

Princeton Township Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2019

42 people were in attendance, 23 of which signed in. Andrea Gerard and Nick Taylor from the Princeton Bulletin Board also recorded the meeting VIA video. Time stamps on the meeting minutes coincide with the Princeton Bulletin Board video. All board members were present.

Meeting called to order at 7:30, (6:00) Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes from the previous meeting were handed out. Chairman Stoeckel had brought up about Connie Wubben resigning verbally. Mr. Duden asked if there was any written documentation of her resignation. There was none that he was aware of. *Mr. Anderson wanted to make sure it was important that everyone needed to know why she resigned. (6:50) The last 2 items that pushed her over her limit was her pay, limiting her pay on her insurance. Because her hours we cut, her pay should be cut. The responsibilities of the road were never hers, so you can't really take anything away from her. The next issue is when you lied about the road grader operator position, you (Mr. Stoeckel) and Bill and told her to post it, and then you retracted your position. Harassment by Mr. Persing, it's very important that everyone knows what happened. You guys approved the minutes, and now your changing your mind. * Editors note, this was an accusation, not fact. Mark Wubben stood up, spoke about not sticking to the agenda. Brought up about pay, brought up agenda, before being brought up personally. *Greg, then told, Gene and Bill, and how they did the budget on their own. And how they spend the tax dollars on their "pet projects." Mark Wubben pointed out that Dave was escorted out by the fine folks in uniform to which he denied. Greg then stated, he ran first.* Editors Note, this is an accusation not a fact. Mr. Duden stated to move to accept the resignation. Andrea Gerrard asked about how Mark had access, to movies prior to the previous 4 months. Mr. Duden again moved to accept the resignation. Mr. Whitcomb seconded, the motion, further discussion, Mr. Wubben continued to speak on behalf of his wife. Motion Carried

(12:51) Appoint Secretary MAT suggested a board member take meeting minutes. Mr. Duden volunteered to take minutes, Mr. Anderson questioned why he volunteered. There was discussion about him being secretary. It was just to take minutes, not to take treasurer, secretary, etc. Motion made by Mr. Stoeckel, seconded by Mr. Whitcomb, by Motion Carried.

(14:26) Approve Minutes of the August Meeting. Mr. Anderson opposed the minutes, due to the fact they were just handed to him and there were several mistakes already. And that the rest of us probably had it ahead of time. *Editor's note, accusation not fact* Minutes were moved to review at the next meeting Motion made by Dave, seconded by Greg. Motion Carried.

16:05 No financial report available because of our turnover in staff

16:21 Follow Up on Township Contracts. Mr. Persing reached out to different attorneys and found one that specializes in Townships and comes in \$100 less/hour than what we are currently paying Rinke Noonan. Mr. Duden, wanted to clarify that there was no contract with Rinke Noonan. Mr. Anderson stated that we just voted on who to use. And now we are looking at renewing with someone else. Currently we are the highest rate with Rinke Noonan's rates. Mr. Duden moved the motion to keep Rinke Noonan until at least the March Elections. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

(19:58) Review Residential Recycling Drop Site. We expressed additional recycling would be an addition to the township. Concern was expressed over making sure the dumpsters were not left overnight.

(20:58) Establishing a policy for the compensation and reimbursement of township officers. Has been brought up several times. Has been discussed and was tabled until the December Meeting.

(21:39) Discuss Road Maintenance Contracts. Mr. Duden asked if roads were going to be cut one more time before winter. Mr. Anderson stated that we brush cut in the fall. Allan Roberston spoke up about widening the road and took the entire front. Apologized as it ended up being a county road issue. Mr. Duden brought up about plow trucks giving them a once over. To contract it out as timing is getting down there to book it. \$95/truck DOT them. Estimated approximately \$1000/ truck. To get them back up to par. Mr. Anderson stated that it would be way cheaper to hire ourselves to do it. There was further discussion about the Maintenance history that's been spent in the past. Mr. Anderson stated that no one will want to work for us and this board. Mr. Whitcomb brought up a contract that was presented. Also brought up 4 year average of \$22,000 for money spent in Maint./Repairs/Salt/Sand. 8 hours with 2 trucks on an average to push both all of our roads. Brian Dahlheimer has pushed the roads for 20 years, and the bid submitted was with his own equipment. Mr. Anderson stated that it would be way cheaper to hire someone to plow our roads than hire it out. Mr. Persing had stated that last spring that there was a talks last spring to hire someone to be a road manager, now we are trying to manage the operators. Mr. Duden motioned to advertise for the operator position and contract position Posted to paper on the 25th close on the 29th. Act on October 15 Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion carried.

(46:21) Road Report- Replace fire number signs, trim trees, 33rd traffic counts. 141 average cars down 33rd Ave on a Sunday. Mr. Whitcomb borrowed Greenbush townships unit. Also had a rough estimate for boring on 33rd and 82nd, total comes to about \$5500 for 8 borings. Working with Steve on Gravel yet.

(50:10)- Land Split Paul Dove- for Glenn Family LLC. Approved in March of 2018 Deed has already been recorded, just needed a stamp of deed. Mr. Duden made recommendation to have The Planning Company look at it to ensure that everything was completed.

(55:55)- North Oaks Preliminary Plat – Planning Commission recommended the Preliminary Plat at their September 9, 2019 meeting. The Plat meets all requirements. There were property lines with discrepancies, but that has been corrected. Motion made to accept by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion Carried.

(1:00)- Jeff and Linda Hammer Land Split. Change to the lot line on the plat. Still meets all the requirements. Planning Commission recommended the land split at their September 9, 2019 meeting. Bob Minks spoke on behalf of Jeff and Linda Hammer. Motion Made by Mr. Stoeckel, seconded by Mr. Persing. Motion carried.

(1:04:39) Silver Lake Pines- Issues with encroachment on properties, an agreement has been made, still meets regulations, with some land adjustments. Planning Commission recommended the Preliminary Plat at their September 9, 2019 meeting. The Planning Company suggests moving forward, Mr. Whitcomb motioned, Mr. Duden, seconded. Discussion, Mr. Anderson asked about cul de sacs. No Cul De Sacs in this scenario. Motion Carried.

(1:07)- Employee Reviews. Mr. Anderson had stated that we have no body left. Mr. Duden asked about who we have for plow drivers, grader operators. Mr. Duden asked if we have a review every December. Mr. Anderson asked why we need to have employee reviews. If we have an issue, we need to address it. Mr. Whitcomb brought up he has employees and has to do reviews every year. That they have a position description and that they are offering the employee what they need. There was some more discussion amongst the audience and Mr. Anderson. Mr. Whitcomb moved the motion to move in the direction of position descriptions and Employee performance reviews. Mr. Stoeckel Seconded. Motion Carried.

(1:12:55) – Clerk/Treasurer Position- MAT said that we do not have to have the doors unlocked and that everything is being run through City Hall. We can not pay any bills until we at least have a temporary treasurer. Mr. Anderson asked who was qualified. Also asked about MAT having someone temporarily for 1 day a week. Mr. Whitcomb pulled together some township job descriptions together to advertise. Mr. Duden asked if the computers were password protected and if we had passwords, answer was no. And that if we don't have passwords why would we hire someone. Mr. Anderson said the position needed to be posted to get someone qualified with sensitive materials, also would like to hire someone from MAT for 1 day a week. Motion had been made by Mr. Anderson to hire someone from MAT to work for one day a week and advertise on the 25, 9th and hire on the 15th, Seconded by Mr. Whitcomb. Motion Carried. Question was brought up about emailing things to the township. Everything should be forwarded to the chairman. Mark Riverblood brought up back ground checks. Gene had said that we haven't done it in the past. Sherriff Deputy said a 3 day was the soonest it would be done.

(1:21:50)- Zoning Administer Report- Special Event Venues, Event and agri-tourism language changes/ amendments. Solar Farm Applications at individual locations. Offered to put together an agenda for the October 7 Planning Commission Meeting.

(1:23:41) Open Forum- Bonie Nelson- Asked who recorded the minutes from the last meeting. Nick Taylor spoke about recording the meeting and was volunteering his time. City has also requested they record the meetings when the clerks not available.

(1:24:45) Mark Wilhelm asked about the budgeting being done by 2 of the board members, and took funding away for the 4-H kids and the Ag Society. Mr. Stoeckel responded about MAT discouraging the distrobution of funds by the townships. Mr. Anderson had stated that we've gone this route for years going around them and doing it. Mr. Anderson brought up and asked about how the budget was always done. Mr. Wilhelm replied that it was always done as a board, not individuals. Mr. Stoeckel had said that the in his time on the board the numbers were always on a piece of paper when he showed up. Much discussion amongst Mr. Anderson, Mr. Stoeckel , Mr Whitcomb, and Mr. Wilhelm about the way a budget should properly be done.

(1:30: 51)- Tari Zortman- Asked if the budget was brought forward. Mr. Anderson stated everyone should have been brought into the budget process. Mr. Whitcomb stated that they did what they had to do with the circumstances. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Stoeckel had some discussion back and forth about the way things were done. Question was asked who approved it. Discussion was made about how it was approved by a show of hands. Cindy MacDonald- all of the people here weren't at the meeting who are here arguing about the approved budget.

(1:35:03) Dan Hiller- This is the most dysfunctional board in the state. There's no body going to put any applications. Quit wasting our tax money. Bought the road grader and now we don't use it. Start using our tax dollars. You spent our money buying the equipment.

(1:36:23)- Marcia Anderson- Over the last several years, there is no documentation or process, there's no employee descriptions, when she came in in March she never received any information. Accused Mr. Anderson of obstruction and resistance. And has ran it as an extension of his shop. Argued that it wasn't philanthropy but rather redistribution. Also brought up about having something about November ballot about giving money away versus fixing our roads. More heated discussion occurred.

(1:39:38)- John Roxbury- 30 years experience with the township. Agrees with Dan about this being a screwed up board. Wrote up improprieties. Called for Mr, Duden, Mr Stoeckel, Mr Persing, and Mr. Whitcomb, resign their position before they do more damage irreparable damage to this township.

(1:41:15) Mr. Anderson brings up Marcia Anderson going into Connie's office saying F^%& you F^&* you. While flipping off the audience. Heated discussion between Mark Wubben, Mr. Anderson, and Marcia Anderson. Mark Wubben stated about his wife's security was an issue while working here. And the security cameras were there for her safety. He sees it as a rail road job to get her out for their own agendas. Also asked Brian Dahlheimer why he wasn't working for the township any more. Cindy MacDonald brought up bringing in a good audit. * Editors Note, unsure as opposed to what.* To clean the slate for the next clerk.

(1:44:49) Nicholas Taylor- Offering to help facilitate some conversations outside of the township meetings. To help work everything out.

(1:45:25) –Tari Zortman-Doesn't understand what the big deal is about employee reviews. Sees it as a benefit for both the employer and employee.

(1:46:49) Tim Hannager- Union Times- Asked anybody was represented by the township attorney noticing his absence at the meeting.

(1:47:17)- Andrea Gerard- Spoke on an incident on August 23, while at a Dog Show received phone call from Connie, telling her that she keeps the recordings on after the meetings to hear what people say before and after the meetings. And recorded a conversation between her and Gene. She had contacted the county and stated that this did not seem ethical. Mr. Anderson kept interrupting about how things were being recorded. She and Connie had a private conversation about how recording the minutes would be a good thing because it would take things off of her back. Also brought up about how she listened to the meeting and had to have been doing the minutes, and then got a phone call about some things she had said. Also had brought up that our email is a Gmail account and can be easily hacked.

(1:52)- Mark Riverblood- Wants Mr. Hiller's comments forbade from any minutes. The board's actions about hiring work done is malfeasance.

(1:53:50)- Mr Stoeckel- received a notice from Wayanett Township looking for support for them dropping out of the contract as the city will not negotiate with them. Appreciate a letter of support from the township to the fire board or city to attempt negotiations(1:58:31). Mr. Duden moved the motion that we withdraw any support to Wayanett Township. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

(1:58:31) Supervisors reports.

- Mr. Persing, Plow drivers, 0 applicants last year applied. Back up Plan or Contract it out.
- Mr. Whitcomb-
 - o Sherriff's were called to an incident at the township hall.
 - o Right to work signs hung up
 - o Call for an audit, more in depth than what we've had in the past.
 - o Discuss special meetings about hiring
 - o Like to know where we keep our offsite copies and documentation
 - o That all board members have access to the building. 3 other townships, all officers have access to the buildings. (Discussion ensued before Mr. Anderson and Mr. Whitcomb).
 - o Move forward with 33rd and 82nd.
 - o Brought up Rent vs. Own charts. Don't have anyone running them. (More discussion ensued between the two parties) Any studies on line, showed that we should be utilizing equipment 60% of the time and we're utilizing it 10%. Mr Anderson stated that the tractor will only increase in value over time.
 - o Posting things to the county website.
- Mr. Anderson spoke about the attempted break in. Doubt's Kenny left the lights on. Mr Duden asked about looking at the cameras.
 - o Thinks it's horrible thing that happened to an employee and there needs to be some repercussions
- Mr. Duden- Bugs for the Leafy Spurge are doing their job, and it's pretty well done for the year.

No approval of paying bills as we do not have a treasurer.

(2:10:43) Adjournment of meeting Moved by Mr. Duden seconded by Mr. Anderson. Motion carried.

Editors notes, were from corrections submitted by Mr. Anderson and Mr. Whitcomb