

Deerwood Township  
Deerwood Township Annual Meeting  
Deerwood Town Hall Building  
March 10, 2020

Carol Pundt, clerk, called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Walth

Present: David Gray, Fred Tessmer, Jim Walth, Amy Donovan, Curt Oberlander, Jame Rude, Dick Hicks

A motion was made by David Gray and seconded by James Walth to nominate Fred Tessmer as moderator of the meeting. Fred Tessmer declined the offer saying a Board member would be more suited to be the moderator. The motion and second was rescinded. A motion was made by James Walth and seconded by Fred Tessmer to nominate David Gray as moderator of the meeting. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by James Walth and seconded by Fred Tessmer to approve the amended agenda removing line 5 because it was from a previous agenda. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The March 12, 2020 annual meeting minutes were reviewed by those in attendance. A motion was made by Fred Tessmer and seconded by David Gray to approve the annual meeting minutes as read. All voted in favor of the motion.

Amy Donovan, treasurer, summarized the Township financial report. A motion was made by Fred Tessmer and seconded by Dick Hicks to approve the treasurer's report. This report had been approved by the Board at their Budget/Audit meeting on February 24, 2020.

Road & Bridge Report: A written road report, which was prepared by Steve Reilly, was included in the agenda packet for review. Steve Reilly was in attendance to answer questions. A motion was made by Fred Tessmer and seconded by Dick Hicks to approve the Road Report as presented by Steve Reilly. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Fred Tessmer asked about the Township purchasing a tractor replacement. Steve Reilly told those in attendance there are some safety concerns with the tractor if it is not used correctly. Last year the Township advertised for a tractor, but, no one responded. A few years back he was offered \$10,000 for a trade in for a new tractor. The new tractor would cost another \$30,000 besides the \$10,000 used for the trade in on the old tractor. There is \$15,000 set aside in the Road and Bridge Fund to replace the truck. Fred Tessmer wanted to know if chip sealing a roadway would be repetitive. This year \$90,000 will be used to chip seal more Township roads. Chip sealing Township roads will be done on a year by year judgement comparing with other chip sealed roads in the Township. So far the Board is pleased with the roads that have previously been chip sealed. The Township has an contract agreement with Crow Wing County to get the best pricing for the chip sealing projects.

A motion was made by James Walth and seconded by James Rude to approve the 2021 Levy for \$495,000, with the General Fund at \$45,000, Fire Fund at \$55,000, Town Hall Fund at \$0, the Road and Bridge Fund at \$265,000 and the Road and Bridge Bond Repayment Fund at \$130,000. All voted in favor of the motion. There will be no increase in the Levy for 2021. All voted in favor of the 2021 Levy. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by James Walth and seconded by Dick Hicks to designate the Deerwood Bank as the Township's financial depository. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion pass unanimously

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](http://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 Amy Donovan and seconded by James Walth to hold the 2021 annual meeting at the Deerwood Town Hall starting at 6:30p.m. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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 referred back to the minutes of the 2019 Annual meeting where he voiced concerns regarding what the Township was paying the Deerwood Fire Department for their services compared to other town and townships in the area. He told those in attendance he feels his conversations with the fire chief and the Township board were very helpful. James Walth, who is a member of the Township Board, said "he is very satisfied with the contract formula and the services provided by the fire department".

James Walth told everyone in attendance that he and the Board are very lucky to have Carol Pundt, Clerk and Amy Donovan, Treasurer working to help the Township Board transact business.

A motion was made by James Walth and seconded by Dick Hicks to adjourn the meeting at 6:50pm. All voted in favor of the motion.

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Clerk

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Moderator