

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COURT OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

In the Matter of the Petition for Detachment  
of Certain Real Property from the City of  
Pipestone to Gray Township

**NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR INITIAL  
HEARING AND ORDER TO  
PARTICIPATE IN MEDIATION  
SESSION**

MBAU No. D-678

This matter came before Administrative Law Judge Kimberly Middendorf for a prehearing conference on October 7, 2025.

Damain D. Sandy, O'Neill, O'Neill & Barduson, appeared on behalf of Thomas J. Nelson, David R. Nelson, David L. Meulebroeck and Karen Meulebroeck (Petitioners). Jason M. Hill, Town Law Center PLLP, appeared on behalf of the City of Pipestone (City). Ted Stoud, Chair, and Scott Blom, Township Clerk, appeared on behalf of Gray Township (Township), although the Township neither supports nor opposes the Petition at this time.

Pursuant to Minn. R. 6000.1150, 1400.6500 (2025), the Judge issues the following:

**ORDER**

1. **Initial Hearing.** The Judge will convene the initial hearing in this matter via telephone at **9:30 a.m. on Friday, November 7, 2025**. At that time, the parties must, and any participants or observers may, dial **651-395-7448** and enter conference code **256 454 095#**.

During the initial hearing, the Judge will discuss with the parties the issues underlying the controversy; the witnesses each party may call at the evidentiary hearing; the time needed for the hearing; the date of the hearing; the location for the hearing; and any other questions or concerns the parties have regarding the hearing process.

2. **Township Position.** If the Township issues a resolution on the Petition, the Township must submit the resolution to the Judge. If the Township opposes the Petition, the Petition must be dismissed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 414.06, subd. 2, and the hearing will be cancelled.

3. **Mediation.** The parties must participate in mediation, as required by Minn. Stat. § 414.06, subd. 2. The parties may use a mediator of their choosing and the mediation may be conducted remotely. If the parties wish to use a mediator affiliated with the Court of Administrative Hearings, they should contact Cara Hunter, Legal Assistant, at 651-361-7970 or [cara.hunter@state.mn.us](mailto:cara.hunter@state.mn.us) as soon as possible.

4. **Accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act.** If a party determines an accommodation for disability is necessary, the party must submit an accommodation request at: <https://mn.gov/oah/lawyers-and-litigants/title-ii.jsp>. To request the form in paper format, please call 651-361-7900. Court Administration must coordinate any accommodation requests with the entity responsible for the facility in which the hearing will be held.

5. **Interpreters.** The parties have not requested the appointment of an interpreter. To request an interpreter, please contact the court as soon as possible, and no later than **October 31, 2025**, at [oah.courtpersonnel@state.mn.us](mailto:oah.courtpersonnel@state.mn.us) or call 651-361-7900. A written request for an interpreter must state in the subject line "Request for interpreter" and include the following information:

- Case number
- Name of Judge
- Type of interpreter required
- Dates and times interpreter needed
- Location of the hearing

6. **Recordings and Transcripts.** Hearings are ordinarily digitally recorded. A copy of the digital recording of the hearing can be obtained by a party who makes a written request. Transcripts of the hearing are not provided unless the cost for such transcription is paid in advance by the party making the request. Any party may arrange to have a court reporter at the hearing. All logistical and payment arrangements related to such are the responsibility of the requesting party, not the Court of Administrative Hearings. A party must notify the Court prior to the hearing if the party has arranged for a court reporter to be at the hearing. If a transcript is requested by any party, the requesting party is required to provide a copy of the transcript to the Judge. The parties may agree to divide the cost if either party seeks a transcript.

7. **Continuances.** Pursuant to Minn. R. 6000.0900 (2025), requests for continuances of a hearing will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

8. **Default.** Under Minn. R. 1400.6000 (2025), the failure of a party to appear at a prehearing conference or hearing without the prior consent of the Judge may be considered a default by that party. A default may result in a decision adverse to the defaulting party.

9. **Settlement.** If the matter is resolved prior to hearing, counsel shall provide written notice to the Court of Administrative Hearings immediately by contacting Cara Hunter, Legal Assistant, at 651-361-7970 or [cara.hunter@state.mn.us](mailto:cara.hunter@state.mn.us).

10. **Filing.** Any document filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings, or which a party wishes to make part of the record in this matter, may be filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings in any one of the following ways: (1) **by eFiling** through the Court of Administrative Hearings' eFiling system at <http://mn.gov/oah/forms-and->

filing/efiling/; (2) **by mail**; (3) **by fax**; (4) **by personal delivery**; or (5) **by email** to [mbauadministrator.oah@state.mn.us](mailto:mbauadministrator.oah@state.mn.us). See 2015 Minn. Laws ch. 63, sec. 7; Minn. R. 1400.5550, subp. 5 (2025). **All parties are strongly encouraged to electronically file any submissions.** Filings are effective on the date the Office of Administrative Hearings receives the filing. See Minn. R. 1400.5550, subp. 5, .5500 J, Q (2025). All filings shall be accompanied by proof of service on the opposing party.

Dated: October 8, 2025

  
KIMBERLY MIDDENDORF  
Administrative Law Judge