

Minutes of Field townships 2021 Annual Meeting page 1

The meeting was held on March 9, 2021, at the Field Township Hall. Clerk Pat Chapman called the meeting to order at 8:12 PM. There were nine people in attendance, to via zoom the clerk provided a copy of the notice of annual election and annual meeting in the Cook news Herald dated February 18, 2021 and the timber J dated February 26, 2021. Keith Aho prayed and led the pledge of allegiance.

The clerk called for nominations from the floor for moderator. Ellie Brunner nominated Peggy Pearson. Peggy Pearson was elected moderator. Moderator Pearson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes? Hearing none, Tom Chapman made a motion to accept the March 10, 2020, minutes, seconded by Mike Enzmann. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report (CTAS schedule 1) for fiscal year 2022 was given by Treas. Ellie Brunner:

beginning balance: \$92,144.90

Receipts: \$92,597.27

Disbursements: \$63,648.19

Ending Balance: \$121,093.98

Moderator Pearson asked if there were any questions concerning the treasurer's report? Hearing none, Julie Grahn made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Tom Chapman. Motion carries.

Business:

Broadband-clerk Chapman wrote a report from Elizabeth Chapman about Internet in field townships- A broad survey of all the residence was completed and this data can be used for multiple projects. Paul Bunyan worked with the Township to submit a federal grant for installation of fiber Internet. The following is from Paul Bunyan: the majority of field Township residential locations were awarded to L TD broadband. The state of Minnesota required us to remove these areas from our grant application. So, our field Township project was unsustainable, and we had to remove it from our application. Some portions of your area have been awarded to a provider that will half to commit to build the area within six years.

But there is question if the provider has the resources and expertise necessary to complete the projects they are committed to? Elizabeth adds we are not giving up. Cook is getting more fiber junction points and that makes broadband easier to grow.

School forest- Keith Aho informed those in attendance that 400 cords of wood were harvested from the school forest for a total of \$4116.83. This money will be in a separate Township account for future school forest needs. The DNR will supply trees and school students will be planting them. A parking lot and outdoor toilet are needed, and grants will be applied for. City of Cook Library- clerk Chapman read a report from the library and Crystal Phillips, from January to mid-March the library had over 3000 visitors and hosted 29 programs. On March 16, 2020, the library was closed due to COVID. But curbside pickup began May 4, 2020, and lobby pickup on November 2. Wi-Fi was boosted outside the building. Curbside/lobby visits totaled 1065. There will be a phased approach to opening the library based on current health guidelines. St. Louis County fair Association- Peggy Pearson think the Township for their donations which was used for support of the 4H organization. As of now, the fair will be held this year. North St. Louis County soil and water conservation District- Peggy Pearson encouraged attendees to go to the nslswcd.org for information about the tree sale and a coloring and poster contest. Bait bags will be supplied to bait stores with information on them about safe disposal of unused bait and aquatic invasive species. Bait boxes will be at boat landings so unused bait can be disposed of properly.

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Cook Community Center - clerk Chapman read a letter from the city of Cook requesting Township involvement in supporting the cook community center.

Friends of the Park-Mike Enzmann and Diane Brunner gave an update on the Veterans Riverfront Park. Money has been received to begin creating the park which will include a fence flag, four tables, two benches, grills and aid to persons swing. Donations continued to be accepted.

Committee reports:

Ambulance-Tom Chapman reports fields contributions in 2020 was \$6014.00

Field had 17 calls. There are 24 on staff with five in training. Refresher training includes work at the airport, on water, remotely and that the school.

Fire-town Chapman reports fields contribution in 2020 was \$7582.00. There are 25 on the roster and 10 in training. Field had eight calls.

Road and Bridges- Keith Fletcher reported \$5437.04 was spent on roads for gravel, brushing, grading, ice and snow removal. A culvert will be needed for S. Riddle Road. Road inspection will be in May.

Health and Safety - Keith Fletcher reported there is continual weed inspection for noxious weeds.

Hospital District - Mike Enzmann reported in March 2020 Covid 19 changed day to day operations. Numerous services were put on hold due to the virus. Level IV trauma designation was received from the Minnesota Department of Health. In the third quarter services were resumed, except Adult Daily Services and Wellness Center. 3D monography unit was purchased. Staff vaccinations began in late December. Numerous Covid 19 grounds were received. The operating revenue \$13,939,696, operating expense \$15,112,688, loss from operations\$1,172,992 and non-operating revenue \$1,932,642, net income \$759,650.

Cemetery - Joel Knutson reported lots of branches needed trimmed. He talked to Warren Mlaker and he will help with re-mapping of the cemetery. 80% of barrels are cremations now should smaller lots be considered? Joel is getting information on fixing the church windows. There was battery operated candles in the Windows of the church over Christmas and New Year's. It was brought up to add a lighted Christmas tree in front of the church also.

Planning/Zoning – Keith Aho requested the board review giving him the authority to remain on the school forest project.

Hall - Keith Fletcher reported \$2225.40 was spent on the hall for electricity, minor repairs and four new tables. Project this year will include insulation, new lights and roof repair. And possibly a yard light.

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New Business:

Public Comments – none

Levy - the Township Board recommends a levy of \$62,000 payable in the year 2022 broken down into the following funds:

General \$25,000

Road \$7000

Fire \$8000

Ambulance \$8000

Cemetery \$6000

motion to accept the levy made by Mike Enzmann, seconded by Julie Grahn. Motion carries.

From 5 PM to 8 PM (or otherwise prescribed by law) that the field Township Hall with the annual meetings to follow. Seconded by Mike Enzmann. Motion carried.

Election Results - Election judge Julie Grahn gave the election results of the 2021 field Township Annual Election with 12 residents voting:

Supervisor - Joel Knutson - 11 votes (three year term)

Treasurer - Ellie Brunner - 12 votes (two-year term)

56 folding chairs, seven folding tables, one large wooden table, one small table, three benches, one out of Mark voting machine and table, one DS 200 ballot counter and one piano with bench were inventoried as Township property at the hall.

Peggy Pearson thanked Keith Aho for serving 39 years as Township supervisor and Keith Fletcher congratulated Joel Knutson on his new position on the board.

Tom Chapman made a motion to adjourn at 9:10 PM, seconded by Mike Enzmann. Motion carried.

Clerk Pat Chapman

Moderator Peggy Pearson

date: