

SILVER BROOK TOWNSHIP  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 7:00 PM

Attendance: Duane Laveau, Deborah Nyberg, Erin Riley, Randy Wolf, Peter Laveau, Eric Ankrum Brian Johnson, Burnell Peterson and Alieca Johnson.

The meeting was called to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. A few minutes were spent in remembrance of Jim Dennie who passed away and who served 27 years on the town board.

**Moderator:** Motion by Deborah Nyberg seconded by Brian Johnson to nominate Duane Laveau to preside over the meeting as Moderator. Motion carried.

**Meeting Minutes:** The meeting minutes of the Annual Meeting dated March 14, 2023, and Continuation of Annual Meeting dated September 12, 2023, were read. No corrections or additions were made. Motion by Brian Johnson; seconded by Peter Laveau to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Board of Audit Report:** Motion by Deborah Nyberg; seconded by Duane Laveau to approve the Board of Audit Report as read. Motion carried.

**Road and Bridge:** The Township worked with an attorney last year to vacate Tew Road as Carlton County had indicated that they will no longer plow the roadway. Unfortunately, a small section of land at Highway 23 is owned by the State of Minnesota and their restrictions made vacation impossible. The State has indicated that the land will be for sale in 2024, and the board will look into the process again if the sale takes place. Brushing was completed last year and gravel was added to South Maere. Overall roads in the township are in decent condition. The Township has started building monies in the Road & Bridge Fund for the next major project of resurfacing Cemetery Road.

**Fire:** Chief Peter Laveau reported that there were 123 runs in 2023. With the dry winter and lack of snow everyone was reminded not to burn. The Department applied again this year for a FEMA grant for brush/RIT equipment. They did receive a 50/50 grant from the DNR for radios/pagers/backpacks. Again, the fire department needs to be looking at purchasing a new fire truck in the next 5-6 years and townships and the city should plan accordingly. The 2024 operating budget went up slightly as \$10,000 of the budget has been set aside as incentive pay to increase turnout at drills and calls. The department currently has 20 members and anyone wishing to become part of the Wrenshall Fire Department is encouraged to apply.

**Carlton Ambulance:** Carlton has hired a FT Ambulance Manager; but the FT EMT position has not been filled. Ambulance Board meetings continue every other month.

**Town Hall:** Adding a sidewalk on the east side of the town hall is planned for 2024. The City of Wrenshall has contacted the Township about working together on a walking path from the corner of County Road 1/Alcohol Road to the park pavilion. There have been some damages to tables, etc. and rental fees increased slightly. Randy Wolf is working on getting copies of some old pictures for display.

**Cemetery:** There were enough lot sales to cover maintenance costs and no billing will need to be sent for 2023. Randy Wolf and Deborah Nyberg have started working on a new more complete mapping system. The fence was taken down and a new system for marking will need to be figured out so that the gates can be removed. A volunteer work day should be considered to add dirt to some low areas and to complete needed maintenance

**Financial:** The ending balance on 12/31/2023 was \$357,220.17. Damages from the 2022 storm came to \$8,125 and the township was reimbursed 75% of those costs. \$7,282.48 of ARP funds were used for hall improvements including painting and window treatments, resurfacing the tennis court, and replacing the treasurer's laptop. The township earned \$780 from rental fees and \$2,500 from the sale of cemetery lots

**Authorizing Health and Recreation Distributions:** Motion by Peter Laveau; seconded by Randy Wolf to allow the township to distribute up to \$2,000 in 2024 for health and recreation requests. Motion carried. Reports and requests for support were given by Erin Riley-Images and Eric Ankrum-Carlton/Wrenshall Youth Softball & Baseball. Peter Laveau gave an update of planned improvements from the Carlton County Fair Board. Written requests were received from the Carlton/Wrenshall Father-Daughter Ball, the Arrowhead Library System and the Seven County Senior Federation. All requests will be considered at the March Regular Board Meeting.

**Proposed 2025 Levy:** It is the Board's recommendation that proposed levy amounts be set as follows: General: \$30,000; Road & Bridge: \$47,000; Emergency Services: \$66,000; and Health & Rec: \$2,000. Total: \$145,000. The levy amounts will be reviewed and finalized at the Continuation of Annual Meeting in September.

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

**Publication:** Motion by Duane Laveau; seconded by Brian Johnson to publish township notices in the Images and the Pine Knot. Motion carried.

**Depository:** Motion by Randy Wolf; seconded by Deborah Nyberg to set Northwoods Credit Union as the primary and Members Cooperative Credit Union as the secondary township depositories. Motion carried.

**Date and Location of 2025 Annual Meeting:** Motion by Brian Johnson; seconded by Duane Laveau to set the 2025 Annual Town Meeting on March 11, 2025, at 7:00 PM, at the Silver Brook Town Hall. Motion carried.

Motion by Duane Laveau; seconded by Brian Johnson to recess the Annual Town Meeting (at 7:50 PM) until Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 6:00 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Alieca Johnson, Clerk (date)

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Duane Laveau, Moderator (date)