

ALBORN TOWNSHIP

Amanda Ellefson, Clerk

6388 Hwy 7

Alborn, MN 55702

(218) 591-7169

Alborn.Clerk@gmail.com

March 11, 2025

The Annual Town Meeting was called to Order by Amanda Ellefson, Clerk, at 6:00 pm. Present at the meeting included: Chuck Fosness, Jr, Kurt Johnson, and Tarah Vitek, Supervisors; Amanda Ellefson, Clerk; Ronda Bernard, Deputy Clerk; Christine Wolvin, Treasurer; Jack Carlson, Cory McDonald, Kinsley Archambault, Gavin Willeck, Dale Larson, Janet Larson, Randy Stahl, Amy Stahl, Kurt Lind, Jim Larson, and Linsey Larson.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR

Amanda made a motion to elect Andy Bernard as the Moderator for the meeting. Christine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Jack made a motion to approve the minutes. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Christine read the Financial Report for 2024. Tarah made a motion to approve the 2024 Treasurer's Report. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SSD REPORT

Chuck reviewed the SSD Annual Report submitted by AUS, which provides operations, maintenance, and management of ALSSD. The report included goals for 2025.

Tarah provided an update on securing land from St Louis County for possible expansion of ALSSD.

ROAD REPORT

Tarah provided a Road Report of projects completed in 2024 and goals for 2025. Jim Larson took over the work for Township roads this past year.

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT

Kurt read the 2024 Community Center Report. Kurt thanked John and Kitty Klausen for their work in maintaining and cleaning the Community Center and grounds.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jack Carlson, Alborn Fire Chief, presented the Fire Department report and Financial Report for 2024. Jack also presented the Fire Department Levy request in 2025, payable in 2026.

Dale brought up an idea for the rural Fire Departments to demonstrate to the State and local legislators how much area they cover by applying for a grant to hire an individual to conduct a study. This study could possibly help tell the story of the need to fund rural fire departments.

Jack provided updates and goals for the Fire Department. Currently there are 21 members. The Fire Department is working on updating the tanker. Radios need to be updated by 2030 to be compliant (encrypted radios); a grant secured \$38,000 which purchased 8 radios (need 12 more). In the next 2-5 years, the side-by-side will need to be replaced as well as extrication equipment (moving to battery powered). In 5-10 years, a new engine and first responder vehicle will need to be secured (current newest engine is 30 years old).

Some additional goals Jack brought up was having water available in the front of the building and a new refrigerator.

Jack went over the various committees of the Fire Department and their roles.

SELECT A DEPOSITORY FOR TOWN FUNDS

Christine made a motion to use Wells Fargo as a depository for 2025. Chuck seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SELECT A TOWNSHIP NEWSPAPER FOR PUBLICATION

Tarah made a motion to continue using Voyageur Press as our Township Newspaper. Christine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ESTABLISH POSTING PLACE FOR TOWN NOTICES

Christine made a motion to keep the Community Center as the posting board for the Township. Dale seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

TOWN BOARD COVERAGE FOR WORKER'S COMPENSATION

Dale made a motion that members of the Board be covered by Workman's Compensation. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF SPONSORSHIP OF THE GRANT-IN-AID PROGRAM FOR ALBORN SNO-DEVILS TRAIL SYSTEM

Jack shared that the 72 miles of trails have been brushed hogged and raked. It was a slow year for snowmobiling this year, due to the weather.

Jack made a motion to continue sponsorship for the Grant-in-Aid Program for the Alborn Sno-Devils Trail System. Dale seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MILEAGE

Christine made a motion to follow the IRS guidelines for mileage reimbursement rate for 2025. Dale seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

DONATIONS

MEADOWLANDS AMBULANCE SERVICE: Andrew read the letter for donation from Meadowlands Ambulance. Jack made a motion to donate \$4000 to Meadowlands Ambulance Service. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SOUTH RIDGE ALL NIGHT GRAD PARTY: Dale made a motion to donate \$700 to the South Ridge All Night Grad Party. Linsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SPRUCE HILL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION: Dale made a motion to donate \$750 to Spruce Hill Cemetery Association. Christine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

TESTER NIEMI POST 562: Christine made a motion to donate \$500 to Tester Niemi Post 562. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SOUTH RIDGE PTSO: Dale made a motion to donate \$500 to the South Ridge PTSO. Linsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SOUTH RIDGE AREA YOUTH BASEBALL: Jack made a motion to donate \$1000 to South Ridge Area Youth Baseball. Dale seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SOUTH RIDGE PANTHER SOFTBALL: Chuck made a motion to donate \$300 to South Ridge Panther Softball. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SOUTH RIDGE PANTHER BASEBALL/BASKETBALL/FOOTBALL: Dale made a motion to donate \$300 each to South Ridge Baseball, South Ridge Basketball, and South Ridge Football. Christine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SOUTH RIDGE COMMUNITY EDUCATION: Andrew read a letter regarding a Community Wellness Event sponsored by South Ridge Community Education asking for donations toward the event. Dale made a motion to donate \$300 to South Ridge Community Education. Chuck seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SOUTH RIDGE TRAP TEAM: Tarah made a motion to donate \$300 to South Ridge Trap Team. Linsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

LEVY

Dale made a motion to keep the General Fund at \$75,000 plus donations for 2026. Christine seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Christine made a motion to increase the Road and Bridge Levy to \$60,000 for 2026. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dale made a motion to approve the Fire Department Levy of \$50,953. Kurt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SET TIME, DATE, AND PLACE FOR 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

Linsey made a motion to set March 10, 2026 at 6:00 pm for the Annual Meeting at the Alborn Community Center. March 17, 2026 is the alternate date, in the event of bad weather. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT OR CONCERN

Dale indicated that his sister allowed for a gravel pit on her property, which was recently approved by St. Louis County. The pit is in Ness Township, but most of the traffic will be occurring in Alborn Township. Dale suggested that the Board be notified of this pit, which the Township did receive notice of a pit, but there was no specific address provided of the pit.

The Township honored Dale for his 25 years of service as a Supervisor in Alborn Township.

Tarah made a motion to adjourn. Chuck seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Ellefson, Clerk