**ANNUAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020**

**7:00 P.M.**

Chairman Blaine Lee opened the Annual Meeting at 7:00 p.m. and everyone was invited to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The following residents were present: Chris Brueggeman, Steve Knudson, Blaine Lee, Kevin Hoyer, Paul Degenhardt and Sara Schultz. It should be noted that due to COVID-19, social distancing was being practiced at this meeting.

**Old Business :**

* 2020 Levy is $544,159 - with the fire truck special assessment - $652,832
* 2020 Equalized value - $284,728,200
* 2020 Mill rate .019198479
* Road aid to be received - $127,247.76

We now have 48.29 road miles in the township

* We have one more payment left on the loan for the fire truck in 2021 - $108,673

We received a notice of non-compliance from our assessor since we are not between 90 – 100%. Therefore, we will be conducing a market analyst on our property values this year.

We will need to update our Town Comprehensive plan this year.

We have purchased a used wood chipper – 2015 Vermeer BC1000XL with a gas motor and 702 hours for $17,200 (paid cash from FEMA money)

We passed a Speed Limit Ordinance (#2019-09-10A) and a Parking Ordinance (#2019-09-10B).

We appointed a new planning committee for the new town hall site:

Blaine Lee, Steve Knutson, Dixie Fladhammer, Dean Olson and Chris Brueggeman

SEH is the engineering company we will be working with for the layout of the site.

**New Business:**

* Because of COVID-19 “stay at home” orders, it was discussed paying the clerk for extra time, mileage, printing, etc. for the April 7, 2020 Spring Election, due to the overwhelming amount of absentee voting. Supervisor Hoyer motioned to approve while Chairman Lee seconded the motion. Clerk Schultz will present her expenses at a later meeting. Motion carried.
* Wage increases to take effect April, 2021:

 **Clerk** - Lee recommended to increase the clerk’s wages by $1,000/year and Degenhardt supported with a second. Upon discussion, Steve Knutson suggested $1,500 instead and Degenhardt seconded. Upon hand vote, 5 – yes 0 - no. Motion passed.

 **Supervisors** – Lee motioned to increase the supervisor’s wages by $500/year. Knutson suggested $700. Upon discussion and vote, the supervisors will receive $500 more per year. 3 - yes 2 - no. Motion passed.

 **Treasurer** - Steve recommended an increase of $500/year for the treasurer position. Lee seconded the motion and upon vote, 4 - yes 0 - no. Motion carried.

 **Chairman** - Chris Brueggeman suggested to increase the chairman’s wages by $1,200/year. Supervisors Hoyer and Degenhardt proposed $1,500/year instead. Upon hand vote, 4 - yes 0 - no. Motion passed.

* Next, we addressed the topic of changing the clerk and treasurer position(s) to being appointed instead of elected. If our population is over 2,500, we could address this at a special board meeting of the electors. However, since our population is currently 2,498, we are not able to do that at this time. Therefore, Hoyer recommended to include referendum questions on the General Election ballot on November 3, 2020. After much discussion regarding the type of referendum and the questions to be included, the vote found 4 in favor of having an advisory referendum on the November ballot with the following three questions. 1) Should the clerk and treasurer positions be appointed? 2) Should the clerk and treasurer position be combined to clerk/treasurer? 3) Should the clerk and treasurer positions maintain as elected positions? 2 voters would like to wait until next year until our census numbers are updated.

Degenhardt motioned to adjourn the annual meeting at 7:55 p.m. Hoyer supported the motion with a second and it carried unanimously.

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 Sara Schultz, Clerk