

## MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Clerk Kathie Headley called the annual town meeting, held in the Town of Scandia Valley in the County of Morrison and the State of Minnesota, at the town hall on the 13th day of March 2012 to order at 7:30 p.m. Mike Rosvold was chosen to preside as Moderator at the meeting by motion of Al Card, seconded by Frank McGuire. The motion carried.

The moderator, at the opening of the meeting, asked Clerk Headley to read the minutes of the last annual meeting. John Snell made a motion to accept the minutes as read. John Marsh seconded the motion and it carried.

A motion to waive the reading of the claims was made by Rick Headley. Frank McGuire seconded the motion and it carried.

Clerk Headley read the annual financial report. Frank McGuire made the motion to accept the report, which was seconded by Al Card and carried.

Clerk Headley read the board of audit minutes. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Renee Pomerleau and seconded by John Snell. The motion carried.

The following four places were determined and designated by the residents present as the most public places in said Town for the posting up of legal notices and suitable posts for such purposes: The town hall, the Refuse & Recycling Center, Lincoln Gas & Bait, and the corner of 350<sup>th</sup> and CR1. Motion made by Dale Borgstrom, seconded by Judi Mehr. The motion carried.

In lieu of a written report, Arnie Akkerman talked to the residents about how town government works. He clarified that contrary to public rumor, the town clerk and treasurer's books are always open to the public. Anyone who wants to look at the town accounting records needs to contact the clerk or treasurer to arrange for a time to view them. Arnie explained that many years ago the town residents had voted to approve paving as many of the township roads as possible. The life of a paved road is approximately 20 years. The need to look ahead was stressed. In order to keep all of the roads in good condition 2.9 miles would need to be done per year in a twenty-year cycle. Pineview Boulevard needs to be rebuilt and repaved. It is a two-mile project. At today's prices, that reclaiming and paving alone would cost \$187,000.00. That does not account for the cost of rebuilding and shaping that needs to be done to it. Arnie went on to explain that both of the plow trucks are more than 20 years old. While the staff does a very good job of maintaining them, the fact remains that at some point, in the not too distant future they will need to be replaced. The cost to purchase a 10-year-old truck today is between \$48,000 and \$50,000. Both the paving and truck costs increase about 3% per year. He went over various figures that he and the county auditor prepared regarding costs of the proposed levy to the residents.

Larry Godejohn explained that the commercial market values are about three times that of a homestead property.

Ian Newkirk asked what the increase in the levy is for. Arnie explained that the last two years the town has had to borrow funds to carry them through the end of the year. Those borrowed funds need to be repaid from the levy received in the upcoming year which in turn puts the town short for the upcoming year. What the board would like to do is start building up a savings to allow for upcoming large projects. The state recommends that townships have in addition to the current years operating revenue at least an additional half-year's worth of operating revenue in savings.

John Marsh asked why the \$100,000.00 increase was requested for the Road & Bridge Fund rather than the General Fund. Mike Rosvold explained that township funds are designated for specific purpose. Roadwork is paid out of the Road & Bridge Fund therefore the funds need to be designated into that fund for that purpose. Arnie explained that reserve funds are usually put into savings or into a CD. Ian Newkirk explained that the state can and will take surplus funds from a town if they feel that the General Fund is too high. Funds need to be in a designated fund to avoid that.

Florence Mowan asked if paving 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue could not be put off with the prices so high. Arnie explained that the board is not doing any new projects. They are maintaining the existing roads. 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue was a prior year project that is only partially complete.

Larry Godejohn suggested the township look into assessing the property owners for paving costs. Arnie stated that was an interesting thought and would bear looking into. Arnie also explained that at some point in the future there would probably be assessments to the lake owners for some type of public sewer system.

Floyd Jares asked how much was borrowed. Mike explained that \$115,000.00 was borrowed for Road & Bridge and \$18,000.00 for a fire truck for a total of \$133,000.00.

Adolph Rabe asked if the General Fund should be higher. Arnie explained that the deficit in the General Fund is due to the extraordinary legal fees caused by a lawsuit brought against the township that the town had to defend.

On motion, it was ordered that the following sums of money be raised by tax upon the taxable property in said Town for the current year:

For General Fund	Motion by Doug Mehr	2nd by Frank McGuire	\$ 50,000.00
For Park Fund	Motion by Judi Mehr	2nd by Rick Headley	5,000.00
For Cemetery Fund	Motion by Judy Cantleberry	2nd by Gloria Stone	5,000.00
For Road & Bridge Fund	Motion by Tom Sundvahl	2nd by Doug Mehr	300,000.00
For Town Equip Fund	Motion by Ian Newkirk	2nd by Rick Headley	20,000.00
For Fire Fund	Motion by Judy Cantleberry	2nd by Larry Godejohn	40,000.00
For Fire Truck Fund	Motion by John Snell	2nd by Al Card	20,000.00
For Refuse & Recycling	Motion by Doug Mehr	2nd by Renee Pomerleau	8,000.00

On motion, it was resolved that the gopher bounty remain at \$2.50 per pair. Motion made by Al Card, second by Frank McGuire. The motion carried.

The proposed railroad crossing closing in Lincoln requested by the Fish Trap Lake Property Owners was explained to the residents.

John Snell, seconded by Rick Headley, made a motion to close the refuse and recycling center at 4:00 p.m. during winter hours. The motion carried.

A donation request for the Boys and Girls Club of Morrison County was presented by Tom Ploof. Adolph Rabe, seconded by John Snell, made a motion for the town to donate \$500.00 to the Boys and Girls Club of Morrison County. The motion carried.

The next Annual Town Meeting will be held at the Scandia Valley Town Hall on March 13, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. Motion made by Gloria Stone, second by Renee Pomerleau.

On motion, the meeting adjourned without delay at 9:20 p.m. Motion made by Al Pomerleau, second by Renee Pomerleau.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk