

## BALDWIN TOWNSHIP SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

August 12, 2008

**Call to Order** – The August 12, 2008 Baldwin Township Special Town Meeting was called to order by Clerk/Treasurer Cathy Stevens at 7:16 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Appointment of Moderator** – Kim Good nominated Jeff Holm. Elaine Philippi nominated Jess Hall. Jess Hall was installed as moderator.

**Comment Section**– A motion was made by Jeff Dotseth and seconded by Kim Good to limit the comment section to 2 minutes per resident. Motion carried.

**Approve Agenda With/Without Additions/Corrections** – A motion was made by Stephanie Ketterl and seconded by Jay Swanson to change the wording from “Approve 2009 Road & Bridge Levy” to “Approve/Disapprove Revised 2009 Road and Bridge Levy”. Discussion followed. Ketterl stated she would like to amend her motion to “Approve or disapprove revisions to Road and Bridge fund”. Seconded by Warren Jensen. The amendment was voted on and the motion carried. A vote on the main motion to approve/disapprove revisions to the 2009 Road and Bridge levy was carried. A motion was made by Jay Swanson and seconded by Kim Good to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**Opening Presentation** – Craig Hilburn gave the opening presentation.

**Jon Bogart, Town Engineer, Status of Township Roads** – Jon Bogart stated that he does not yet know the status of the roads as the town board has just authorized him to inspect the roads next month. Baldwin has grown significantly and currently has approximately 80 miles of road. The township needs to pay for maintenance costs but he has no idea of what should be spent on it. Preventative maintenance should be done. He is encouraging the town board to do a capital improvement plan which would look at the roads on a more objective basis.

A motion was made by Kim Good and seconded by Charles Grambart to increase the Road and Bridge fund to \$650,000, which is an additional \$250,000.

Comments from the residents were limited to 2 minutes.

Paul Vollkommer stated that a truck purchase was voted down at the July 8<sup>th</sup> town board meeting and the funds would be coming out of the Road and Bridge fund. Jeff Holm stated that Vollkommer was out of order as the funds would be coming out of the Capital fund if the truck was purchased. Vollkommer stated that the purchase was illegal and the truck shows that we have an excess. Vollkommer moves to reduce the Road and Bridge fund by \$53,000.

Mike Doyle stated that they have no idea of the condition of the roads so how are we supposed to vote tonight?

Stephanie Ketterl stated that the township needs some type of planner/zoning to be done with the township that would also address the maintenance of the roads. This matter should be tabled until the next Annual Meeting.

Jeff Holm stated that the townships main duty is to take care of drainage and maintenance of roads. The township has gone off track and there is definitely a need.

Llona Jorgenson stated that she is not ready to make a decision on information that we don't have and there should be no vote tonight.

Kim Good stated that the levy we are working on is for 2009. It costs approximately \$100,000 per mile just for a repave. A 20 year road can be a 40 year road if the township maintains it properly.

Quintin Reece stated that there is not enough information. All the supervisors have done is waste our money with a dive team that shouldn't have been and trucks that have been purchased illegally. The price of oil is coming down. We could wait a few more years than the price would come down to about a \$1 a gallon. The supervisors have demonstrated their irresponsibility so, send them a message and reduce the fund by \$53,000.

Marlys Heffron questioned how much the township would be paying for the evaluation. Jon Bogart answered that the money would be coming out of the Road and Bridge fund and would cost a couple of thousand dollars.

Elaine Philippi stated that if this money gets approved it is up to the board as to where they spend it. She suggests waiting 6-7 months as they do not have the correct information to make a smart vote.

Holly Bachmeyer stated that she has complained about her road and was told it was going to be fixed. Then she was told it would not be fixed, but patched. She was told there was a plan 2 years ago. Where is the plan?

Kim Good stated that the lady (Bachmeyer) is right. There is not enough to fix the road and there is no plan. An example would be 283<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. It has one layer on it and no money for the second lift. The road has been in the plans for 4 years.

Bryan Lawrence stated that there have been shots taken at the town board tonight. The meeting was not called by the board. This is a resident meeting. The board sat down in February for the March Annual Meeting and proposed \$400,000. Lawrence disagrees in increasing the levy.

Thomas Schulte stated that he lives on a dirt road for the past 41 years, Elk Lake Estates. He has been paying taxes for a long time and has not seen more than one grader go down and repair his road. He gets nothing in return, except grief, when he calls. He does not see any upkeep.

Paul Vollkommer stated that this meeting was not called by board members. It was called by Jeff Holm, Lester Kriesel and Jim Oliver. A quorum of the board. In other communities, they assess the people in that area. He appreciates Jon Bogart but feels it is a conflict of interest for him to sit here when his company will benefit.

Kim Good asked for the question to be called. The majority of residents were in favor of calling the question.

The residents voted on the main motion of increasing the Road and Bridge fund from \$400,000 to \$650,000 for 2009. Upon hand vote, the motion failed.

A motion was made by Quintin Reece and seconded by Paul Vollkommer to decrease the Road and Bridge fund by \$53,000. After discussion, a resident asked for the question to be called. Upon the vote, the motion failed.

A motion was made by Stephanie Ketterl to table until the Annual Meeting in March. Jess Hall informed her that the township needs to certify the 2009 levy by September 15. Their was no second to Ketterl's motion.

A motion was made by Stephanie Ketterl and seconded by Kim Good to leave the Road and Bridge levy as it is at \$400,000 for 2009 and revisit at the next Annual Meeting. Llona Jorgenson asked for the question to be called. The majority of residents were in favor of calling the question. Upon hand vote to leave the levy at \$400,000 and revisit the Road and Bridge budget at the next Annual Meeting, the motion carried.

**Adjourn** – An unknown resident made a motion to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. It was seconded by an unknown resident. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy Stevens  
Clerk/Treasurer

Attendees: Dennis Lindberg, Tim Jensen, Phil Herwig, Phil Fadden, Rodney Kriesel, Donna Kriesel, Doug Lepinski, Charles Grambart, Mari Owens, Karen Metcalf, Kim Good, Peggy Patten, Roger Patten, Craig Hilburn, Dalton Hoehn, Paul Vollkommer, Gail Engblom, Dan Engblom, Cindy Weissenfluh, Elaine Philippi, Joel Schafbuch, Richard Wergin, Michelle Ashe, Llona Jorgenson, Rudie Jorgenson, Rick Othoudt, Werner Janssen, Craig Hrkal, Cindy Hoffies, Scott Case, Nate Peterson, Shannon Peterson, Buffy Neske, Matt Bies, John Gaulke, Joel Johnson, Rita Warren, Devon Warren, Mervin Hauge, Julius Dorweiler,, Loren Devine-Vollkommer, Laura Devine-Vollkommer, Susan Marks, Thomas Schulte, Sharon Haggerty, June DeLong, Jerry DeLong, Jesse Ewert, Jess Hall, Becky Hall, Vincent Wendt, Angela Wendt, Rick Palmer, Mark Brander, Nancy Brander, Betty Dotseth, Mark Otis, Kim Otis, Holly Bachmeyer, Jim Oliver, Susanne Kenney, Jeffrey Ketterl, Stephanie Ketterl, Jan Thomsen, Ron Thomsen, Deb Johnson, Don Johnson, Judy Gilbert, Howard Gilbert, Jeff Dotseth, Charles Peterson, Carol Vollkommer, Sheryl Wendt,

Jay Swanson, Carol Swanson, Carroll Paananen, JoAnn Rose, Patricia Myers, Dean Myers, Barb Brown, Pat Brown, Phyllis Rust, John Rust, Olga Podtburg, Mary Paulus, Christi Miller, Bryan Lawrence, Jeff Holm, DeNice Janssen, Herb Murphy, Corrine Murphy, Harlan Larson, Shirley Larson, George Claassen, Karen Priem, Rick Priem, Regina Schafbuch, Darold Steffen, Duane Nelson, Diane Scheid, James Scheid, Quintin Reece, Denise Doyle, Michael Doyle, Ben Weiss, Marlys Heffron, Jerry Heffron, Marilyn Daun, Julie Watson, Carl Watson, Ann Martin, Ross Martin, Brad Chambers, Terry Carlile, Lester Kriesel, Jim Oliver