

MINUTES
TWIN LAKES TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING
March 8, 2016 6:30 p.m.
Carlton County Transportation Building

Clerk Sue Chapin opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

Township electors present: Diane Felde-Finke, Doug Finke, Jenna Reed, Stephanie Schmitz, William Gordon, Ross Korpela, Larry Beckstrom, Bill Sharratt, Aaron Lehto, Randy Willie.

Also present: Jodie Johnson, Ryan Schmidt, Julianne Emerson, Keijo Day, Gwen Carman.

The clerk called for the election of a moderator. **MOTION to nominate Doug Finke as moderator was made by Stephanie Schmitz and seconded by Bill Gordon; all voted yes for Doug Finke as moderator.**

Finke asked if all had read the minutes. **MOTION to approve the March 8, 2016 annual meeting minutes as printed was made by Bill Sharratt and seconded by Diane Felde-Finke; all voted yes, the motion passed.**

- The 2015 financial reports were reviewed. **MOTION to waive the reading of all checks written and received was made by Stephanie Schmitz and seconded by Bill Gordon; all voted yes, the motion passed.**

- Road report: Felde-Finke reported that the reconstruction of Pfeifer Road was completed in 2015, eliminating a dangerous railroad crossing. Some federal grant funds were obtained, and the Fond du Lac Band gave \$100,000 towards the project. \$138,438 was spent by the township on the reconstruction. In 2016, sealcoating will be done on Douglas Road, West Chub Lake Road from 1860 West Chub Lake Road to County Road 3, and Godbout Road. The project is being done in conjunction with Carlton County and St. Louis County, which helped to keep the price lower. The original estimate was for \$180,000, but the bids have come in at \$128,000. The sealcoating will occur sometime during the summer. Northland Consulting Engineers has been hired to do a feasibility study for the reconstruction, in phases, of Gillogly Road. Soil borings have been done. Discussion on the low area, and the possibility of using a float method that uses large Styrofoam blocks. Willie explained that process. Discussion on the potholes through that area; Gordon expressed concern about how the potholes have been filled in the past; it has not held up. Felde-Finke will contact the county to get the potholes on Gillogly Road filled as soon as possible, and to discuss the process used. An outlet stabilization project will be done this year on the West Chub Lake Road near the horse farm. The last payment on the Douglas Road reconstruction project will be made in 2017. The annual town road review will be done sometime in May.

- Water Line report: Willie reported that the Joint Water Board, which includes members from the City of Carlton and from Twin Lakes Township, is currently working on updating the water line plans in preparation for construction. Donohue and Associates has been hired to do that work. A bill has been written and introduced to the legislature, the bill includes the water line and also upgrades to the City of Carlton's water treatment plant. There are also grants available, such as Rural Water and Army Corp of Engineers. The joint powers board will be meeting with legislators to discuss the bill; it may not get in the bonding bill for this year, but there is confidence that it will get in the next year. The bonding bill will also include reimbursing the township for money spent on the water line design. The water line will parallel the township's sewer line along Highway 210, out to the transportation building and the county development land. There is also concern about the Schmitz Road area; Willie explained that Schmitz Road residents have water that is contaminated with high levels of arsenic; the state has been providing bottled water to them. A business along the Highway 210 corridor has been experiencing a water shortage.

SET LEVIES FOR 2017 TAXES

GENERAL REVENUE: **MOTION to levy \$70,000 in taxes in 2017 for General Revenue was made by Stephanie Schmitz and seconded by Diane Felde-Finke; all voted yes, the motion passed.**

ROAD & BRIDGE: Discussion on debt service. **MOTION to levy \$500,000 in taxes in 2017 for Road and Bridge was made by Ross Korpela and seconded by Stephanie Schmitz; all voted yes, the motion passed.**

FIRE/AMBULANCE: **MOTION to levy \$127,000 in taxes in 2017 for Fire/Ambulance was made by Aaron Lehto and seconded by Larry Beckstrom; all voted yes, the motion passed.**

RECREATION: **MOTION to levy \$10,000 in taxes in 2017 for Recreation was made by Larry Beckstrom and seconded by Ross Korpela; all voted yes, the motion passed.**

CAPITAL PROJECTS: **MOTION to levy \$40,000 in taxes in 2017 for Capital Projects was made by Diane Felde-Finke and seconded by Stephanie Schmitz; all voted yes, the motion passed.**

Donation Requests for 2016

Jodie Johnson, Carlton Area Public Library: Johnson reported that the library is moving its location, tentatively the beginning of summer, back to the full basement floor in the civic center. Johnson described various activities that she has planned for this coming year. Johnson thanked the township for past support and asked for continued financial support. 20 to 25% of library usage is by Twin Lakes Township residents.

Jenna Reed and Keijo Day, Carlton High School students: Reed and Day presented a letter from the Carlton High School Prom Committee, requesting a \$500 donation for this year's prom.

Julianne Emerson, Carlton High School Knowledge Bowl: Emerson thanked the township for past support. A donation of \$1,900 is requested again for this coming year. One of this year's teams is advancing to regional competition. 27 students participated in Knowledge Bowl.

Ross Korpela, Chub Lake Association: Korpela thanked the township for past support for treatment of Eurasian milfoil. Last year the association received a grant and so did not need a payment from the township. The grant is not available this year, so they are asking the township for \$1,000 to help pay for this year's treatment. The beetles treatment being used seems to be working.

Ryan Schmidt, Carlton Youth Baseball and Softball Association: Schmidt thanked the township for all the years of support, and explained how the ball fields are not only used by the association, but also by area families. The numbers of participants has been increasing; last year there were 85 participants from the township. Korpela described projects that were completed, and projects that are planned for this year. Any donation would be appreciated.

Aaron Lehto, Four Seasons Event Center and Sports Complex: Lehto reported that this has been a good year for the hockey program; the number of participants in the youth hockey program has doubled. There are new members coming onto the board this year, making a total of 11 board members. With the warm weather we've been having, utility bills have been excessive. Lehto thanked the township for support over the past several years, and mentioned that the township's support helps keep the doors open. A question was raised on the possibility of putting portable hoops inside; it can be looked into. Future financial support was requested.

One letter was received asking for financial donations as follows:

Alysha Sample, Carlton County Fair Board, thanking the township for its past support and requesting a donation of any amount.

– Any other township business/advisory input to town board: No changes were requested.

Motion to hold an annual meeting on March 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Carlton County Transportation Building was made by Stephanie Schmitz and seconded by Ross Korpela; all voted yes, the motion passed.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bill Gordon and seconded by Ross Korpela; all voted yes, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Chapin, Clerk

Doug Finke, Moderator