

New Hartford Township

Annual Meeting

March 9, 2021, 8:15pm

Held at New Hartford Town Hall

Dakota, MN

Board Members present: Supervisor Chair-Joe Baumgartner, Supervisor -Andrew Pedretti, Supervisor-Ernie Erdmann

Clerk: Richard Brown Treasurer: Michael Moor Deputy Clerk: Andrea Erdmann

Others present:

Sandra Unnasch, Vicki Baumgartner, Marcia Ward, Keith Olson, Warren Bartash, Isaac Kronebusch

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Chairman Baumgartner at 8:15pm

County Commissioner Marcia Ward was nominated to moderate the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Richard Brown read the minutes from last year's meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as read.

Polls for the annual Township election were opened by Clerk Richard Brown at 4:00pm. He closed the polls at 8:00pm. Election judges publicly counted the ballots. Larry Moldenhauer receiving 30 votes and Keith Olson receiving 6 votes. There was 1 write in vote for a three-year term as Supervisor.

Michael Moor received 37 votes for a two-year term as treasurer.

Election judges were Head Judge Richard Brown, Ernie Erdmann, and Andrew Pedretti.

The meeting proceeded as follows:

County Clerk Bob Babeneck spoke to us about real estate sales. 2020 Real Estate Highlights in handout. Very low interest rates are driving home sales. All prices are being pushed up. Fires out west have driven up the price of lumber for new home builds. Question from Marsha Ward regarding the census. Challenges due to the virus. The census is behind, maybe April. His office has access to all birth records in the county. Births are recorded in the counties they occur. Marsha pointed out how important census information is to state funding.

Bob Babeneck--Winona County Clerk swore in the new officers Larry Moldenhauer Supervisor, Michael Moore Treasurer, Andrea Erdmann Deputy Clerk

Joe Baumgartner went over the financials

Question on if Willie is a 1099 employee

Keith Olson question on township overspending. There should be a limit on borrowing. Proposal to not borrow more than 10% without approval from the voters. Would like some safeguards to borrowing.

Discussion on CTAS and if it is the best. Decided to stay with CTAS.

Isaac Kronebusch question on the new plow truck. Purchased new truck \$52,000.00 old truck sold for \$9300.00

Question from Keith Olson on when old plow truck was purchased. It was purchased in 1999.

Comment from Marcia Ward on allocating money to buy a new truck when needed.

Joe explained that lots of culverts were put in and sealcoat was more expensive than expected.

Moved on to item 7 2020 completed projects.

Question from Marcia Ward on inventory of culverts. Ernie Erdmann will be inspecting culverts as soon as it thaws. Marsha suggested taking pictures in case there is a natural disaster.

Runaway bridge to be replaced. We will owe \$20,000 as our portion when the work is complete.

Marcia Ward asked a question on COVID money and what was spent.

Roadside clearing, let us know if needed.

Gravel Road, seal coating, prepping Dakota Valley.

Question on getting cost of gravel for each road. That is in the works.

Question from the audience on when roads will be blacktopped. Some roads will not be blacktopped. Willie is using less salt with the sand.

Motion by Isaac Kronebusch to approve the budget.

2022 Budget

General Fund \$45,300

Fire and Rescue \$36,000

Road and Bridge \$116,800

Capital Expenditures \$30,000

Total Levy \$228,100

Andrea to work on website.

Warren Bartaash – concern on membership from the fire department. Perhaps the web site can be used to do this.

Vicki Baumgartner pointed out that we are in talks to merge with another fire department. Marsha Ward pointed out that Pickwick is building a new fire station. Also, we could be forced to hire EMSs to respond to daytime calls.

Warren Bartaash would like e-mail updates on the progress of the fire department.

Keith Olson asked a question on a plan if we do get shut down. Dakota is our partner.

Isaac Kronebusch per the Township association, the township can set up a rule for how much can be borrowed without approval from the voters or a meeting.

Decision to table discussion on capital expense and borrowing policies until next year.

Motion by Isaac Kronebusch to keep gopher bounty at \$2.50. Approved.


Next year's Township voting day will be Tuesday March 8, 2022, voting hours 4 to 8 and 8:15 annual meeting.

Motion by Marcia Ward and seconded to adjourn the meeting. At 10:17pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Erdmann 03/28/21

Approved by:



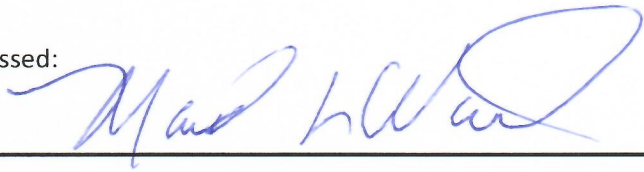
Chairman Joe Baumgartner

Witnessed:



Clerk Richard Brown

Witnessed:



Meeting Moderator Marsha Ward

Date: 4-12-2022