

**MINUTES OF THE CLEARWATER TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING - Unapproved
March 10, 2015**

Clerk Jean Just called the annual meeting of the Town of Clearwater to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at the Clearwater Town Hall. Approximately 31 residents were present. After the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, nominations were asked for a meeting moderator. Dan Mol nominated Wally Westerberg, seconded by Rose Thelen. Wally Westerberg was elected as meeting moderator.

The moderator read the prepared agenda. Moderator asked for a motion to waive the reading of the March 11, 2014 minutes as printed copies were available. Bill Langenbacher moved to waive the reading of the minutes, seconded by Rose Thelen. Motion carried. The moderator asked for any questions, errors and omissions in the minutes. Hearing none, the moderator asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Rose Thelen moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Sharon Lee. Motion carried.

The moderator asked for a motion to waive the reading of all checks written and received since a copy of the checks had been made available at the meeting. Bill Langenbacher moved to waive the reading of the checks, seconded by Rose Thelen. Motion carried.

The treasurer read a synopsis of the treasurer's report. Scott Miller moved to approve the report as presented, seconded by Bruce Sobotta. Motion carried.

Moderator read and explanation of the Funds:

Town Revenue Fund covers all township government function expenses. Expenditures include town board expenses, all election expenses, legal and professional services, wages for town board members, telephone, town hall maintenance, insurance, postage and office supplies, internet service, township assessors' expense and recycling.

Road and Bridge Fund covers expenses related to road, building and maintenance. Expenditures include wages for our road maintenance supervisor and additional part time help, payroll taxes and PERA, fuel, dust control, gravel, gravel hauling, equipment maintenance and repair, signage, culverts, utilities maintenance building, and small road projects.

Fire Fund covers fire contract with the City of Clearwater.

Road & Building Project Fund is used for High Cost expenditures specifically related to road and building projects

Equipment & Building Fund is used for expenditures specifically related to building and new road equipment.

Fire Fund report 2014 – Greg Verootis – Clearwater Fire Department

Fire department received 234 calls of which 55 were for the township. The Budget for 2015 is set at 59,157.85 payable in 2016 which is a \$520.00 increase. Majority of the calls are Medical calls @ 152. They have purchased a new Rescue Truck which will be ready for delivery soon. The new truck will cost approximately \$230,000 and has a 15-20 year life span. There are currently 31 members of the fire department.

Clearwater Library - Wally Westerberg gave an updated on the town Library and again asking for a donation from the Clearwater Township. Clearwater Township is giving \$2000 in 2015; they are asking if we can do that again this year. Current income is approximately \$28,400 and budget is set at \$32,300 so they are receiving very close to what the budgeted costs are. City of Clearwater does contribute most of the funds to keep the library running. There are approximately 32,000 card holders. Bill Langenbacher made a motion to donate \$2000 in 2016 to the Stickney Crossings Library; Shelley Larsen-Langenbacher seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Recycling Report – Kristin Helwig

Kristin indicated that the long time recycling contracted that we were using sold the business to Randy's Sanitation in Delano. They are currently doing the pick up until the end of March. The township went out for quotes and received 3 – Randy's Sanitation, Waste Management, & Advanced Resources. The quotes were opened at the March 9th board meeting and the board elected to go with Waste Management on a 3 year contract beginning April 1st, 2015. Logistics' still need to be worked out however, all residence will be receiving a single sort 64gal. can and pick up will be every other week. The cost will be going up approximately \$10,000 year, however, the thought is that the incentive that we received back from the County typically goes up with single sort containers.

Projects Completed 2014 & Planned for 2015 – Dan Mol

Dan reported on the following:

- Salaries Road Maintenance Supervisor & Part Time Help: \$39,174
 - Spread 10,000 yds of gravel: (\$33,523 -gravel and \$45,360 Hauling: Total \$78,883)
 - Applied 57,549 gallons of magnesium chloride: \$48,917
 - Insurance for Road & Bridge equip/work comp etc. \$6,668
 - Fuel, Gas & Oil: \$12,392
 - Outside Hire & Equipment Rental: \$19,387
 - Crack filling township parking lot: \$4,365
 - Road Projects \$19,220 (S. Gowan & Hwy 7/ N. Gowan Chip Seal / 158th Turn-around)
 - Transferred \$20,000 from the Road & Bridge fund to the Building & Equipment fund
Balance is now at \$100,038
 - Transferred \$70,000 from the Road & Bridge Fund to the Road & Building Project Fund
Balance is now at \$350,961
 - Town Board Salaries, PERA, Payroll taxes: \$19,990
 - Election Expense- election judges, printing, public notices: \$3,814
 - Assessors Contract: \$11,896
 - Insurance: \$1,895
 - Library: \$2,000
 - Legal Services: \$1,710
- Township has been involved in two litigations over the past year. One was settled in the Townships favor, the other is still on going.
- Recycling Contract: \$17,450 – Spring Clean Up \$2,335

Received \$3,658 reimbursed from County for Recycling; Average of 512 Stops each month (up by 32% from last year); 105.37 tons picked up (up slightly from last year)

2015 Spring Clean-Up Day is scheduled for May 16, 2015

Planned Expense for 2015

- Spread 10,000 yards of gravel (1/2 paid in 2014 \$28,210)
- Hauling of gravel - Quote Accepted from Bjorklund
10,000 yards from Annandale Rock Products \$4.38 per cubic yard (\$43,800)
- Apply 50,000 gallons of Magnesium Chloride 30%
Quote accepted from Central Minnesota Dust Control @ .90/gal (\$45,000)
- Payment for 1/2 gravel for 2015 - (\$28,210) & 1/2 gravel for 2016 - Price not yet set
- Beginning stages of updating the safety conditions of Illsley from 125th intersection to end of township. This project will be a 1-2 year project working with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources & Hakanson Anderson.

Langenbacher asked why our Chloride amount for 2014 was different than estimated in 2015, Mol explained that a few roads needed to be applied a second time due to additional gravel being added. General discussion was made regarding some of the roads getting slippery and very slimy when it rained. Mol indicated that some of that had to do with the binder that is put in the gravel and the amount of rain that we had early last spring. Mol explained that the reason that the Illsley road project is being looked at is due to safety at the intersection of 125th & sharp curves along that road. They had looked at 150th last year, however, after hearing from the citizens along that road it was decided that they would not take on that project at this time. Questions were raised on if traffic counts were done and if we really know what amount of traffic is on that section of road. Mol indicated traffic counts have not been done; however, several new homes were built in the area in the past few years. Sheldon Brown asked about tree's that are marked to come down on Greer, Mol indicated that due to some water issues they are going to be cleaning the right of way and possibly be putting in a culvert. Jane Gohman asked if we could look at the corner on Grover by Sue Workman's, the cedar trees that are blocking the view around the corner.

Looking Ahead to 2016 and beyond- Scott Miller

Scott reported on the following:

- Possible Road Projects for 2016- Will be based on Future Road Review
- Possible Equipment needs: Mower for ditches & Sander
- Plan to spread 10,000 yds of gravel and 50,000/gal Chloride (price not set yet)
- Mississippi Oaks (Eldridge & 162nd) – Shared Town Line Road with Silver Creek Township. Estimating updating/resurfacing will need to be done on the blacktop within the next 3-4 years.
- Will be looking into Elder & 160th, Homeowners appeared before the Board at the March 9th meeting to ask if we could look into getting hard surface on the road. This is a town line road with Silver Creek so we will be looking at setting up some meetings to discuss.

Scott indicated that he would like to get traffic counts done to see where the most traffic and then go from there to see which roads need to have work done, taking into account the safety conditions of the road. There was discussion as to if the township could afford paving, would paving cause more of a safety concern due to speed, will be taking away from the country side view and feel that gravel roads provide. Scott indicated that safety is the main concern and that he feels that the township needs to counts to determine the usage.

Westerberg indicated that the board recommendation for the 2016 levies is as follows:

- **Town Revenue/General Fund recommendation is \$93,000 which is a 9.4% increase**

Rose Thelen made a motion to set the Town Revenue/General Fund at \$93,000 for 2016; Bruce Sobotta seconded the motion. With no further discussion the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

- **Road & Bridge Fund recommendation is \$300,000 which is a 9.1% decrease**

Bruce Sobotta made a motion to set the Road & Bridge Fund at \$300,000 for 2016; Sharon Lee seconded the motion. With no further discussion the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

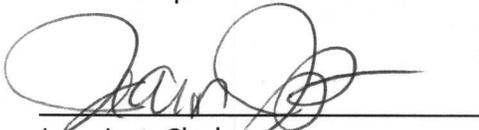
- **Fire Fund recommendation is \$59,000 which is a .9% increase**

Elaine Paumen made a motion to set the Fire Fund at \$59,000 for 2016; Jim Lee seconded the motion. With no further discussion the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

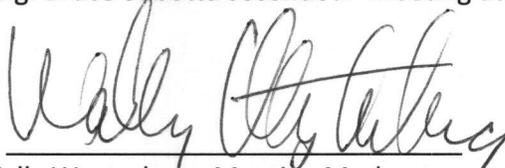
Moderator asked for a motion to set the time & place of the March 14, 2016 Annual Meeting. Bill Langenbacher made a motion to set the 2016 annual meeting for 7:30pm at the Clearwater Township Hall. Dan Mol seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Langenbacher moved to adjourn the meeting. Bruce Sobotta seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Time: 8:25 pm



Jean Just, Clerk



Wally Westerberg, Meeting Moderator