

Draft Copy
BERGEN TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 12th, 2019
7:00 pm

The Bergen Township Annual Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Clerk, Tiffany Eggert. Francis Burch made a motion and seconded by Duncan Cameron to nominate Dave Hoernemann as moderator. All in favor. There were 0 opposed. Motion carried.

There were 29 people in attendance, and 29 signed in, with 25 being registered voters.

At 7:07pm, Tiffany Eggert made a motion, seconded by Jason Jacques to accept the March 2018 annual minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

Ron Shimanski, McCloud Commissioner: reported the following updates:

- 2018 McLeod County acquired Jungclaus implement building in Glencoe to be renovated for the McLeod County Government Center. McLeod County bonded \$10mm for this project.
- McLeod County Courthouse security will be updated soon.
- McLeod County will be selling off unused buildings as projects are completed.
- McLeod County Fairgrounds saw completion of 2 building projects: new pavilion and expansion of the show arena.
- McLeod County Highway Dept.: County Road #3 and #15 will be completed summer of 2019
- Dakota Ridge Trail is slated to be blacktopped in Spring of 2019
- Everyone is invited to a Town Hall Meeting on March 22nd 2019 at 10:00 am at the GSL High School Fine Arts Auditorium hosted by District 18 legislators, Senator Scott Newman and other representatives. The topic will be Property Taxes and how state statues dictates how they are levied.

Residents brought up CR84 and when the plan was to sealcoat. Mr. Shimanski said it's not one the schedule but will be done before the give back. Residents also asked about Hwy 1 and remarked how many holes have developed over last fall and were left over winter.

Fire Department Reports:

Glencoe Fire Department Report: 3 members from the fire department attended and Scott Mathews read the report. 101 calls, 1 which was in Bergen Twp. Old fire truck up for sale for \$25,000 sealed bid. 2019 new truck went into service end of January. They are starting a fire commission that will be the first Tuesday in April and in August at 7pm. They have a full staff of 40 people. Mr. Mathews handed out a Major Capital Improvement Schedule that listed out the next purchases for Glencoe in relation to pumpers, tanker and rescue trucks. Bergen Township should plan on replacing trucks every 5 years starting in 2023.

Lester Prairie Fire Department: Matt Tonn, assistant chief reported 153 calls in 2018. 94 in Lester Prairie. 18 in Bergen Township. Current full roster of 30 plus 2 part time and 2 on the waiting list. In 2018 they invested in a grant writer to help them with obtaining grants. New Truck will be taken in May. Need to replace their SCBA's in 2021. The total cost for this is close to \$110,000. Bergen's responsibility is roughly 22% or \$25,000. They announced their Major Equipment Replacement Time Line: 2019, New Engine. SCBA in 2021, New Tanker in 2025 and new Engine in 2032. There may be a new Rescue Truck needed soon too.

Plato Fire Department Report: Ryan Engleman reported. 52 total calls, didn't have the number of calls in Bergen but thought it was close to 2 in 2018. Presented the projected purchase price of the new Tanker Truck for 2020 which will cost approximately \$300,000. Bergen's portion would be 10% or \$4,300 based on a 7 year loan.

The **Board of Audit** was read was read out loud by clerk Tiffany Eggert.

	Beginning balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
General Fund:	(\$15,628.10)	\$54,151.63	\$36,849.55	\$1,673.98
Road + Bridge:	\$142,595.25	\$170,061.16	\$145,311.98	\$167,344.43
Fire:	\$25,448.13	\$24,067.11	\$51,076.745	(1,561.51)

Road + Bridge Investment Balance was: \$379,135.09

Road Discussion: Clerk asked the residents if they had any feedback on the roads for 2018 and nobody had any comments. A few people commented on how great the snow removal has been this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

The web page is www.bergentownship.com. Clerk reminded everyone to check the website for updates, notices, meeting minutes and agendas. There is on average 131 visits to our website per month.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clerk announced there will be 3 elections in 2020, beginning on March 3rd, 2020. Clerk mentioned there is a need for Election Judges.

The Clerk explained to the attendees that The Board has a yearly planning meeting in early January of each year. The meetings will look at the future year and 2-3 years beyond. This will result in planning for future expenses and budgeting accordingly so the Clerk can make an educated recommendation of the Levy each year. This also helps in making sure The Board does not go over budget.

2019 Newsletter: Clerk asked the residents how they would like to receive the 2020 Newsletter. The majority of the people requested it to be mailed through the Post Office.

General Discussion

Duncan Cameron spoke on behalf of the Dakota Ridge Trail Committee and handed out a survey for the residents to complete voluntarily.

2018 Proposed Levy:

Clerk presented the 2020 Levy Packet that detailed expected expenditures for 2020 as well as a 30 year future plan for the fire fund. After presenting, the residents did not have any questions.

At 8:51 Dave Thiede made a motion to accept the 2020 levy recommendations per below. Duncan Cameron 2nd the motion. All in favor. There was 0 opposed. Motion carried.

2020 Levy:

General Fund: \$52,500

Road + Bridge Fund: \$164,000

Fire Fund: \$76,500

Total: \$293,000

The residents set the 2020 meeting for March 10th, 2020 at 7:00pm at Bergen Town Hall.

At 8:54, Jason Jacques, made motion to adjourn the meeting, Sam Lester 2nd the motion. Motioned carried. All in favor was the majority. There were 0 opposed.

Dave Hoernemann, Moderator

Tiffany Eggert, Clerk