

SILVER BROOK TOWNSHIP  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 14, 2017, 7:00 PM

Attendance: Duane Laveau, Brian Johnson, Steve Conley, Debbie Nyberg, Erin Riley, Joel & Jane Conley, Mike Rabideaux, Burnell Peterson, Cindy Bourn, Jack Eudy, Kyle Holmes, Jack Dahl, Dale Wolf, Mark Thell, Jim Thell, Dick Bandle, Kelly Bandle, Randy Wolf, Sue Zymslosky and Alieca Johnson.

The meeting was called to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Moderator:** Motion by Brian Johnson; seconded by Dale Wolf to nominate Duane Laveau to preside over the meeting as Moderator. Motion carried.

**Meeting Minutes:** The meeting minutes of the Annual Meeting dated March 8, 2016, and the minutes of the Continuation of Annual Meeting, dated September 13, 2016, were read. No corrections or additions were made. Motion by Dale Wolf; seconded by Brian Johnson to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Board of Audit Report:** 2016 financial records were found to be in order. Ending balances for township funds were as follows: General Fund: \$34,618.13; Road & Bridge: \$322,485.55; Health/Rec: \$2,016.87; Emergency Services: \$57,517.06; Cemetery: \$284.00...Total: \$416,921.61. Motion by Debbie Nyberg; seconded by Duane Laveau to approve the Board of Audit Report as read. Motion carried.

**Road and Bridge:** Due to continued delays with the Enbridge projects the Township has decided to move forward with Stroud and Thell Road improvements. The roads are scheduled to be reclaimed and blacktopped this summer. The Township is working with Carlton County and the projects will be included in upcoming bids. Estimates for reconstruction are approximately \$200,000. Repair of Ableiter is being considered for 2018 and Cemetery Road in 2019.

County Assessor Kyle Holmes gave a brief overview of litigation against the Minnesota Department of Revenue by Minnesota Energy Resources, Enbridge, Northern Natural Gas and others. A portion of tax monies received from these utilities over the last several years may need to be paid back depending on the outcome of these cases. A definite tax shift can be expected as 82% of tax levies are currently covered by utilities in Silver Brook Township.

**Fire/Ambulance:** The Township has received the 2018 billings for on-call wages from the City of Carlton. Silver Brook's share of on-call fees would be \$12,545.38. It remains the consensus of the Board that the Township should not pay the new billings on the basis that the formula used remains unfair. There were 95 fire/medical calls in 2016. The department applied for a FEMA grant for air packs and turnout gear and should be notified in the next couple months if they are successful. Randy Wolf has spoken with the DNR about purchasing one of their retired vehicles to replace the grass rig. It would be a 2005-06 at a cost of around \$12,000. The City has authorized the department to look for a new vehicle to replace the 1<sup>st</sup> responder/personnel carrier. Estimates are coming in at \$30,000.

**Town Hall:** Emergency exit lights have been replaced as required. The roof is still in decent shape, but the Township should start planning for future replacement. A number of tables used at the town

hall are damaged and need to be replaced.

**Cemetery:** A notice that lots are available will continue to run periodically in Images. Last year sales exceeded maintenance costs, and the fund ended the year with a positive balance of \$284.

**Financial:** Schedule 1 totals were reviewed. The CD at MCCU has been renewed for a 6-month term so that funds will be available to pay for road projects to be completed this summer.

**Proposed 2018 Levy:** The following proposed levy amounts will be reviewed at the Continuation Meeting in September: General: \$20,000; Road & Bridge: \$60,000; Fire: \$15,000; and Health & Rec: \$1,000. Total: \$96,000.

**2017 Health and Recreation Requests:** Motion by Dale Wolf; seconded by Duane Laveau to allow up to \$2,000 for health and recreation requests. Motion carried. Images Editor Erin Riley was asked about the Images printing policies. A copy of the publication policy will be made available. Donation requests from Images, Father-Daughter Ball, Seven County Senior Federation and the Carlton County Historical Society will be considered at the next regular meeting.

**Posting Locations: Motion** by Randy Wolf; seconded by Dale Wolf to post township notices at the Town Hall, Post Office, Brickyard Restaurant, and on the township website. Motion carried.

**Publication:** Motion by Dale Wolf; seconded by Randy Wolf to publish township notices in the Images, Pine Journal and Northland Smart Shopper. Motion carried.

**Depository:** Motion by Brian Johnson; seconded by Debbie Nyberg to set Northwood's Credit Union and Members Cooperative Credit Union as the official township depositories. Motion carried.

**Date and Location of 2018 Annual Meeting:** Motion by Dale Wolf; seconded by Duane Laveau to set the 2018 Annual Town Meeting for the second Tuesday in March, 2018, at 7:00 PM, at the Silver Brook Town Hall. Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Wolf; seconded by Brian Johnson to recess the Annual Town Meeting at 9:00 PM until Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 7:00 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Alieca Johnson, Clerk (date)

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Duane Laveau, Moderator (date)