

2017 STAR LAKE TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

CALL to ORDER. The March 14th, 2017 Annual Meeting was called to order by the Clerk, Jeff Michaelson at 8:15 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

NOMINATION OF MODERATOR. The first order of business was to nominate a moderator. Motion by Ron Peterson, 2nd by Lee Mindemann to nominate Tammy Ziegler as meeting moderator. Motion carried.

READING OF 2016 MINUTES. Minutes were read by the Clerk, Jeff M. There being no corrections or additions, a motion by Lee M., 2nd by Brenda Ebanks to approve as read. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT. The results of the required annual Board of Audit was presented by the Clerk, Jeff M.. The Clerk read the FINANCIAL RECAP of 2016 with statements of beginning and ending balance along with TOTAL CASH ON HAND as of 12/31/2016.

A comparison of 2015 and 2016 was also given. Ron P. moved to accept report as given, John Halvorson 2nd. Motion carried.

ROAD REPORT. No Road Report was given as the ground was still frozen. A complete Road Report will be completed after the spring thaw.

HOSPITAL DISTRICT REPORT. John Halvorson distributed PERHAM HEALTH packets which detailed updates in the following areas:

- Home Care expansion
- Community Care expansion
- Adult Care additions and updates at old hospital.
- Memory Care for Alzheimer's patients.

SUPERVISORS COMMENTS. Lee M. commented on the following:

- The 4@ parcel just to the east of the town hall property remains in tax forfeiture status. While SLT will likely be given 1st opportunity to buy the parcel once it is put up for auction, the SLT Board anticipates no public need to acquire this property at this time.

- Over past several years the long-time practice of townships making “donations” to non-profit organizations for services rendered, has come under increased scrutiny. The MN Assoc. of Townships advises townships that if they wish to continue to provide financial support for local non-profits that provide services to township residents; they should “contract” for these services under the provisions of MN Statute 365.10 subd. 14. The SLT Board does in fact appreciate and value the services of several non-profits, and will initiate a Services Contracts as deemed appropriate at the next monthly Board Meeting.
- Supervisor Lee M. then thanked the residents for their approval of the current levy amount at the 2015 Annual Meeting. He informed the audience that the SLT Board of Supervisors was recommending no change to the levy amount for the 2018 tax year. The acquisition of the motor grader has met all expectations and the reserve account is up 48% vs. 5 yrs ago. The Supervisors are very pleased with the continued improvement of the township’s financial health.

SETTING THE ANNUAL OPERATING LEVY. A motion made by Brenda Ebanks and 2nd by Earl Rydell to approve the current levy at \$173,200 for the 2018 fiscal year was unanimously approved.

Levy to be allocated as follows;

>Road and Bridges-\$115,351

>General Government-\$57,849

CONTRACT FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL, OR RECREATIONAL SERVICES (MN Stat. 365.10, subd. 14). A Motion to authorize Supervisors to contract with non-profits in an aggregate amount not to exceed a total of \$1000 for Health, Social or Recreational Services for the well-being of township residents. Lee Mindemann. moved to approve, 2ND BY Ron Peterson. Motion carried.

MOTION to set DATE, TIME and LOCATION for next ANNUAL

MEETING. Ron Peterson moved that the next Annual Meeting be held on March 13, 2018 at the Star Lake Township Hall, beginning at 8:15 P.M., motion was 2nd by Vance Harthun. Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION of ITEMS of CONCERN. An update on the SHOOTING STAR CASINO was given by Lee M. The following key points were made:

- As of this date SSC is projecting an opening date for late 2018.
- The required EAW's (Environmental Assessment Worksheets) have not been approved, therefore no permits for construction have been issued.
- SLT residents were advised to keep current on the issue by reading local newspaper articles and frequently viewing the websites of Otter Tail County, Star Lake Property Owners Association, and the Star Lake Concerned Citizens Group.
- Lee shared the position statement that the SLT Board adopted in February and forwarded to the OTC Commissioners (see attachment).
- It was also pointed out that the Limited Area Star Lake Comprehensive Plan (LASLCP) was finalized in Dec. and is available for review on the township website.
 - o The plan provides 21 "Opportunities to Consider" of which 11 name SLT as the primary entity for implementation/consideration. Nine of these opportunities are land-use zoning related,
 - o The SLT Board is evaluating these to determine possible next steps,
 - o A SLT Special Meeting may be set in the future to seek more specific citizen input.
- Questions were asked relative to the cost of electrical infrastructure and who would pay those costs, i.e. would residents see a local rate increase as a result. Earl Rydell a Director with LREC explained the costs incurred would be paid for by LREC with no subsequent pass through. Earl explained that about half of the incremental electrical capacity provided by the new Star Lake Sub-Station, was needed for customers other than the projected casino project.

ELECTION RESULTS. The results of the BOARD OF CANVAS was provided by the Clerk, Jeff M., and he announced that Tammy Ziegler was elected to a three (3) year term as Supervisor. Eighteen (18) votes were cast for Tammy Ziegler, and two (2) votes were cast for write-in candidates.

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Vance H., 2nd by John H. Motion carried.
Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M..