

Deerwood Township
Deerwood Township Annual Meeting
March 12, 2018

Carol Pundt, clerk, called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Josh Thompson.

Present: David Gray, James Rude, Janice Rude, Josh Thompson, Fred Tessmer, Jim Walth, Amy Donovan, Steve Reilly, Carol Jensen, Carol Pundt

A motion was made by Fred Tessmer and seconded by Josh Thompson to nominate David Gray as moderator of the meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

The March 14, 2017 annual meeting minutes were read by Carol Pundt, clerk. A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by James Walth to approve the annual meeting minutes as read. All voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by James Walth and seconded by Josh Thompson to approve the minutes of the reconvening of the Annual Meeting on 8/7/2017. All voted in favor of the meeting

Amy Donovan, treasurer, summarized the Township financial report. Fred Tessmer asked what the fund balance was without the bond fund included in the number (\$565,317.29). There was a point made that the print on the report was hard to read. A greater effort will be made to increase the print size on the annual report for 2018. A motion was made by Fred Tessmer and seconded by Josh Thompson to approve the treasurer's report. This report had been approved by the Board at their Budget/Audit meeting on February 22, 2018.

Road & Bridge Report: Steve Reilly presented his road report. Monies spent over the last 5 years is as follows: 2013-\$127,662; 2014-\$104,222; 2015-\$108,585; 2016-\$259,719; 2017-\$147,920. \$245,103 is budgeted for 2018. Dust control and paving projects are included in the 2018 budget.

A motion was made by Fred Tessmer and seconded by Josh Thompson to approve the 2018 Levy for \$470,000, with the General Fund at \$80,000, Fire Fund at \$55,000, Town Hall Fund at \$15,000, the Road and Bridge Fund at \$200,000 and the Road and Bridge Bond Repayment Fund at \$120,000. All voted in favor of the motion. \$50,000 out of the General Fund will be saved for capital improvements. The Township needs to be proactive instead of reactive regarding future expenses. The present road reconstruction project will cost the Township \$500,000 in interest before it is paid off. The Township Board does not want have to borrow money for future road projects. The General Fund has the flexibility to disburse monies to the other designated account funds in the Township Levy.

A motion was made by Fred Tessmer and seconded by Josh Thompson to designate the Deerwood Bank and Unity Bank as the Township's financial depositories. All voted in favor of the motion.

The Crosby Courier is the official Township publication with the Brainerd Dispatch to be used for emergency situations. The official posting locations are the Deerwood Town Hall, Deerwood Post Office and Deerwood TruValu. Please check the township website for the Township Calendar of events/meetings at www.deerwoodtownship.org.

The day month and time of the regular Township Board meetings are the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. unless it is a national holiday at which time the meeting will be held on the following Wednesday.

A motion was made by Fred Tessmer and seconded by Josh Thompson to hold the 2019 annual meeting at the Deerwood Town Hall starting at 6:30p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Donations: Donations requests letters received by the Township will be reviewed by the Board at the April Board meeting. As advised by the Minnesota Townships Association in their Winter 2017 Township Newsletter, there is no

general authority to donate town funds to a non-profit entity. Supervisors cannot merely follow the direction of the voters, at the annual meeting, to provide donations.

Other Business:

Fred Tessmer thanked the Board for the free and open discussions that have been allowed at the monthly Board meetings this last year. Everyone attending the meetings have had an opportunity to speak and have their voices heard. It was important to be part of the meeting conversations. Because Town Board meetings are face to face it does not get more basic.

James Rude asked for an update on the 5 member board issue. James Walth who was also part of the committee, along with James Rude, met last year to discuss the pros and cons of a 3 member supervisor board versus a 5 member supervisor board. Three members of that committee voted to leave the Township board at 3 supervisors. 1 member voted to change the Township board to 5 supervisors. At the May 8, 2017, Township Board meeting James Walth present the Board his report. A motion was made by Josh Thompson and seconded by David Gray to leave the Board of Supervisors as a 3 person Board with 4 year term limits. All voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by James Walth and seconded by Josh Thompson to reconvene the Annual Meeting for August 20, 2018 at 7:00p.m. at the Deerwood Town Hall to discuss adopting any Levy changes. All voted in favor of the motion.

Clerk

Moderator