

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
Thursday February 22, 2024, 1:00 p.m.**

Chairperson Allen Eld called the Board of Audit/Budget Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Ron Flatten and Brian Napstad, Treasurer John Brula and Clerk Candace Kral; John Welle and nine property owners.

Allen Eld outlined the primary objective as focusing on the resurfacing of Bridge Rd. Moreover, it was highlighted that the township is exploring the possibility of synchronizing the Bridge Rd project with Aitkin County's Lake Ave. project scheduled for either 2025 or 2026.

Brian Napstad provided a brief history detailing the timeline of when Bridge Road was initially blacktopped, also stating that it was done in two sections starting as long ago as 30+ years ago. The current condition of the road was discussed.

John Welle provided insight into the soil quality in the area, noting its overall favorable characteristics. Despite the presence of significant alligatored areas and weak pavement sections, it was acknowledged that the existing blacktop has exhibited durability beyond expectations over the years. The meeting delved into a detailed analysis of the road's base condition and identified low-lying areas prone to flooding, which often impede traffic flow during flood events.

There was a shared sentiment among board members emphasizing the importance of prioritizing the well-being of both the road and its adjoining property owners while minimizing disruption to neighboring properties. The discussion revolved around proposed road improvements, particularly regarding the minimum floodwater depths and ensuring continued traffic flow. An idea surfaced suggesting the establishment of a minimum elevation point as a starting reference, aiming to mitigate adverse effects on adjacent properties. Factors such as the cost implications of connecting and repairing driveways were also taken into careful consideration throughout the deliberation. John Welle recommended to grind up the current blacktop restructure for a 8"-10" base and put new bituminous product down minimum of 3½".

During the discussion, it was noted that the township is actively pursuing a joint bidding opportunity alongside the county's forthcoming Lake Avenue project. This collaborative effort with Aitkin County is anticipated to yield significant cost savings, particularly in terms of bituminous expenses. The board expressed its commitment to communicate closely with our engineer, ensuring seamless coordination with John Welle's office throughout the process.

Attention was drawn to the necessity of identifying specific types of permits required for the project and the respective areas where they will be needed. Additionally, there was an emphasis on instructing the engineer to be mindful of the types of permits required and to ensure timely acquisition of these permits.

Furthermore, a recommendation was made to clear trees along the edge of the road, leaving at least a four-foot buffer zone for the safety of traffic. This suggested four-foot

recovery space on either side of the road serves not only to enhance driver safety but also to facilitate construction activities by providing easier access for workers.

The clerk will contact Paul Sandy, WSB engineer, regarding his attendance at the next regular board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Candace Kral

Clerk

Allen Eld

Board Chairman

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE MARCH 7, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING