

**OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRANT VALLEY TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING, TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021.**

**The Annual Meeting of the Town of Grant Valley was held at the Grant Valley Town Hall on the second Tuesday in March 2021, that being the 9th day, beginning at 8:15 p.m. Eight (8) residents were present.**

**The meeting was convened by Clerk Schmidt followed by the pledge to the flag.**

**MODERATOR CHOSEN:**

The Clerk asked if anyone would like to volunteer to be Moderator or would like to nominate a Moderator and no-one spoke up. Nora Shanahan nominated Russell Hiltz to act and said nomination was seconded by Bob Hiltz. Russell Hiltz was given the Moderator's Oath and took the chair.

**TELLERS APPOINTED:**

Moderator Hiltz appointed Lester Hiltz to serve as Teller for the evening.

**2020 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES:**

Nora Shanahan made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and accept them as corrected. Motion was seconded by Bob Hiltz and carried on unanimous voice call vote.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

Nora Shanahan made a motion, seconded by Lester Hiltz to waive the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried on unanimous voice call vote.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS:**

Nora Shanahan reported on Animal Control. We belong to BRACO and the current Animal Control Officer is Keith Christiansen. His phone number is on the township website. Nora reported that the main thing that was worked on this year was re-writing the Animal Control Ordinance. Now the 1<sup>st</sup> citation is \$100.00, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> is \$200.00. There was also a designation made for a dangerous dog. If there is a dog bite, there is a citation issued for sure. Cruelty of animals must be reported through the Humane Society. Most all calls are for cats or dogs. A dangerous designation means there must be a sign in the yard stating so, the person can be fined if the animal runs loose, the animal can also be taken away under certain circumstances.

Russell Hiltz reported on the Roads. We have the same road contractor as last year. We crack sealed the Fern Lake Road and River View Heights this year along with seal coating Adams Ave, Johnsville, Grant Valley and Archery Roads. Fern Lake Road and River Heights are being looked at to seal coat this year. A Grant Application was just sent in for paving of Fern Lake Road from the point it stops to the end. The amount of that Grant Application was \$966,950.00. If it were awarded to the township the township would be responsible for the engineering costs which would be approximately \$90,000.00. The development on the Grant Hills Road has 3 spurs off the main road that were never maintained and need to be shaped up and named.

Russell Hiltz also reported on the Fire Association. Dave Hofer, the Fire Chief, retired at the end of the year. Justin Sherwood has been hired as the new Fire Chief. The fire department went out to Oregon and helped with fires out there and should be reimbursed \$123,000.00 for costs associated with their help. The new fire station up on Sumac Road is up and running. Mike Chock built the building and is leasing it to the Fire Association for \$7,200.00 a month. There was a Grant from the SBA received and the fire association in the amount of \$320,000.00 and a match of 10% of that will need to be paid so the fire association will be paying \$31,800.00. This grant is for all new equipment backpacks. The fire association will be buying a

new pumper truck next fall or spring. Takes about 12 months to get it from the day it is ordered. This past year Grant Valley Township had 5 fires, 2 rescues, 6 good intent calls and 3 false calls. The total for the Fire Association was 968 total calls and there were no deaths. There was a loss of property value of \$1,558,000.00 but approximately \$8,000,000.00 in value was saved. They are also working on a grant for new radios. The levy will be going up because the City annexed a bunch of Northern Township.

Russell Hiltz also reported that the township received some CARES funding this past fall, but it was limited to COVID expenses so new chairs and tables were purchased, a new water heater, new voting booths, all signs and cleaning supplies for the township for COVID as well. \$5,000.00 of that money was donated to the Fire Department and \$5,000.00 of that money was donated to the First Responders. The remaining amount had to be given to Beltrami County. The township will be getting more money if the new legislation is passed. We are told this time it will not be as restrictive.

The proposed Levies are \$40,550.00 the General Fund, \$311,600.00 for Road and Bridge and \$88,000.00 for the Fire Fund.

### **DONATIONS:**

There is \$1,500.00 set aside for donations. Many letters were received from organizations that did not have anyone here to speak on their behalf.

Nora Shanahan spoke on behalf of the Great River Rescue. Russell Hiltz spoke on behalf of the First Responders and Nora Shanahan also spoke on behalf of the Senior Center.

Nora Shanahan made a motion to divide the \$1,500.00 the township has set aside for the donations equally between the 3 organizations. Cheryl Hiltz seconded motion. Paper ballots were used, and the vote was approved 8 yes and 0 no.

### **SETTING OF LEVIES:**

Cheryl Hiltz asked about the reserve money that we have. Russell Hiltz indicated that it is suggested that we have about 1.5 times our levy in reserves. Discussion held. The General and Road and Bridge funds are good with reserves, but the Fire Fund is not.

Nora Shanahan made a motion to set the General Fund Levy at \$40,660.00. Bob Hiltz seconded motion. Paper ballots were used, and the vote was approved 8 yes and 0 no.

Nora Shanahan made a motion to set the Road and Bridge Levy at \$311,600.00. Cheryl Hiltz seconded motion. Paper ballots were used, and the vote was approved 8 yes and 0 no.

Joshua Burnham asked if the fire levy should be more since it was going up and we had low reserves. Discussion held. Joshua Burnham made a motion to set the Fire Levy at \$88,000.00. Lester Hiltz seconded motion. Paper ballots were used, and the vote was approved 8 yes and 0 no.

### **ELECTION RESULTS:**

The Clerk read the election results – Supervisor Russell Hiltz was re-elected to his position on a vote of 33 yes, 3 blank and 2 write-ins. Bob Hiltz was elected as Supervisor over Joshua Burnham on a vote of 21 to 17. This is to fulfill Nora Shanahan's term for one year.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Nora Shanahan was thanked for her service the past years.

**2022 ANNUAL MEETING:**

Nora Shanahan made a motion to set the 2022 Annual Meeting at 8:15 p.m. at the Grant Valley Town Hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, that being the second Tuesday. Lester Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote.

Nora Shanahan made a motion to adjourn. Lester Hiltz seconded motion and it carried on unanimous voice call vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Schmidt, Clerk

Russell Hiltz, Moderator

3/12/2021