



## Sylvan Township

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### Annual Township Meeting Minutes Tuesday March 14, 2023

**Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Attendance:** Clerk Ruggles called the 2023 Annual Township Meeting to order at 7:00pm. She welcomed the residents to the meeting and provided an overview on what was in their packets and what types of items they can authorize at this meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The sign-in sheet is attached to the minutes and those in attendance included Greg Bennett, Bob Johnson, Greg Booth, Arlene Schmit, Keith Card, John Wulff, Lisa Fletcher, Jennifer Paananen (Pillager Fair Board), Pat Cox, Dianne & Les McClelland, Sheriff Bryan Welk (Cass Co) & Deputy, RuthAnn Ray, Tony Hennen, Jana & Dale Crosby, Annette & Darrel Lambert, Pat Wintheiser, Beth & John Peters, Randy Hoghaug, Jim & Sandy Anderson, Heather Schmit, Robert Sawyer, Nick & Kelly Eades, and Peter Comstock.

**Moderator:** Ms. Arlene Schmit moved to nominate Mr. Greg Bennett as Moderator for the Annual Meeting. As there were not any more nominations Ms. Arlene Schmit moved to cease nominations, seconded by Mr. Tony Hennen and the motion carried.

Mr. Keith Card moved to install Mr. Greg Bennett as the moderator for the 2023 Annual Township Meeting, seconded by Ms. Annette Lambert and the motion carried.

Mr. Greg Bennett came forward to review the agenda and asked for any amendments to the agenda. Mr. John Wulff moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Keith Card and the motion carried.

**Public Input:** Ms. Heather Schmit was present for Hengel Ready Mix to present a petition and ask the residents to allow for some roads to be extinguished by the Township. After discussion Mr. Robert Sawyer moved to bring the interest of vacating the town's interest in the abandoned roads as listed in the petition and presented by Ms. Heather Schmit to the Town Board, seconded by Mr. Arlene Schmit and the motion was then amended. Mr. Robert Sawyer amended the motion to move to bring the interest of extinguishing the town's interest in the abandoned roads as listed in the petition and presented by Ms. Heather Schmit to the Town Board, seconded again by Ms. Arlene Schmit and the amended motion passed.

Exert from Petition: All that portion of Pearl Ave, Lora Ave, Rossie Ave, Hattie St, and Jones St as shown on the plat of NORTH SYLVAN, as recorded in the Office of the County Recorder, Cass County, Minnesota. Also all that portion of the alleys shown in Block 1, Block 2, and Block 3 as shown on the plat of NORTH SYLVAN, as recorded in the office of the County Recorder, Cass County, Minnesota

#### Clerk/Treasurers Report:

- **2022 Annual Meeting Minutes** – Mr. Jim Anderson moved to approve the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Keith Card and the motion carried.
- **2022 Annual Financials and Board of Audit Report** were available for review.

### **Town Status Reports for 2022:**

- Sheriff Welk presented his year-end report and answered several questions. Discussions with Sheriff Welk included Permit to Carry and Firearm bills that are currently with the Senate and House; ATV use and possible ordinance in the coming year; Nixle alert system; Sylvan's Community Outreach Day; Take it to the Box; the Sheriff's Department's K9 Units; and if there was anyway that our community could help support the Sheriff's Department better. Sheriff Welk and Clerk Ruggles will be in touch regarding the upcoming ATV committee discussions and the possibility of Sheriff Welk or a representative coming down for residents of Sylvan to have closer spot to get permit applications processed and for Sylvan's Community Outreach Day.
- Chief Ringler provided a report from the Pillager Area Fire Association & Department. Supervisor Bob Johnson was present to answer questions and provided a few more details and numbers for the start of 2023.
- Sylvan's Planning Commission and Sylvan Park reports were provided and there were no questions, just a request to put a trail map and location in the next Township Newsletter.
- Pillager Park Board report was provided, and Supervisor Arlene Schmit provided extra details and answered questions.
- Sylvan Township Road Report was provided and Supervisor Arlene Schmit provided extra details, answered questions, and received good feedback and compliments on the Road Contractor's work this winter.

### **Items to Consider:**

- **Cass County Historical Society & Museum** – Mr. Jim Anderson moved to continue our membership with Cass County Historical Society at \$250 and to sponsor a "Free Day" at the Museum for \$150, seconded by Mr. Keith Card and the motion carried.
- **Cass County Ag Association (Cass Co Fair – Pine River)** – Sylvan residents were not interested in donating to this.
- **Cass County Ag Society (Fair Board)** – After discussion about where the funds go, Mr. John Wulff moved to donate \$6,000 to the Cass County Ag Society for 2023, seconded by Mr. Robert Sawyer and the motion carried with one resident opposing.
- **Lakes Area Dive Team** – Mr. John Wulff moved to donate \$1,200 to the Lakes Area Dive Team for 2023, seconded by Mr. Tony Hennen and the motion carried.

### **Tax Levies for 2024:**

- **General Fund** – Mr. John Wulff moved to approve \$137,700 for the General Fund Levy in 2024, seconded by Mr. Tony Hennen and the motion carried.
- **Road & Bridge Fund** – Mr. John Wulff moved to approve \$500,000 for the Road & Bridge Fund Levy in 2024, seconded by Mr. Robert Sawyer and the motion carried.



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- **Fire Fund** – Mr. John Wulff **moved to approve \$106,588 for the Fire Fund Levy in 2024**, seconded by Mr. Keith Card and the motion carried.

The total for the 2024 Levy is set at \$744,288.

**Set Annual Town Meeting for 2024:** Mr. John Wulff **moved to set the Annual Town Meeting for 2024 on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7pm**, seconded by Mr. Keith Card and the motion carried.

**Other Township Business:** Included a discussion from Mr. Jim Anderson about the road rights-of-way and getting them fixed up due to ATV damages. Also, Mr. Pat Cox addressed the residents to let them know he will be holding a meeting for some select residents around the Roth Pit area.

**Adjournment:** Mr. John Wulff **moved to adjourn**, seconded by Ms. Beth Peters and the motion carried with the meeting adjourning at 8:55pm.

Minutes submitted by,

Jenna Ruggles, Clerk

Moderator - Greg Bennett

These minutes will be reviewed and approved by the Sylvan residents on March 12, 2024, but for now they are available for review purposes only in draft form.

Date: 03.15.2023