

## **BALDWIN TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 8, 2011**

Baldwin Township Deputy Clerk Cheryl Goetz Dobson called the 2011 Annual Meeting for the Town of Baldwin to order at 8:01 p.m. All citizens present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The deputy clerk accepted nominations for moderator. Terry Carlile nominated Bryan Lawrence. Since there were no other nominations Terry Carlile motioned and Brad Schumacher seconded to nominate Bryan Lawrence as moderator. Motion carried.

### **Additions/Corrections to Agenda**

Added to the agenda is "Loan Refinancing Options".

### **Approve Agenda**

A motion was made by Jeff Holm and seconded by Kim Good to approve the agenda with addition. Motion carried.

### **Approve March 10, 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Jeff Holm and seconded by Timothy Kane to dispense with the reading of the March 9, 2010 Annual Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by David Patten and seconded by Dennis Lindberg to approve the March 9, 2010 Annual Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

### **Board of Audit Report**

The Deputy Clerk read the February 16, 2011 Board of Audit report. The purpose of the Board of Audit is to have both receipts and disbursements randomly reviewed by the Township Board.

### **2010 Treasurer's Report**

The Deputy Clerk read the unaudited 2010 Treasurer's Report. The beginning balance along with the escrow accounts was \$627,911.64; receipts of \$1,061,640.54; disbursements of \$930,889.39 leaving an ending balance of \$652,350.57. This treasurer's report does not include payroll. It was explained that receipts not only include property taxes received by the township, but also includes but are not limited to gas tax, grants, small fees for services, gopher feet and criminal/public safety revenues.

### **Fire Department Report**

Chief Rademacher reported 199 calls for the year 2010. There are now 28 firefighters on the Northeast Sherburne County Fire and Rescue Department. Goals of the Department include reducing the ISO rating, and working with neighboring cities in regards to automatic aid. Outreach and exposure to the community includes participating in parades, a September 11 Tribute, evacuation training, Fire Prevention Open House and mock crash exercises before Prom Night.

Rademacher extended an invitation to anyone who would like to tour the department. The firefighters in attendance were acknowledged for their service.

### **Baldwin Park Committee Progress Report**

After saying that great strides and progress have been made at the Young Park Tom Rush turned the report over to David Patten who elaborated on the individual areas of progress. Coordination through the township clerk can be made if anyone is interested in volunteering at the park.

Patten was asked to explain and update the 4R Board. The Rum River Recreation and Resources Board was inspired by a grass-roots citizen led initiative. The goal of the 4R Board is to create an interconnected trail and greenway system of open space, waterways, trails, parks, etc. in the region to preserve lands before the path of unplanned development sets its course.

### **Road Report**

Since the winter of 2010-2011 has been far more snowy than in previous years, Jay Swanson reported that there have been 32 rounds of trucks for snowplowing already this year. The 2011 construction projects are out for bid; the township is hoping to tag team with the county in order to reduce the cost of the projects. Swanson commended the maintenance personnel for doing a great job. He reported that Minnesota passed a mandate to force an update on retro reflectivity signs. By 2015 all the signs need to have been replaced.

### **Healthy Communities Partnership/Minnesota Public Radio Information Update**

A grant was awarded at the beginning of 2010. Baldwin Township offered a supper to the residents to gather ideas and formulate goals for the future. Formed were the Government Innovation Planning Task Force whose plan is to generate a formal emergency universal addressing system, Park and Open Space Task Force is to keep the park visible with more activities, and the Economic Development Task Force whose purpose is to generate interest and foster businesses.

### **Princeton Area Library Presentation & Request for Funding**

No one present to request funding.

### **Princeton All Night Senior Party Request for Funding**

Presenting were Mary Ward and Dave Cowles. The All Night Senior Party requested help with finances of \$500.00. No action taken.

### **2012 Budget Proposal**

Jeff Holm welcomed everyone.

He reviewed, by fund, the proposed budget for 2012. The following is the proposed 2012 budget that had been determined by the town board prior to the Annual Meeting:

	<u>PROPOSED FOR 2012</u>	<u>CERTIFIED FOR 2011</u>
GENERAL FUND	\$175,000	\$185,000
ROAD & BRIDGE	\$280,256	\$385,000
CAPITAL FUND	\$ 5,000	\$ 75,000
FIRE FUND	\$ 90,000	\$137,000
CEMETERY FUND	\$ 0	\$ 1,000
PARK FUND	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$231,744	\$ 0
 TOTAL	 \$784,000	 \$784,000

Holm explained that the General Fund was reduced by \$10,000 based on the Town Boards objective not to increase the levy. The reduction of the Road and Bridge Fund monies were fed into the Debt Service Fund. The Town Board decided not to supply the Capital Fund since there are no major purchases planned. The Fire Fund was reduced for operating costs only. The payments for trucks and building are proposed to come out of the Debt Service Fund.

The levy proposal was put together by the Town Board where dollars were simply shifted and put into the Debt Service Fund. This eliminates the necessity for the Town Board to make motions of transfers from the different funds. All the obligations are being met.

There is some carryover to work with; therefore the township appears fairly healthy.

#### **Loan Refinancing Options**

After stating different reasons for financing Chuck Nagel made an advisory motion that was seconded by Tim Kane to have the Town Board check into refinancing options. After discussion by the assembly the motion fails.

#### **Approve 2012 Budget/Levy**

A motion was made by Kim Good and seconded by Dillion Howard to raise the Road and Bridge levy by \$200,000. It was determined that an increase of \$200,000 in the levy would raise taxes approximately \$30.00 on a home that has a taxable value of \$100,000. After discussion and considering the carryover in the road and bridge fund, with a showing of hands of 34 ayes and 19 nays the motion carries.

A motion was made by Tim Kane and seconded by Chuck Nagle to increase the Debt Service levy an additional \$68,256 for the purpose of giving the town board further leverage to bring down debt. There was discussion on the tax increase to individual parcels. Question was called. Motion failed.

With the increase of the Road and Bridge Fund of \$200,000 the total levy for 2012 would be \$984,000. A motion was made by Paul Vollkommer and seconded by Sue Hix to approve the increased levy. Motion carries.

The approved 2012 Baldwin Township levy is:

GENERAL FUND	\$175,000
ROAD & BRIDGE	\$480,256
CAPITAL FUND	\$ 5,000
FIRE FUND	\$ 90,000
CEMETERY FUND	\$ 0
PARK FUND	\$ 2,000
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$231,744
TOTAL	\$984,000

#### **Election Results**

Deputy Clerk Cheryl Goetz Dobson provided the election results to attendees at the Annual Meeting. For the Baldwin Township Supervisor "B" position for a two (2) year term Special Election, candidate Randy Atwood received 122 votes. Candidate Lester Kriesel received 105 votes. Candidate Brad Schumacher received 118 votes. Fourteen under votes were cast. Total of 361 votes cast.

For the Baldwin Township Supervisor "C" position, candidate Kimberly Good received 145 votes. Candidate Chuck Nagle received 126 votes. Candidate Paul Vollkommer received 89 votes. One under vote was cast. Total of 361 votes cast.

#### **General Discussion of Items of Concern**

None

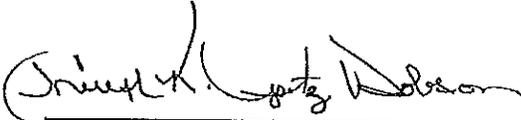
#### **Legal Publisher, Depository, Public Postings**

The moderator stated that the current legal publisher is the Princeton Union-Eagle, the depository is Bremer Bank and the public postings are the town hall and Marv's True Value.

The 2012 Annual Meeting will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in March, 2012 at 8:01 p.m.

#### **Adjourn**

motion was made by Craig Hrkal and seconded by Ross Martin to adjourn at 10:30 p.m.



Submitted By: (s/) Cheryl Goetz Dobson  
Deputy Clerk  
Baldwin Township



Approved By: (s/) Bryan Lawrence  
Moderator

Attendees: Jesse Ewert, Gary Mason, Mel Stewart, Nancy Erbst, Chuck Nagle, Jerry DeLong, June DeLong, Olga Peterburg, Mary Paulus, Gene Nitz, JoAnn Graham, Gary Kleinheksel, David Patten, Carry Boeke, Ann Martin, Terry Nemerov, Kim Good, Rich Harris, Larry Handshoe, Michele Ashe, Gregg Ashe, John Bowen, Elaine Philippi, Carol Swanson, Jay Swanson, Tom Rush, Paul Vollkommer, Joe Kiel, Sean Weldon, Mary Ward, Scott Case, Gary Taylor, Herb Murphy, Corrine Murphy, Lou Christen, Andy Schreder, Pat Skarohlid, Bryan Lawrence, Jeff Holm, M. Nelson-Kehn, Adam Kehn, Craig Hrkal, Brian Bumgarner, Shelley Atwood, Chuck Wilhelm, Julius Dorweiler, Randy Atwood, Sue Hix, Cheryl Goetz Dobson, Ross Martin