

ALBORN TOWNSHIP

Amanda Ellefson, Clerk

6388 Hwy 7

Alborn, MN 55702

(218) 591-7169

Alborn.Clerk@gmail.com

March 12, 2024

The Annual Town Meeting was called to Order by Amanda Ellefson, Clerk, at 6:05 pm. Present at the meeting included: Dale Larson, Kurt Johnson, and Tarah Vitek, Supervisors; Amanda Ellefson, Clerk; Ronda Bernard, Deputy Clerk; Christine Wolvin, Treasurer; Linsey Larson, Deputy Treasurer; Susan Johnson, Tom Johnson, Jim Olcott, Jodie Snickers, Andrew Bernard, Molly Bernard, Mick Sertich, Sergeant Erik Peterson, Corey McDonald, Jack Carlson, Jim Larson, Pete Sylvester, Mary Jo Gunderson, Merlon Hills, Linda Vitek, Amy Welsh, Karen Hoerz, Joe Hoerz, Eric Applewick, and Tim Johnson.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR

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

The 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Tarah made a motion to approve the minutes. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sergeant Erik Peterson was in attendance to present the Sheriff's Report and answer resident questions. Sergeant Peterson is a resident of Alborn Township.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Christine read the Financial Report for 2023. Joe made a motion to approve the 2023 Treasurer's Report. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SSD REPORT

Eric Applewick of Advanced Utility Solutions (AUS) was in attendance to present updates and plans for the Sanitary Sewer District. Dale provided a brief history of the system and acknowledged all John Wolvin had done for the system over the years. Discussion of plans

moving forward without John Wolvin's daily services. Tarah noted that the Board is working with the County to secure property in the event the SSD needs to expand.

ROAD REPORT

Dale read the 2023 Road Report. Mick asked about policies for grading in the County vs. Township roads. Jim inquired into a low area of Aerie Lake Road. Dale provided information on grant programs, finances to pay for ditching, and other road work that needs to be addressed.

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT

Kurt read the 2023 Community Center Report. Linsay reminded all in attendance that the Community Center is available for rentals. Dale indicated that the Board of Commissioners has hosted meetings at the Community Center and encouraged residents to attend.

Linsay thanked the Alborn Township for the use of the facilities of the Community Center, on behalf of the Area Youth Baseball Association.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jack Carlson, Alborn Fire Chief, presented the Fire Department report and Financial Report for 2023. Jack also presented the Fire Department Levy request in 2024, payable in 2025.

Jack reviewed the Fire Department calls for 2023.

Jack provided information on Fire Department needs, primarily air packs. He also showed the new turnout gear that was purchased in 2023. In the next 5 years, the radios will need to be upgraded to encrypted radios. There may be some grant opportunities and the County is looking into funding options. The Fire Department will need a new engine in the next 5-10 years. There are committees being made in the Fire Department to work on the specific needs and a grant committee to support the needs of the department. Also, fundraising opportunities to assist in building funds for the needs of the Fire Department, primarily a spaghetti feed in the fall.

Jack also showed those in attendance the AED that has been purchased for the Community Center.

Dale explained the State does not assist in funding volunteer Fire Departments. He encouraged residents to reach out to legislators to encourage funding from the State for rural Fire Departments.

SELECT A DEPOSITORY FOR TOWN FUNDS

Christine made a motion to use Wells Fargo as a depository for 2024. Dale seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SELECT A TOWNSHIP NEWSPAPER FOR PUBLICATION

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

TOWN BOARD COVERAGE FOR WORKER'S COMPENSATION

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

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

Craig Olson, Sno-Devils President, submitted information for the meeting regarding the Alborn Sno-Devils, which noted that the trails were 100% ready to go, but Mother Nature did not cooperate this year. Local businesses have also suffered, due to the lack of snow this winter.

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

ALBORN DIRT DEVILS REPORT

Kurt read the 2023 Alborn Dirt Devils Report. Discussion and questions from residents regarding proposed additional trails in the area. Residents encouraged to attend Dirt Devil meetings, with the next meeting this Thursday.

Joe made a motion to continue sponsorship for the Grant-in-Aid Program for the Alborn Dirt Devils. Jim seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MILEAGE

Christine made a motion to follow the IRS guidelines for mileage reimbursement rate for 2024. Karen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

DONATIONS

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

SOUTH RIDGE ALL NIGHT GRAD PARTY: Dale made a motion to donate \$500 to the South Ridge All Night Grad Party. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

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

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

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

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

PANTHER SUMMER SOFTBALL: Andrew made a motion to donate \$500 to Panther Summer Softball. Tarah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

LEVY

Dale made a motion to keep the General Fund at \$75,000 plus donations for 2024. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Kurt made a motion to increase the Road and Bridge Levy to \$55,000 for 2025. Joe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dale made a motion to approve the Fire Department Levy of \$40.029. Jack seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SET TIME, DATE, AND PLACE FOR 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

Dale made a motion to set March 11, 2025 at 6:00 pm for the Annual Meeting at the Alborn Community Center. March 18, 2025 is the alternate date, in the event of bad weather. Kurt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT OR CONCERN

Joe announced that on May 4, 2024 the Alborn Dirt Devils will have their Annual Ride/Rally. More information to be coming.

Susan asked about the speed limit on Aerie Lake Road. Any unmarked gravel road is 55 miles per hour.

Mick made a statement for residents to be aware of our surroundings and to keep our Township safe.

Joe made a motion to adjourn. Kurt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Ellefson, Clerk

Linsey Larson, Moderator