the dance studio and neighbors get anxious due to the increase in traffic and concern of traffic issues. There was consensus to have a traffic deputy patrol that area, monitor the situation, and report back.

**5<sup>TH</sup> STREET – REQUEST TO POSSIBLY MAKE INTO A LOOP:** The same decision should be made of this street, since it connects to 4<sup>th</sup>. In order to actually cut it off, there would have to be petitions and agreement within the neighborhood and community. There would have to be a public hearing, too. There was a question of whether someone could meet with the Fourth Street Dance and see if there is something they can do. Maybe a Committee should be formed, so it's not the Township directly. Maybe the owner could help families coming to drop kids off at dance enter through the 61 entrance. There was discussion of having the traffic deputy make notes about this as well, since it's in conjunction with the previous agenda item.

It was noted that the Town should get more input from the neighbors, especially before any decisions are made. Most likely there will be some controversy or disagreements. Before talking with the neighbors, there was some discussion of having the Fire Chief and traffic deputy check the area out, just to give the Commission more information of the area and its needs. Town staff can inspect and give input as well.

**OVERLAKE ROAD/BENSON BAY AREA – REQUEST FOR SPEED REDUCTION/STRIPING OF OVERLAKE:** There was some discussion of this agenda item. In the packet there are several emails from residents in the area, some requesting change in speed, speed bumps, striping of roads, and some requesting no changes. There was discussion of if posted speeds are 30 miles per hour but residents are speeding, would there be change if the posted speeds were 25 miles per hour. Speed bumps are always an issue with plowing. The Town has already performed maintenance to this road.

Looking at the map, there was some discussion of this being a residential area. If there are speeding issues, it would be the neighbors speeding. With 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets, that is a more public area. However, the road isn't striped yet, so Town staff should look at this area and see if stripes can be added.

There was discussion of the area, whether there are shoulders or not. The consensus was to start with Public Works about striping and maybe get a traffic deputy out there. If

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the concern is with neighbors speeding, the issue should be brought up with the neighbors.

**NEXT MEETING DATE/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:** The next meeting date will be Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021. There was some discussion of a car accident and house fire from a couple of months ago. There was some discussion of an accident where the person drowned.

**OPEN TIME:** No one was present for open time.

**ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. Brueckner seconded. Ayes all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan R. Cavanaugh  
Recording Secretary