

Annual Town Meeting

March 8, 2016

The Annual Town Meeting, held in the Town of Camden in the County of Carver and State of Minnesota, at the Camden Town Hall on the 8th day of March 2016, was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Lisa Goede, Clerk.

A motion was made by Gerry Goede, seconded by Gary Grimm to appoint Franklin Schoenke as Moderator. Motion carried.

The Moderator, at the opening of the meeting, stated the business to be transacted and the order of the same as listed in the agenda and to transact other business as is by law required or permitted.

The Clerk read the meeting notice that was posted at the Town Hall in New Germany.

The clerk read the minutes of the March 10, 2015 Annual Meeting. A motion was made by Stan Werner, seconded by Mike Meuleners to approve the Minutes as read. Motion carried.

Gary Grimm questioned how many units are covered in each fire district. NYA is the only fire district that charges based on units. Township will get this information available. Stan Werner asked why 3 of the fire funds show negative balances; reason being more was spent than levied.

Discussions were held on the proposed 2016 fire contracts. Representing the NYA Fire Dept. was fire chief Steve Zumberge. He explained the units used in calculating the townships share are obtained through Carver County GIS division. A unit is essentially a mailing address. Last year the township questioned the # of units. The fire dept. and supervisor Virgil Stender went through the list and together did an audit. The new truck will be purchased sometime in 2017. Representing the Plato Fire Dept. was assistant fire chief Nathan Brach. He shared that 2.2% (formula used) of Plato is in Camden township. Their fire relief association has a fish fry fundraiser yearly to help replace equipment and keep costs down.

Discussion of 2017 proposed general fund budget of \$51,150 and Road & Bridge budget of \$241,450, with questions by Stan Werner and Mike Meuleners. The board plans a budget yearly to help determine what the proposed levy to the taxpayers should be.

Clerk Lisa Goede read the audited 2015 Financial Report. Motion by Grimm, seconded by Bill Devine to approve the 2015 Financial Report as read. Motion carried.

There were no presentations by commissioner or public officials.

Road Report: Gerry Goede reported on the Buffalo Creek Bridge replacement. This will occur in 2017 with estimated cost to the township of \$20,000. State has bridge funds to cover the cost from road gas taxes. Goede also reported on 84th St. 2014 flood damage. Township is working with county, army corps of engineers and other agencies on this project. Repairs may be done in June. There is a Water & Land fund of \$30,000 that township will be reimbursed for this cost. Goede continued road report – a culvert on 94th St will be replaced. Devine asked about curve being worn away on 70th & Tacoma. A flag stake has been inserted, but keeps getting knocked over by cars cutting the corner. He asked if a car count has been done – there has, but do not have numbers readily available.

Dust Control: Grimm stated that fresh gravel & then dust control applied really helped his road. Goede stated the township has 43 miles of road. Cost \$98,000 to dust control; gravel will last 10 years with dust control. Spent \$65,000 to dust control 28 miles of road last year. Gravel costs 12.48/yard; spent \$63,000 on 9 miles. Township would like to dust control all roads – the more cost effective option over gravel. There was discussion on whether there is a quantity discount for dust control purchase. Goede stated no, since the company has to have big enough trucks to haul the designated amount needed that the township has to prepare the roads first (possible gravel, grade, etc). There are many variables on how the dust control on the road holds up (heavy rains, gravel quality). Also, grading chloride is much harder to do than grading gravel. Goede stated 2016 plans for 5 miles of gravel at a cost of \$30,000 with more roads being dust control treated. In 2017 there are no plans to gravel any roads unless things change.

Grader purchase report by Jeff Caswell. Bid from Caterpillar is \$267,370; bid from John Deere \$262,914. Cat appraised current '98 grader at \$62,500 which has 7,000 hours.

Proposed Building Construction: Gerry Goede reported on the townships request to construct a new building at the County Rd 33 & 86th St location. Looking at 60x82 shed and 32x34 office. Have 2 bids - \$257,000 & \$245,000. Would like to sell present building, thinking could get \$73,000. The current location is assessed at \$101,000. Much discussion ensued, including present building worth much more; and needing more options to taxpayers for this proposal in mailings and a special meeting. Discussion on what is higher priority – grader or building? The current cold storage shed is 75% full. A motion was made by Phyllis Martin, seconded by Gary Grimm for township to obtain additional proposals & appraisals on current building with more concrete costs for taxpayers, with a special meeting to follow. Motion carried. There was then an amendment to the previous motion to have this information available for the next annual meeting by Mike Meuleners, seconded by Grimm. Motion carried.

Levy Recommendation: Proposed:

General Levy - \$50,000. Motion by Marvin Meuleners, seconded by Grimm to approve levy as presented of \$50,000. Motion carried.

Road & Bridge - \$200,000 Motion by Werner, seconded by Devine to approve levy as presented of \$200,000. Motion carried.

Fire Fund - \$80,000. Motion by Gary Burau, seconded by Bill Lueth to approve levy as presented of \$80,000. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Werner, seconded by Marvin Meuleners to recommend the following papers for the publishing of legal notices: The Waconia Patriot, NYA Times and the Herald Journal. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mike Meuleners, seconded by Lueth to hold the 2017 Annual meeting on the 2nd Tuesday in March at 7:30 P.M. at the Township Shed. Motion carried.

Open discussion: Motion by Grimm to approve grader purchase, seconded by Stender. Motion carried. There was discussion on whether road posting signs were necessary, since so many vehicles are exempt and postings are not enforced. Some residents said yes, road postings are necessary; others suggested speed limit signs, but town roads can't have speed limit signs. The township will continue posting roads as county suggests.

There was a request for a show of hands for or against grader purchase. Results: 9 yes, 5 no. Motion approved.

There being no further discussion or business, a motion was made by Burau, seconded by Martin to adjourn. Motion carried at 9:18 P.M.


Moderator

