

## ALBANY TOWNSHIP-ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 11, 2014

### UNAPPROVED

The board of canvas was held at 8.15 P.M. The Township Board noted the results of the 2014 Annual Election.

**Opening and Pledge** The Annual Township Meeting was held on the 11 day of March, 2014 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. 14 residents were in attendance.

**Introduction of Township and Planning Board Members**—Members present were Supervisors Tim Nierenhausen, Mary Rosen, absent, Rosanne Lehnen. Commissioners present were Mike Noll, Gary Bloch, and Ryan Pratt.

**Nomination of Meeting Moderator** – Mike Noll nominated Gary Bloch for meeting moderator, seconded by Rick Rosen, after three calls for nominations, Dean Berckes moved to close nominations, seconded by Ryan Pratt, motion carried.

**Approval of agenda**—Clerk Noll requested to add Fire Department report to be added to the agenda after the Weed Control Report. Motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Chris Kotzer, seconded by Mike Noll, motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes** –Clerk Noll read the minutes, a motion to approve the 2013 Annual Meeting minutes was made by Rich Rosen, seconded by Chris Kotzer, motion carried.

**Treasurers Report** – The Financial Statement ending December 12, 2013 was read by Clerk Noll. A motion to approve the Treasures report was made by Dean Berckes, seconded by John Kotzer, motion carried.

**Planning Commission Report—Chairman Mike Noll** –This past year, after many meetings the Planning Commission approved the Comprehensive Plan. In December a public hearing was held and the plan was sent to the Township board for approval. The board approved the Plan in February of 2014. Copies are available to view at the library, or from Clerk Noll. Jerry Forster has been doing an outstanding job as Zoning Administrator.

**Jerry Forster—Zoning Administrator—Permit report** This past year, there were 13 township permits issued and 7 county permits. 1 stop work order was done and this was corrected. Copies of the building permit are available for all to review.

**Road Report–Supervisor Rosen**–The spring of 2013 was very wet, which caused washouts and wash-boarding of the roads. Gravel was placed on the areas that needed repair. Later in the summer the roads were very dry and there were again problems with wash-boarding. Roads were watered down and graded.

This past year we graveled and placed calcium chloride on the north west quarter of the township. Graveling was finished on May 29 and chloride was completed on June 7.

The remaining .73 miles of 330 Street was seal coated and finished on June 18.

3 Tons of crack sealer was placed on our roads by Seal King

Major work was completed on 360 Street with the culvert being replaced. We also had the culvert replaced on 350 Street.

Brush clearing was done in the north east quarter of the township.

We hired a new contractor to cut our right-of-ways and have been very satisfied with his performance.

Because of the large snowfall this winter, we had to hire out moving the snow around the intersections.

In 2014 it is planned to gravel the north east quarter along with calcium chloride. Extensive work is also planned for St. Anna Drive.

#### **Resident Comments:**

John Kotzer –Are there plans to tar any roads? We keep falling behind with improvements, we should have a plan for tarring a road a year. Many roads in the township were built to be tarred now they are old and need to be rebuilt before we can tar the. Rushmeyer Lake Road and Meadowviw Drive could both be done. Tarring a mile or ½ mile very year would be a good start.

Rich Rosen–Does amount of traffic on roads make a priority for which roads get tarred? 251 Avenue has a large amount of traffic because of the trucks and employees going to Galaxy Precision. Should that road be a priortiy? Have we ever thought about the county taking over some of the heavily traveled roads?

Paul Rushmeyer–once these road are tarred, how to we enforce the weight restrictions? That is how we can protect the tarred roads. In this area with it being mostly ag, there are no restrictions for the ag vehicles, these will tear up our roads.

Rick Rosen –Complimented Sunnybrook on the improvement in the grading.

**Weed Control Report–Supervisor Lehnen** Because of the unpredictable spring, our seasonal ditch spraying was delayed. Our first spraying was not completed until August 29. This is the second year

that our contractor has delayed the spraying, we will be searching for a new contractor in 2014. Agriculture (Weed) Inspector, Bob Dunning assisted in the tour of the township, this was completed on August 1. There were four residents contacted about their noxious weeds. Compliance was met with all complaints.

**Fire Department report-Supervisor Nierenhausen** The Albany Fire Department purchased a new truck, washing machine and sprinkler system. These items were purchased from funds gained with charitable gambling. They have also received some grants to pay for new equipment. In February 2014, the fire department reviewed their Policy for establishing Fees for Emergency Protection Services. This had not been reviewed since 2009. Fees were increased and how they bill residents was changed.

**Budget for 2015**–The budget for 2015 was discussed. A motion to approve \$54,100 for the General Revenue Fund, was made by Mike Noll, seconded by Ryan Pratt, motion carried. A motion to approve \$273,765.00 for the Road and Bridge Fund was made by Chris Kotzer seconded by Mike Noll , motion carried. A motion to approve \$37,135 for the Fire fund was made by John Kotzer, seconded by Rich Rosen, motion carried.

**Summer recreation program**–Motion to approve \$1,000 for support of our students attending summer courses at Albany Community Education was made by Chris Kotzer, seconded by John Kotzer, motion carried.

**Payment to City of Albany for Room Rental**–A motion to pay city of Albany \$700 for room rental was made by John Kotzer, seconded by Dean Berckes, motion carried.

**Request to purchase new Computer and printer for Clerk/Treasurer** In 2015, the state is updating the CTAS program, this is the accounting program used by the clerk. The computer we now have will not be compatible with the new software. It is requested we transfer \$7,000 from savings to purchase a new computer and printer/copier for the clerk's office. A motion to approve the transfer of \$7,000 for the purchase of new computer/printer was made by John Kotzer, seconded by Paul Rushmeyer, motion carried.

**Discussion on legal posting places**–Current posting places are Stearns Bank, Albany Central Minnesota Credit Union, and Albany City Hall. A motion to continue with the same posting places made by Chris Kotzer, seconded by Mike Noll, motion carried.

**Legal Newspaper-Albany Enterprise or post notices on web sight**-Discussion was had to have the notices only posted on the web-sight and not in the paper. A motion to have postings continue in the paper and have the Albany Enterprise as our official paper was made by Paul Rushmeyer, seconded by John Kotzer, motion carried.

**Decision on poll hours and meeting time for 2015** March 10, 2015, Election times 2-8 P.M. At the City of Albany, Council Chambers.with the Board of Canvas at 8:15 and the Meeting to follow at 8:30. Motion to approve was made by Mike Noll, seconded by Gary Bloch, motion carried.

**2014 Election results**-30 residents voted-Supervisor-Mary Rosen (3 year term ) 27 votes, John Kotzer 1 vote Clerk/Treasurer (2 Year Term)-Diane Noll 27 votes

**Open Forum**-Information was presented on the proposed Geronimo Energies Wind Farm that is being considered north of the city of Albany.

**Meeting adjournment**-There being no further business to come before this meeting, a motion to adjourn was made by Chris Kotzer, seconded by Mike Noll, meeting adjourned at 10:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane E Noll  
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved Minutes  
signed. \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Moderator

Date

Approved Minutes signed.

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Township Chair

Date