

Milona Township Annual Meeting

March 12, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Tom Blank at 8:00 pm, 22 electors were present for the meeting. The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Gary Anderson made a motion to nominate Jerome Haggemiller for moderator and Doug Hunt seconded the motion. Tom called for any more nominations three times and hearing none, vote was taken and motion passed.

The minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting of Milona Township was read, and a motion by Don Henning and seconded by Gary Anderson to accept the minutes, motion carried.

Gary Anderson gave a road report by discussing the expenditures for the 2012 and how the costs were down due to the unusual weather conditions. We spent only \$ 3,759.00 on snow removal for one thing, didn't have to steam out any culverts and no major road repairs. We have submitted three grants for road projects, one was denied and two we will know in April if we received the grants. These grants are for North Lake Milona Drive and for the Vermont Access Road. Our grant for Hamms Creek improvements was denied. Gary thanked R & R for their services this year. A motion by Doug Hunt and seconded by Ron Tschaekofske, motion carried.

Fire Report was given by Doug Hunt. In 2012 there were 68 calls, 46 of which were in Milona Township and no structure fire, 33 emergency services. The 2012 budget of \$86,000 ended with a surplus of \$ 11,301. This means the 72.66% of the surplus will go to reduce our share of the 2014 budget set by the fire board. Instead of paying \$62,485 we will pay \$54,352 into the \$86,000 budget for 2014. Still working off the fire contract that dates back to 1982 and have passed a motion at the last monthly meeting to dissolve the contract and inquire into other avenues of fire service and cost computation. We don't want to be in the business of owning a fire department, just contracting for service. A motion by Matt Kugler and seconded by Don Henning, motion carried.

Weed Report was given by Gary Anderson. Gary started off by saying thanks again to Rick Mittag for his assistance in answering questions whenever Gary stopped in. Gary once again handled weed issues by stopping by and talking to landowners as this practice saw great response and action last year. 9 places were visited this and no return visits were required. Paynesville Coop sprayed the ditches again this year and we may look to do more of this in house next year. A motion by Doug Hunt and seconded by Reiny Luedeke, motion carried.

Matt Kugler gave the gopher report. 73 pair of gopher feet was turned in this year. Again we will budget a small dollar amount for this, but will continue our policy of not levying for it. Our fund balance has more than enough of a balance to make payment for a very large amount of

gopher feet to be turned in. A motion by Doug Hunt and seconded by Gary Anderson, motion carried.

Tom Blank reported on the CLRS fund balance. We have a remaining bond balance of \$391,183.35 with three payments left. Our assessments to come in yet amount to roughly \$483,387.03, which leaves an excess close to \$92,500. 37 landowners have paid off their assessments in full at this time for any number of reasons; 13 in 2012, 12 in 2011, 8 in 2010, and 4 in the fall of 2009. We will roughly pay out \$101,130.97 in interest when all done; this in comparison to the bond schedule of \$125,767.36 shows a savings of \$24,636.40 in interest alone and as you will see, we are not going to levy any amount for interest on debt in the 2014 levy coming up. Our fund balance currently sits at \$35,310.09, which has increased from \$29,806.03 since the first of the year because of delinquent taxes that landowners have paid since October 15, 2012, when real estate taxes were due. A motion by Reiny Luedeke and seconded by Ron Tschaekofske, motion carried.

Gary Anderson gave the Assessors report of the township. For the 2013 Assessment sales from October 1, 2011 thru September 30, 2012 are used. The biggest change will be on tillable land with some instances seeing an increase by 45%. This is due to the sale price of the land being way above the assessed value of the land. We are currently at a sales ratio of 77.61%; the state sets a minimum of 90%. That's why the county will be adjusting the valuations of property to be in alignment with state standards. The County will again be administrating the Board of Equalization for the township and you need to make an appointment with the Assessor's office if you wish to discuss your valuation. The date for Miltona Township is set for April 13th at 9 am in the Assessor's office. You can call for appointments at 320-762-3884. A motion by Doug Hunt and seconded by Ralph Buelke to accept the Assessor Report, motion carried.

With no more old business the meeting moved on to New Business.

Donations from the township need to be approved by the electors of the township and Lakes Area Recreation annually asks for a contribution which has been taken care of at a monthly meeting. The correct way for this to take place is at the annual meeting. Tom presented information and what our annual contribution and how it is calculated as given to him by Fritz Bukowski, the LAR director. We have annually given to the organization, this year sees a \$ 44.75 increase to \$1,001.25 for the 2014 budget. This is well below other townships and cities in the county, based on the computation by LAR. We contribute \$1.25 per person. Contributions vary from \$.35 to \$5.50. A motion by Ralph Buelke and seconded by Jason Bous to make the annual contribution, motion carried. Fire contract was discussed again as it was presented in the Fire Report, we will be issuing a letter to the City of Miltona and Spruce Hill Township to give the one year notice of intentions to dissolve as the contract requires. This will hopefully push the issue of reworking the current contract. Open book meeting covered in the Assessors Report by Gary Anderson.

Budget Setting

General Fund \$ 40,000 M/S by Don Henning and Gary Anderson, motion carried.
 Road Fund \$180,000 M/S by Doug Hunt and Gary Anderson, motion carried.
 Fire Fund \$ 54,358 M/S by Doug Hunt and Don Henning, motion carried.
 Chloride \$ 30,000 M/S by Gary Anderson and Doug Hunt, motion carried.
 Gopher \$ 200 M/S by Ron Tschaekofske and Doug Hunt, motion carried.
 CLRS D Interest \$ 2,200 M/S by Doug Hunt and Gary Anderson, motion carried.

A 2014 total Budget of \$ 306,758.00

Levy Setting

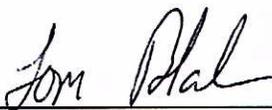
General Fund \$ 30,000 M/S by Doug Hunt and Matt Kugler, motion carried.
 Road Fund \$ 125,000 M/S by Don Henning and Gary Anderson, motion carried.
 Fire Fund \$ 55,000 M/S by Gary Anderson and Doug Hunt, motion carried.
 Chloride \$ 25,000 M/S by Ron Tschaekofske and Matt Kugler, motion carried.
 Gopher \$ 0 M/S by Doug Hunt and Matt Kugler, motion carried.
 CLRS D Interest \$ 0 M/S by Gary Anderson and Doug Hunt, motion carried.

A 2014 total Levy of \$ 235,000.00

A note to the levy setting of the road fund and it is no longer required to be a certain % of estimated market value; the state dropped this requirement for the 2014 year.

The 2014 Miltona Township Annual Meeting is set for Tuesday, March 11th at the Miltona Community Center at 8 pm. A motion by Doug Hunt and seconded by Matt Kugler, motion carried.

As there was no further business on the agenda, M/S by Doug Hunt and Gary Anderson to adjourn the 2013 Miltona Township Annual Meeting, motion carried.



 Tom Blank, Clerk



 Jerome Haggemiller, Moderator

