

**Shamrock Township
Annual Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2015**

The annual meeting held in the Town of Shamrock, County of Aitkin, State of Minnesota, was called to order by Clerk Candace Kral at 8:15 p.m. Eighteen residents and five guests were in attendance. The clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert Sannes was selected as moderator on a motion by Richard Biernat, seconded by Bob Greifzu. The meeting agenda with the addition of Lisa Kruze, Big Sandy Water Institute with donation request was excepted.

March 11, 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes were read by the clerk. A motion by Bob Greifzu, seconded by Richard Biernat to approve the annual minutes from the March 11, 2014; motion carried.

Treasurer John Brula read the treasurer's annual report. The treasure's annual report was approved on a motion by Candace Bartel, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

The following agencies sent requests for donations from the township: Advocates Against Domestic Abuse; Aitkin Co. Historical Society; ANGELS; Crisis Line & Referral Service – requesting \$250; First Call 211; McGregor Area Library; Riverwood Foundation; Seven County Senior Federation and Support Within Reach. Lisa Kruze, presentative of Big Sandy Water Institute, requested funding for the Environmental Education Recreation Program that has been running in the McGregor area for the past 11 years and thanked the township for past support and funding. The residents were informed of the focus, purpose and benefits of the Big Sandy Water Institute to the area residents/property owners. Lisa Kruze stated that the Institute is run solely through the support of local funders. Motion made by Bob Greifzu, seconded by Jack Johnson, for the township to contribute funding of \$2,500 to the Big Sandy Water Institute; motion carried. Motion by Jim Hawley, seconded by Bob Greifzu, was made that the Board of Supervisors review the remainder of the requests and acts upon them individually at the boards discretion either for or against the request; motion carried.

One hundred ten people voted in the annual election of the 778 registered voters in Shamrock Township. The results were as follows: Treasurer: John Brula 94, write-in 0; Supervisor: Jerry Pawlak 41, Allen Eld 41, Richard Biernat 11, John H. Clasen 17, write-in 0. The clerk will follow procedure and schedule the tie-breaker between Jerry Pawlak and Allen Eld accordingly.

The annual road report summarizing the work done by the road maintenance employees was provided to the residents and read by the clerk.

Bob Beaver, engineer from short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. (SHE), summarized to residents and answered questions regarding the current road projects that SEH is working with the township to complete. Projects are as follows:

202nd Place: The Township started the construction project last year with culvert replacements and raising the grade approximately one foot in the area that flooded in 2012. This construction season we will reclaim (grind up the existing bituminous and base) the entire section of pavement. Final grading will be completed and the bituminous pavement will be placed. The

snowmobile crossing near the Gustafson property will be constructed out of concrete to better wear with the snowmobile traffic. Restoration will include final drainage grading and turf establishment on disturbed areas. This project will be completed in 2015. The residents were informed that the platted public access is not in the same place that is currently being used for the snowmobile crossing. It was explained that a property swap would be needed to keep the public access in its current location. A resolution together with a statement from Mr. Gustafson stating his cooperation was provided to the residents, and read by the clerk, giving the township permission to proceed with a property swap. Motion made by Bob Greifzu, seconded by Candace Bartel, to accept Resolution 2015-4 Resolution Authorizing the Town Board to Initiate the Town Road Alteration and Vacation Procedure. Motion carried. Motion made by Richard Biernat, seconded by Bob Greifzu, to approve Resolution 2015-4 Resolution Authorizing the Town Board to Initiate the Town Road Alteration and Vacation Procedure. Motion passed unanimously.

A concern of water drainage on 202nd Place that causes issues for a property owner's driveway was stated by a resident. Bob Beaver stated that they would view the area for possible solutions prior to completion of the project.

498th Lane: The main issue with the existing road is the erosion and washing of the road edges. The project includes reconstruction 498th from 202nd Place approximately 800 feet to the west. The road will be reconstructed a little bit wider with ditches on both sides. The ditches will be constructed with a geo-grid and rock base. This will help limit the erosion on the steep grade areas. The final surface of the road for this project will be class five aggregate. The Township will look at bituminous pavement in the future. The Township will publicly bid the project and construction will be completed in 2015.

The application of calcium chloride for dust control on gravel roads notification process was explained to residents.

James Lundberg and Wendy Jurek presented information to the township regarding Members Cooperative Credit Union. They stated that they have worked with other townships and would like to form a working relationship with the Shamrock Township. The credit union's history and basic business practices were presented to the residents and the benefits of the township using their services. Questions from the residents were answered.

Nancy Karjalahti stated that Grand Timber Bank of McGregor is local and has worked well with the township going out of their way for the township. It has been competitive with rates for interest and CDs and has given the township no reason to change banks. She recommended that the township continue their working relationship with Grand Timber Bank.

Two preliminary floor plans/layouts for an addition to the maintenance building to include office areas and a meeting room were presented to the residents for their review. The residents were informed that the addition could be constructed with a stick build and metal siding or a concrete block building. The township is not at the point of moving into the final design stage or construction at this time. There will be public meetings prior to any final decisions being made. The Township is currently budgeting for the project in the future.

Tennis Courts / Basketball Court - The Township has been talking about relocating the tennis courts in conjunction with the future building addition. With the existing condition of the tennis

courts deteriorating, the Township started to review relocating the courts to the north prior to the building expansion. A plan was distributed showing the location of the relocation and new construction. The concept of a two tennis court complex with a basketball court was discussed. The preliminary cost for the removal of the existing tennis courts, gravel parking lot expansion, construction of a two tennis court system and construction of one basketball court is \$220,000. The Township is exploring a grant from the DNR that would fund up to \$100,000 with a 50% cost share of the project. The grant application is due on March 31, 2015. If funded by the DNR, the Township would have two years to complete the project. Bob Beaver, SEH is assisting the township with the completion of the grant application process. A letter from a property owner was also distributed stating her concern for the condition of the tennis courts and desire for new courts to be built.

The taxable market value and net tax capacity report from the Aitkin county auditor was distributed for review. For the assessment year 2014/tax year payable 2015 the township's total taxable market valuation is \$396,230,900 and the net tax capacity is \$4,022,158.

The clerk informed the residents that the township has not received the 2015 statement and report from the fire department yet. The payment for 2014 payment was \$58,895.76; the 2015 payment will be \$63,613.57, cost for 2016 is unknown.

The minutes from the Board of Audit/Budget meeting were read by the clerk.

Catholic Youth Camp survey – Ron Smith informed the residents that the township has public access areas and a public road near and within the CYC grounds. He also stated that there have been complaints received over the years regarding residents using said road and public areas. The residents were informed that the township would like to survey the public access areas, there are Con Con funds available for the survey, then perform a property swap with the CYC so that all the public areas are together rather than scattered giving the residents a nice public areas. It noted that the Ron Smith had discussed this issue with the DNR and suggested that a handicapped floating dock be installed, also that there are grants available for such projects. By doing this the public areas would be out of the camp's grounds and is believed that it would alleviate future problems. The township has contacted the CYC and they stated that they were not interested in the township's current proposal. Ron Smith asked the residents for permission to use town's funds to continue with the current proposal and have the public areas surveyed. Motion made by Richard Biernat, seconded by Bob Greifzu, for the township to move forward with the survey of the public accesses in and near the CYC; motion carried.

Compost/Leaf Site – a draft of Rules and Regulations was provided to the residents, Charles Quale read through it and discussed the reasoning for it. There was discussion of allowing contractors drop compost at the sites as long as they follow the rules and regulations and to take compost at the end of the year to prevent the compost piles from being too large.

The Board of Audit recommendations were reviewed. The residents discussed and reviewed the current and past levies. Motion made by Allen Eld, seconded by Bob Greifzu, to add to the Sewer Fund by way of re-allocation in the amount of \$5,000 to be approved with the approval of the levy motion; motion carried. A motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Jim Hawley, to approve the funds' levies as listed:

Revenue fund:	\$ 80,000	Road & Bridge fund:	\$285,000
Building Repair fund:	\$ 30,000	Fire fund:	\$ 70,000

Sewer fund:	5,000	Park/Recreation fund:	\$ 20,000
Lease/Purchase Loan		Blacktop repair fund	<u>\$100,000</u>
Repayment fund:	\$ 80,000		

The total levy for 2016 will be \$670,000

Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk stated that the township could not have an appreciation celebration for the township in the event an occasion should arise without authorization by the citizens at the annual meeting. Motion by Rich Biernat, seconded by Bob Greifzu, to give the township an allowance of \$2,500 at the discretion of the board for appreciation celebration if an occasion should arise in the future; motion passed unanimously.

A motion made by Bob Greifzu, seconded by Allen Eld, to set the voting hours for the March 8, 2016, annual township election as 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the town hall and to set the time for the March 10, 2016, annual meeting at 8:15 p.m. to be held at the town hall; motion carried.

The rates for publishing legal notices were distributed and reviewed. It was recommended to continue to use both *The voyageur Press* and *Aitkin Independent Age* for legal notices. The posting locations for township notices were reviewed. The township will continue with current posting locations. Notices are posted at the town hall, Sather's store, Willey's Bait Shop, and Whispering Pines.

The Board of Equalization and Appeal will be held on Monday, April 27, at 9 a.m. at the town hall.

The spring clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the town hall only.

It was suggested to post the minutes on the website prior to be approved stating that the minutes are a draft to be approved at the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m. on a motion by Rich Biernat, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, motion carried.

Candace Kral

Shamrock Township Clerk

Robert Sannes

Moderator

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE MARCH 8, 2016 ANNUAL MEETING