

ALBANY TOWNSHIP-ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 12, 2013

UNAPPROVED

- 1. Opening** The Annual Township Meeting was held on the 12 day of March, 2013 at the Albany City Hall Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 P.M by Town Clerk, Diane Noll. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. 21 residents were in attendance.
- 2. Introduction of Township and Planning Board Members**—Members present were Supervisors Tim Nierenhausen, Mary Rosen, and Rosanne Lehnen. Commissioners present were Gary Bloch, and Ryan Pratt. Mike Noll arrived at 8.45.
- 3. Nomination of Meeting Moderator**—A motion to have Gary Bloch be the meeting moderator was made by Paul Rushmeyer seconded by Dean Berckes. After three calls for nominations, a motion to close nominations was made by Dean Berckes, seconded Rich Rosen, motion carried. Gary Bloch was appointed as meeting moderator.
- 4. Approval of Agenda**—Copies of the agenda were available to all present. A motion to accept the agenda as presented was made by Rich Rosen seconded by Paul Rushmeyer , motion carried.
- 5. Approval of Minutes**—The minutes from the 2012 annual meeting were read. A motion to approve the minutes as read was made by Chris Kotzer, seconded by Dean Berckes, motion carried.
- 6. Treasurers Report**—Copies of the 2012 Annual Financial Report were available to all present. The report was explained by Clerk Noll.

Chris Kotzer asked which road was seal coated –

330 Street staring at County Road 156 going west about 1.5 miles

Evelyn Krebs, when will dust suppressant be placed,

Supervisor Nierenhausen—Bids are being requested in March, we are planning for early June. We have used Tri-City, because they are less expensive, we are getting bids from both Tri-City and Herdering.

Ken Krebs—spraying thistles—is the right time to spray in September?. It doesn't pay to spray after they have bloomed.

Supervisor Nierenhausen—this is what is being recommended by the co-ops.

Dean Berckes, states fall spraying is the best time to do it.

Evelyn Krebs, why are we allowing trees to get so big in our right-of-way's?

Tim Nierenhausen—we are trying to get the problem under control. Legally if tree is bigger than six inches, we need to notify the owner before we remove.

John Kotzer—who is doing our brushing?

Tim Nierenhausen—no one at this time.

John Kotzer—I thought we did not want landowners to do the trimming/burning in the right-of-way.

Tim Nierenhausen—it is preferred that the township is notified when trees are cut down and blocking the roads. If there are problem spots we make notes on our road tour to have them taken care of.

A motion to accept the Annual Financial Report was made by Chirs Kotzer, seconded by Rosanne Lehnen,motion carried.

REPORTS

7. Planning Commission—Supervisor Rosen

Planning Commission has completed the Land Use and Zoning Ordinance. A copy will be on line and in the

Library. Work is continuing on the Comp Plan. A public hearing is being planned for this spring. No agreement has been met with the city on Orderly Annexation.

Building Permits–Supervisor Niernhausen

There were 11 permits issued from the township and an additional 8 from the county. We strive to have communication between the Township and County to assure the correct department is issuing the permit. We are in the process of changing our fees, a permit fee will be added for wind turbines. We will continue to have permits for small structures to assure they are placed appropriately on the small lots.

8. Road Report–Supervisor Nierenhausen

Had a very dry year this past summer, which did not help out with the calcium chloride. took away the integrity of the calcium without the water. Our costs from the grading went up because of the dry washboards on the roads. We are again trying to gravel the roads, do the calcium to keep the gravel on the roads.

If we do tri calcium again this year, we are thinking of watering the roads to keep it in place, depending on the cost. We will again be offering the dust suppressant to residents that are interested.

This year we ordered signs for road restrictions, that state 7 ton normal operation, 5 ton during spring road weight restrictions. Many signs are being shot at, if you see or hear about it, please notify the township. The cost to the township averages about \$60 per sign plus the cost to install.

Oak Township is removing signs to save costs. We are not looking at taking signs off, but keeping them up for safety reasons.

This year we need to do repairs on 360 street. This road has had black dirt coming up, the base is bad and the road will need to be repaired.

350 street by culverts will need to be replaced, construction on road will need to be done.

If you notice any culverts that are being grown over by weeds, please contact the township to have them cleaned out Ken Krebs– Is there any soybean oil that can be used for dust suppressant, or is it too costly? If they work better this may be a route to go.

Supervisor Nierenhausen–states he is checking into the other types of suppressant.

Rick Rosen–what type of culverts are being replaced by 350 Street.

Supervisor Nierenhausen, they are cement, 2 six foot, they are washing out around, and dirt is coming down in the middle, they are a hazard and need to be replaced.

9. Weed Control Report–Supervisor Lehnen

In the absence of John Waldorf, a tour was done with Don Updahl, Agricultural Adviser. Because of the wet spring, we were unable to have a spring spraying. Duane Holmgren did our fall spraying and we should see the results this spring. This year we are planning a spring and fall spraying to get control of the weeds.

There were four residents that were contacted by phone to advise them of there weed problems. No written notices were sent.

Knapp Weed is a new weed that has been found in our area. If you see it, do not pull it. The seeds are underground and get dispersed by pulling; this weed needs to be sprayed.

If there are areas that residents mow, and do not want sprayed, please contact the township.

10. Appropriation of township budget for 2014

Proposed budget.

General Revenue Fund \$54,100, Road and Bridge \$267,300 Fire Fund \$43,600.

A motion to approve \$54,100 for General Fund was made by Mike Noll, seconded by Ken Krebs, motion carried.

A motion to approve \$267,300 for the Road and Bridge Fund was made by John Kotzer , seconded by Dean Berckes, motion carried.

A motion to approve \$43,600 for the Fire Fund, was made by Ryan Pratt, seconded by Rosanne Lehnen, motion carried.

11. Summer Recreation program through Community Education donation

Albany Area Schools Summer Recreation Program is requesting assistance with tuition for students in our Township. Each student receives a \$10 discount as a benefit when the township gives this assistance. In 2012, about 90 students received this benefit. A motion to have \$1,000 to go to Community Education was made by Mike Noll, seconded by Ken Krebs, motion carried.

12. Payment to City of Albany for rental of room

The Township continues to use the City of Albany's Council Chambers for meetings. In the past few years we have paid them \$600 for this use.

A motion to continue the payment of \$600 to the City of Albany for the use of their meeting rooms was made by Mike Noll, seconded by Rick Rosen, motion carried.

13. Discussion on legal posting places–Stearns Bank, Credit Union, Albany City Hall

The posting places for Albany Township are Stearns Bank (Albany Branch), Central Minnesota Credit Union (Albany Branch), Albany City Hall

A motion to continue with the proposed posting places was made by Linda Kotzer, seconded by Chris Kotzer, motion carried.

14. Legal Newspaper–Albany Enterprise

Currently we are using the Albany Enterprise for our legal notices. A motion to continue with Albany Enterprise for our legal newspaper was made by Rick Rosen, seconded by Linda Kotzer, motion carried.

15. Decision on Poll Hours, meeting place and time for 2014 election and annual meeting – Date March 11, 2014, 2–8 P.M. Board of canvass 8:15 P.M., Meeting to follow at 8:30 P.M.

A motion to have our 2014 election polls open from 2–8 P.M. on March 11, 2014, with the board of canvass and Annual Meeting to follow was made by Dean Berckes, seconded by Rosanne Lehnen, motion carried.

16. 2013 Election Results

A total of 64 residents voted today.

Elected to a three year term was Tim Nierenhausen with 34 votes and Richard Primus receiving 30 votes.

17. Open Forum

–Web sight –the websight address is on the agenda. Please add your email address to the list, you will then be notified of upcoming events.

John Kotzer–who is up on Planning Commission –Gary Bloch, he has submitted his letter of intent.

Rick Rosen–Because Sunnybrook blades the gravel from our roads into the ditches, it is very difficult for Forster Excavating to drop his binder down to cut the right-of-ways. Why is Sunnybrook grading the road so wide?

Chris Kotzer–states there is lots of talk/complaining, but no one comes to the meeting.

John Kotzer–If you leave the water on the road, we need to have a crown on the road to drain the road appropriately.

Ken Krebs–Orchard Road–is also getting moved over, and gravel is being graded into the ditches.

Ken Krebs–crushed concrete or crushed gravel which are we using on our roads?

Tim Nierenhausen–we have used both, concrete is dustier, but packs nice.

18. Meeting adjourned

Their being no further business to come before this meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Chris Kotzer, seconded by Dean Berckes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Noll

Clerk/Treasurer

Approved minutes signed. _____
Meeting Moderator Date

Approved minutes signed. _____
Township Chair Date