Special townboard meeting with Olmsted county regarding possible purchase of tax forfeited

land from Olmsted county.

DATE:::::

NOVEMBER 18th 2019.

PLACE::::

Haverhill townhall and parcel located in Section 14

Haverhill Township

PRESENT:::

Haverhill townboard: Mr. Paul Uecker(chair) Mr. Ben Hain,

Mr. John Johnson, Mr. Daryl Felt, Mr.

Steve Pollack.

Olmsted county:

Mr. Mark Krupski(Olmsted county

assessor), Ms. Heather Bechtel Gestler (Olmsted county Assistant director of

PLR-PIRO.) Mr. Tom Canaan (Olmsted County attorneys office) Mr. Matt Miller (Olmsted County facilities director).

Meeting of the Haverhill townboard (Special meeting) was called to order at 3:30 P.M.

Mr. John Johnson Hereafter referred to as Mr. Johnson stated that Haverhill township is trying to secure a site for a future townhall. When is still up for discussion, but that 2.5 acres is needed for a septic system.

Mr. Matt Miller Hereafter referred to as Mr. Miller stated that the parcel located in section 14 is also being looked at by Peoples Coop Power who would develop the site in phases.

Keitler

Ms. Heather Bechtel hereafter referred to as Ms. Bechtel asked is Haverhill TS also interested in this site.

Mr. Johnson stated yes.

Mr. Paul Uecker hereafter referred to as Mr. Uecker stated that in the past the Haverhill townboard has formed a committee looking into the feasibility of updating/repairing the existing townhall but that Olmsted county public works told the Township that the current townhall is in the future right of way when Olmted county 11 is widened. Thus the need to secure a site elsewhere.

Mr. Tom Canaan hereafter referred toi as Mr. Canaan asked could something be worked for the existing site?

Mr. Uecker stated that has never been considered, but yes.

Discussion ensued on the Section 14 parcel. Land slopes slighly to the North and that there is a existing septic field.

Mr. Johnson asked are current wells being tested?

Ms. Bechtel stated that testing is being done for nitrates and that she was not aware of any problems. Ms. Bechtel also stated that groundwater was being tested but not the well.

Mr. Johnson asked what are any obligations for the township if we take a portion of this site?

Ms. Bechtel stated that The State of Minnesota actually owns the site but that they have sent Olmsted county a letter releasing them from any liability when Olmsted county takes control of the site. Ms. Bechtel also stated that the Township can receive this same letter.

Mr. Ben Hain hereafter referred to as Mr. Hain asked how deep are any known wells.

Mr. Miller stated that there is only one known well,

Mr. Canaan steated that the well WELL NUMBER:::: 1000015282 is Depth:::::::: 660 FEET.

Constructed:::: 1942.

Discussion commenced on options for the township regarding purchase and use.

Ms. Bechtel stated that the Township can buy a portion of this site or receive a conditional use deed from Olmsted county30 years. Ms. Bechtel stated that buying it outrite would be cheaper.

Mr. Mark Krupski hereafter referred to as Mr. Krupski stated that he agreed that buying it outrite would be cheaper.

Mr. Miller stated that a survey of the parcel would have to be done.

Mr. Canaan gave abreif history of the site.

U.S. Air Force put a radar station on the site in 1954. In 1957 U.S. department of Health and human services bought and took over the site for a juvenile detention center. Then was used as place to teach small engine repair. In 1961 Mr. Calvin Penz bought the parcel.

Ms. Bechtel stated that she thought that the U.S government bought the parcel in the 1930's.

Mr. Canaan asked is the parcel being served by a township road currently? He stated that there will be multiple users of the parcel.

Mr. Miller stated that Peoples coop power's first phase will not entail the tearing down of any buildings.

Ms. Bechtel asked when the township wants to take possession?

Discussion ensued on the current Haverhill Township needs and finances.

Mr. Johnson stated that every year the township puts 10,000 dollars to a capital improvemnt fund namely To buy land and construct a new town hall. Mr. Johnson stated that with interest the Township has 142,000 dollars currently. Mr. Johnson stated that at least 200,000 dollars would be needed.

Mr. Uecker stated that the township is interested in buying a portion of this site. Buying the land from Olmsted county would make the purchase of land easy. The hard part would be building a actual building.

Discussion ensued on land purchase

Ms. Bechtel stated that Olmsted county has to get the land from the state of Minnesota. Then Olmsted county can sell aportion the Township or come up with a condtional use deed.

Mr. Canaan stated that he does not want the township the township to buy the land cheap then sell it for a larger amount of money (Land speculation).

Mr. Uecker stated that the township has no interest in profiting from this. If for some reason this townboard or a future townboard decides that is site is not prefeable for a new townhall then it would revert back to Olmsted county for the original buying price.

All members present then went to look at the section 14 parcel in question.

Discussion among the Haverhill townboard ensued.

THe North East corner of the site is what the Haverhill townboard considered the most feasilble for the needs of the township. TCPA staff would mark out the exact number of acres.

Mr. Hain motioned for the Haverhill township to continue to pursue the matter in purchasing said land.

Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Mr. Uecker asked for discussion. There being none.

Mr. Uecker asked for a vote.

Motion past 5-0.

All present then looked at the well. Meeting adjourned at 4:30

Respectfully	submitted By Mr. Steve Pollack
Chairman Mr.	Paul Uecker