

BAY LAKE TOWNSHIP
2017 ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2017

The Annual meeting of the Township was called to order at 8:30 by Carol Pundt, Clerk. Ten voters were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Justin Smith. Nominations for a moderator were opened. A motion was made by David Pundt and seconded by Deborah Gyllenblad for Jon Steblay to be the moderator. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Sylvia Graff and seconded by Deborah Gyllenblad to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

The March 8, 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes were read by Carol Pundt, Clerk. RaeJean Anderson noticed an error in the SCORE grant amount which was need to be changed to \$10,000 for 2016 and 2017. A motion was made by David Pundt and seconded by Sylvia Graff to approve the minutes as amended to include a change to the 2016 and 2017 recycling SCORE grant to \$10,000. All voted in favor of the motion.

RaeJean Anderson read the Treasurer's Report. David Pundt wanted to know why there is a build up of funds in the Road and Bridge account. It was explained to the group that the road bids have been coming in lower than anticipated. Also, the Township is building the fund to repave Katrine Drive in the future.

Fire Contract: The Township is requesting a total of \$75,000 for both the Fire Contract services in 2018 which is \$3,000 more than 2017. Deerwood Fire Department served the North half of the Township with a cost of approximately \$39,537 in 2016. Garrison Fire Department served the South half of the Township with a cost of approximately \$34,230 in 2016. Home property values are the basis for the contract billing from the fire departments. Jon Steblay read the fire protection summary below which was prepared by Don Hales to be read at the annual meeting.

Fire Protection: When it comes to fire protection the view and responsibility of your supervisors is the following: save lives, save property and maybe save some residents on their insurance premiums. After many frustrating years Bay Lake Township basically has put the Garrison Fire Department on probation. Until very recently and only after much asking and begging have we received a new contract. The most recent contract prior to this was dated 1997. Both Don Hales and Jon Steblay have asked for information several times and have not received what they have asked for. There have been several complaints and concerns about the Garrison Fire Department's ability to respond in a timely manner with an adequate number of fire fighters. With the advice of our Township attorney we have sent the Garrison Fire Department a letter terminating our agreement with them effective 12/31/2017. We picked this date as we wanted to do the honorable thing and give them time to either improve or adjust their finances to be able to operate without Bay Lake township funds. Don Hales met with the Garrison Fire Department chief and advised him of our decision and told him that Bay Lake Township wants to see improvements or we will honor our intention to leave the Garrison Fire Department district.

We have contacted Deerwood Fire Department and they feel that they can adequately cover all of Bay Lake Township. We have been informed that several times when Garrison Fire Department has called the Deerwood Fire Department for Mutual aid (help in fighting a fire or emergency) Deerwood actually shows up first or GFD shows up without enough help. Mutual Aid is an agreement between all fire departments in the state. There is no charge to property owners for this assistance. If Bay Lake Township decides to follow through and go 100% with the Deerwood Fire Department the savings to our Township would be somewhere around \$15,000 per year or \$150,000 in 10 years. We currently pay about \$75,000 per year of 3/4 of a million dollars in 10 years for fire protection.

This is a very difficult decision to make and the Bay Lake Township Board will not make it lightly or quickly. We are also considering extending the probationary period if we see some sign of improvement.

After reading the above statement some of the questions from the voters in attendance were: How will the residents be contacted who are within the Garrison Fire Department District of any changes? There were also concerns regarding adequate volunteers on hand at the Deerwood Fire Department and "good will" between the Deerwood Fire Department, Garrison Fire Department and neighbors in Bay Lake Township.

Road Report: Holmwig Excavating has been awarded the road maintenance contract until 4/30/2017. Road bids for 2017 road improvement projects will be awarded at the April Board meeting. In 2016 the Township completed 2 major projects on Woodland Beach Road. First was the south part from the Town Hall to Echo Bay corner, the second part was from Woodland Beach Resort out to County Road 10. For 2017 the Township is planning on repaving Battle Point Road and a portion Eaglewood Road. The Township levied \$360,000 in 2017 and is requesting the same amount in 2018. Sylvia Graff brought up concerns of road heaving on Woodland Beach Road. The supervisors will inspect the roads for winter frost damage at the upcoming Spring road inspection.

Cemetery Report: \$7,500 has been levied for the Cemetery Fund for 2018. Erik's Lawn Service is the lawn maintenance contractor for the cemetery until 4/30/17. Cemetery lawn maintenance bids will be opened and awarded at the April Town Board meeting. Jon Steblay informed the residents in 2016 the Township completed a project of tilling and filling in a large portion of the land just north of the north entrance. By completing this project it allows additional access and use of burial plots. Justin Smith reported 6 sites were sold in the new portion of the cemetery. 5 sites were sold in the old portion of the cemetery. There were 4 burials. Lots are not available for sale in the Old portion of the cemetery unless family members own or are buried in that portion of the cemetery. There are approximately 376 burial sites available in the New portion of the cemetery and 92 lots in the Old portion of the cemetery. Jon Steblay is the current Sexton for the cemetery and Justin Smith is the Record Keeper.

Town Hall Report: Lawn maintenance bids for 2017 through 2020 will be opened at the April Board meeting.

Jon Steblay updated everyone regarding a cartway appeal in District Court. The judge ruled in favor of the Township. An appeal was made regarding the decision, but, it was dismissed by the petitioners. At this point damage still needs to be agreed upon and awarded.

Recycling Report: In 2016 \$12,068.72 was spent on the Township recycling program. The end of the year fund balance was \$9,449.02. The recycling program is funded by a SCORE grant of \$10,000.00. \$0 is being levied for 2018. The grant for 2017 is \$10,000. Bay Lake Township is one of only a few cities that are still doing recycling. We are doing so at the request of many of our residents. We are accomplishing this with a SCORE grant from Crow Wing County and by only levying \$5,000 every other year. Comments from some voters attending the meeting were in agreement that the recycling program is a wonderful program. There were questions raised regarding garbage in the containers. Over the years there has been garbage in the recycling from toilets to plastic lawn chairs. But, there have been no complaints from Waste Management. Jon Steblay meets with Doug Morris, from Crow Wing County, to review the reports and to discuss the grant.

Levy: The Township Board of Supervisors are requesting a the levy for \$478,500 for 2018 which is 1% increase from 2017. The bulk of the levy monies is spent on the Township roads and fire fighting protection. David Pundt asked why the Township is levying \$3,000 more than 2017 for fire protection. Jon Steblay answered it is because the last couple of years the Township has been levying less than they have been paying out in that fund. A motion was made by Sylvia Graff seconded by Debora Gyllenblad to approve the 2018 levy of \$478,500. 10 voted in favor of the motion. None opposed to the motion. Motion passed

A motion was made by Sylvia Graff and seconded by David Pundt to have the First National Bank of Deerwood be the depository for Bay Lake Township. Motion passed.

Currently the Supervisors of the Township are receiving \$100 per meeting (the chair person is receiving \$150 per meeting) and \$15 per hour. The Clerk's monthly fee is \$400. The Treasurer's monthly fee is \$220.

The posting sites in the Township will be the Town Hall and Hansen's store. The Township website also has public information postings, but, the website is not an official posting site. It is kept updated, but, there have situations in the past when the updates cannot be done in a timely manner.

A motion was made by David Pundt and seconded by Deborah Gyllenblad to keep the Crosby Courier and the News Hopper as the official publication sites for Bay Lake Township. The Brainerd Dispatch will be used for short term Public Notifications and the contract bidding process. All voted in favor of the motion.

The Monthly Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. unless posted otherwise.

A motion was made by Mary Erickson and seconded by Sylvia Graff to have the poll hours for Township elections from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Bay Lake Town Hall. Motion Passed

A motion was made by Sylvia Graff and seconded by David Pundt to start the Bay Lake Township Annual Meeting at 8:30 p.m. following the Township election at the Bay Lake Town Hall. Discussion followed as to why the Annual meeting needed to start at 8:30pm. Motion passed.

Donations: All donation requests will be reviewed and discussed by the Township Board at the April meeting. A motion was made by David Pundt and seconded by Deborah Gyllenblad to donate \$100.00 to the Crow Wing County Historical Society and to the Crow Wing Count Fair. All voted in favor of the motion.

Ballot Question For the 2017 Election. Carol Pundt apologized to the voters in attendance she had neglected to put the Intoxicating Liquor question on the ballot for this election. Because the State Legislature has voted to allow off sale purchases on Sunday there may not be a need to include the question on the ballot for 2018. Carol Pundt will see how the new law is written and consult with a MN Association Township attorney for advice. The ordinance was established in the Township on May 12, 1994, but a ballot vote was never done.

The results for the election were read by Carol Pundt, Clerk –Supervisor 3/yr Term: Jon Steblay – 20 votes, Treasurer 2/yr Term: RaeJean Anderson – 20 votes. Twenty people voted.

A motion was made by David Pundt and seconded by Mary Erickson to put on the annual election ballot for 2018 the question to move the Township annual election to November to coincide with the General election. Hand count 5-yes; 5-no...Motion Failed.

A motion was made by David Pundt and seconded by Deborah Gyllenblad to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Carol Pundt, Clerk, Bay Lake Township

Jon Steblay, Moderator