

Township of Chisago Lake
P.O. Box 649
Lindstrom, MN 55045

RECEIVED
By: OAH on February 19, 2019

TO: Office of Administrative Hearings
Municipal Boundary Adjustment Unit
P. O. Box 64620
St. Paul, MN 55164-0620

OBJECTION

MBA Docket Number A8189 - Proposed Annexation to the City of Lindstrom, Minnesota.

The Town Board of Chisago Lake Township, Chisago County pursuant to a motion duly adopted by the Town Board on December 18, 2018, hereby objects to the proposed annexation of the following described property to the City of Lindstrom:

PID: 02.00760.00

Owners: Audrey & Richard Twite, 31205 Olinda Trail, Lindstrom, MN 55045

Description: All that part of Government Lot One (1), Section Twenty-seven (27), Township Thirty-four (34) North, Range Twenty (20) West, described as follows, to wit: Commencing at the Southwest corner of said Section 27; thence North 87 degrees 12 minutes 50 seconds East, assuming bearing, along the South line of said Section 27, a distance of 92.94 feet to a point on or near the center line of the existing township road; thence North 0 degrees 00 minutes 15 seconds West along or near said center line a distance of 620.73 feet to the point of beginning on the North line of the South 620 feet of said Government Lot 1; thence continuing North 0 degrees, 00 minutes 15 seconds west along or near said center line a distance of 366.83 feet; thence North 83 degrees 39 minutes 45 seconds East a distance of 223 feet, more or less, to the shoreline of North Center Lake; thence Southwesterly along said shoreline a distance of 318 feet, more or less, to the North line of the South 620 feet of said Government Lot 1; thence Westerly along North line a distance of 477 feet to the point of beginning, Chisago County, Minnesota.

Reasons for this objection are as follow:

- The Town Board has a long standing history of cooperating in orderly annexations when requested and/or approved by the property owner so that the landowners can receive services which the township is unable to provide. That is certainly not the case with this intent to annex by ordinance. The landowners did not initiate this action.
- The property has a fully functioning well and sewer septic system which are not in need of upgrade or replacement. There is more than sufficient room on the parcel for replacement systems should they ever be needed in the future. The city of has no plans to extend water and sewer systems to this parcel and is unlikely to do so any time soon.

- This parcel is 3.2 acres – not an urban lot. This property is bordered on along one side by a regional “wilderness” park, one side by North Center Lake, and the rest by Lindstrom residential areas. There are no announced plans to subdivide or reconfigure this parcel. It provides an excellent green space buffer between the city residential areas and the regional park. Ownership of the regional park was recently transferred to the City of Lindstrom as part of a grant/purchase agreement. As a result, the City was able to immediately annex the park property and create this stand-alone township parcel.
- The property is located on a gravel road maintained by Chisago Lake Township. The gravel road is used to access other township parcels located north of the park. The City of Lindstrom has no plans to upgrade or blacktop the portion of the road adjacent to this parcel, thus leaving the road maintenance as a township area of concern.
- There is no reimbursement of property taxes indicated by the City of Lindstrom pursuant to MS 414.036. This parcel is lakeshore and has a 2019 estimated market value of \$513,700. The Township’s share of taxes in 2018 was \$923.52. In the case of previous orderly annexation agreements between the Township and the City of Lindstrom, the Township has received four (4) years of full reimbursement.
- There appears to be no compelling reasons to annex this parcel into the city. The city has not declared any infrastructure or other additional services to be provided to this parcel. The Town Board fully understands that it has little recourse in the event of a contentious annexation but feels that this annexation provides no improvements to the area, is not based on need, and does nothing to benefit the landowners.

Date February 15, 2019

Signature Sherry Stirling

Chair, Chisago Lake Town Board

To OAH via U.S. Mail
& via star.holman@state.mn.us

To City of Lindstrom via U.S. Mail

