

ANNUAL MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2011

The annual meeting of Pelican Township was called to order by Clerk, Shirley Wallin. Present: Tracy Donovan, Connie Rockwell, Bruce Galles (attended by Skype), Shirley Wallin, Jim Rockwell, Barbara Donovan, Joyce Vaughn, Bob Vaughn, David Trees, Tony Loberg, Glen Gustafson, Jack Johnson, Lili Johnson, Bruce Westerberg, Nancy Westerberg, Barry Palm, Bob Olson, Kevin Merchman ( Breezy Point Police Chief).

Pledge Allegiance was said.

Tracy Donovan nominated Bruce Westerberg as moderator, seconded by Barbara Donovan, motion carried.

Jim Rockwell made a motion to approve agenda, seconded by Barbara Donovan, motion carried.

Clerk read minutes of the 2010 annual meeting, discussion held on budget amount in the minutes and what was showing on handout, minutes are correct amounts. Jim Rockwell made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Tracy Donovan, motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurers report given by Treasurer Connie Rockwell, Beginning Balance: \$178,484.69, Receipts: \$270,020.75, Transfers In: \$27,154.94, Disbursements: \$164,498.16, Transfers Out: \$27,154.94, Purchase of Investments: \$16,495.20, Cash Balance: \$267,512.08, Investments Beginning Balance: \$27,341.46, Purchase of Investments( Interest and Principal): 16,495.20 Investment Balance: \$43,836.66, Operating Funds and Investment Totals: \$311,348.74. Barbara Donovan made a motion to approve Treasurers report, seconded by Bruce Galles, motion carried.

**POLICE REPORT:** Kevin Merschman Chief of Breezy Point Police was present and gave an overview from February 28, 2010 through February 28, 2011. Kevin Merschman said that it has been a good relationship between Breezy Point Police and Pelican Township. There were 213 calls last year. They had 1 burglary within our township and are working closely with the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Dept. They do feel this burglary is solvable. Agency Assist-means that they do respond when Sheriff's Dept. is called. They had 4 theft complaints, medicals calls, traffic stops and arrests, etc. Pelican Lake Beach Area is a problem mainly the parking area, suggested we possibly put in a horseshoe pit close to parking area, which may keep the car break in's down. They still have the Paramedic Program, they also do house watch security checks. They have purchased an ATV so they can use this for both summer and winter. Tracy Donovan made a motion to amend agenda to move Police Protection Review from under Old Business to now, seconded by Barbara Donovan, motion carried. There is an increase this year of \$1500.00, new contract will be \$41,494.89 for 20 hrs. of patrol service per week. Cost reflects cost of officer, benefits, equipment, gas, etc. then they cut that in half for our portion. Jim Rockwell asked if we will see that same increase again for 2012, Kevin Merschman thought it was a fair assessment, they are not out to gorge us. Jim Rockwell

made a motion to accept Police Protection contract, seconded by Nancy Westerberg, motion carried.

**SUPERVISORS REPORT:** report given by Bruce Galles, 2010 estimated Population is 484 with 210 households. Township is in great financial shape, We have been building up the road improvement fund so we will have enough when we need to redo our roads, We need to put away at least \$80,000.00 to \$100,000.00 each year to make sure we will have enough money for when we do our roads. We now have internet access which provides computer service for in the office for clerk & Treasurer to use and for road maintenance person in the garage; we then can use the Skype (free program) for Galles or any officer to attend the meetings while away. We are the first township in the State of MN. to use Skype for Township Meetings. Tracy Donovan spent a lot of time negotiating a fair amount for Fire Protection with Mission Township specifically. We had input in the redesign of County Rd. 4, we are in the Heartland Commission area, they gave 2-\$1000.00 scholarships for 2010 this year 2011 they will give 4-\$1500.00 scholarships, and we also received a \$750.00 check from Heartland Commission this past year. We have also purchased handicapped voting equipment. Tracy Donovan made a motion to accept the supervisors report, seconded by Bruce Westerberg, motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**A: FIRE PROTECTION:** Tracy Donovan gave an overview of the fire protection Mission Township we will now pay \$25,000.00 for 2011 and 2012 instead of \$37,000.00, this does include their certified first responders. In 2013 and 2014 it will be \$26,500.00 a 5 % increase, Nisswa we will pay \$4635.00 for 2011 which includes their Firemen's Relief. Pequot Lakes we will be paying less than \$11,000.00. Tracy Donovan made a motion to accept fire contracts, Nisswa at less than \$5,000.00, Pequot Lakes at less than \$11,000.00 and Mission for 2011, 2012, \$25,000.00 and 2013 2014 for \$26,500.00 (as Mission wants us to sign contracts for 4 year, each individually), seconded by Jim Rockwell, motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Clerk asked to have the election hours changed from 8 AM to 8 PM to 7 AM to 8 PM, which are the hours the most areas use, but being we are a smaller township we could choose less hours. We have had a few people come to vote before we were open at 8 AM and not happy that they couldn't vote. With Presidential Elections coming up in 2012, felt we need to change it now. Barbara Donovan made a motion to change the hours from 8 AM to 7 AM, seconded by Jim Rockwell.

Discussion held on turning back a portion of property to Pelican Outing Club after the redesign of County Rd. 4, board wanted the residents to know what we are doing with this and wanted their input. Jim Rockwell made a motion to give that portion of property back to Pelican Outing Club, seconded by Barbara Donovan, motion carried.

Jack Johnson gave a report on Crisis Line, Jack and Lili Johnson are both on the TRIAD Board and do a lot with various organizations, Crisis Line handled 4049 calls in 2010, there were 500+ calls from the elderly, mainly dealing with suicide, Jack had some handouts for the residents on the Crisis Line and everything that they cover. Crisis Line also asking for a donation from the Township for \$200.00 to help with the Crisis Line, discussion held. Everyone felt this should be left up to individuals to donate and Bruce

Westerberg also felt if this was presented to various service organizations they could get help from them also.

BUDGET: Bruce Galle went over the 2012 budget per line item; Connie Rockwell Treasurer stated we just received \$7,028.60 for gas tax for 2011 based on the \$160,000.00 we had to levy for 2011 to receive the gas tax. Jim Rockwell spoke about the gas tax and the budget. Pelican Township taxes went up 8.6% for township alone this last year which is payable in 2011. Jim Rockwell feels we don't need the extra \$100,000.00 in the funds at this time and we should just levy when we actually need, when we need it. Jim feels after we are done with year we will close to \$500,000.00 in the bank and thinks we shouldn't be doing that. Bruce Galles spoke to why we need to budget the amounts that we are budgeting, especially for our roads, as it will now cost more that \$100,000.00 to do a mile of road. Tracy Donovan said there will be a road inspection on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM and the public is invited to come along on that inspection. An assessment of our roads will be done at that time and board will make plans for road improvements, they do know that there are 2 roads that need to be repaired this year-Channel Lane and Pelican Beach Rd. Joyce Vaughn felt the Town Board has done good planning and the budget is not unreasonable, further discussion held. Tracy Donovan made a motion to accept the budget, seconded by Bob Vaughn, 15 aye's 2 nay's, motion carried

Jim Rockwell made a motion that the next annual meeting will be March 13, 2012 at 7 PM, seconded by Jack Johnson, motion carried.

Barbara Donovan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joyce Vaughn, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Moderator

*Shirley Wallin*

*Bruce Westerberg*

Shirley Wallin, Clerk

Bruce Westerberg