

BERGEN TOWNSHIP  
CONTINUATION OF THE ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2015

Amy Meyer called the continuation of the Bergen Annual Township meeting to order. Meyer explained why everyone was asked to mark the following questions when they signed in:

- Check if township resident and eligible to vote
- Check if you were at the March 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting
- Check if you were at the March Annual Meeting and voted YES for the motion that \$400,000 be used toward a new town hall structure.

Meyer consulted with the MN Association of Townships' attorney in regard to the proper procedure should the residents want to reconsider the motion that was passed in March for the approval of \$400,000 toward a new town hall structure.

Meyer was advised that only a voting member of the township who voted to approve the spending in March could call for a motion to reconsider. It would then need a second and could then be voted on. The attorney further explained that the residents do not have the right to a secret vote. As a result, he advised asking the residents how they voted when they signed in.

Dave Hoernemann motioned to reconsider the motion of having \$400,000 be used toward a new town hall structure. It was confirmed that Hoernemann was at the meeting and he had voted in favor of it in March. David Thiede seconded the motion, motion carried with a vote of 46 in favor and 9 opposed.

Gene Feltmann made the recommendation that the township contract with Klehr for a year since we no longer have a maintenance man

Ken Gray motioned that any dollar amount given be inclusive of all costs for the building of a structure, including the engineering cost site prep, boring tests, as well as the cost of the structure. Mark Donovan seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Scott Tesch motioned to set the budget at \$200,000, all inclusive for a meeting hall building, including the cost of the land acquired. Motion was seconded by Bruce Tucholke. Scott Tesch amended his motion to \$250,000. Bruce Tucholke seconded the amendment. Motion carried with 46 in favor and 6 opposed.

The board requested direction on whether the preference is to shrink the square footage or other recommendations to ensure that the project comes under the required dollar amount. It was recommended that if the cost per square foot is too high, the board keep shrinking it to meet the budget amount. Further recommendation was to simplify what we need inside the space. It was confirmed that the current building is 24x40.

The 2016 levy was discussed. Matt Tonn recommended that if we do chloride on the roads, only a portion be done to start with. It was commented that Rich Valley puts chloride down and the roads get slippery when they are wet and gets vehicles dirty. It was clarified that the existing CD funds will be used to fund the town hall project. The treasurer clarified that \$109,337.46 has been spent on Road and Bridge expenses so far in 2015.

Gene Feltmann motioned to have the 2016 levy set at \$165,000. Feltmann withdrew his motion.

David Mathowitz motioned to keep the levy at the amount approved in March. Mathowitz withdrew his motion.

Gene Feltmann had questions regarding the selling of the recycling center. It was confirmed that the McLeod County Solid Waste Management Department (MCSWD) offered the building to the township for \$1. The offer was declined. A resident contacted Francis Burch and offered \$5 for the building. Burch contacted MCSWD and told them someone wants to purchase the building for \$5. The township never had ownership of the shed. The resident paid MCSWD and they sent payment to Bergen Township and said that the payment was ours.

Norman Heldt motioned to have the recycling shed returned back to the county shed site, including any improvements already made, then have the MCSWD work it out with the owner and leave Bergen Township out of it. Larry Ide seconded the motion. Motion passed with 20 in favor and 18 opposed.

A recommendation was made to have a Bergen Township website developed.

David Mathowitz motioned to have Bergen Township contract with Jeff Klehr of Arlington for the 2015-16 season and to start as soon as possible and continue for a period of one year. Jon Graupman seconded the motion. It was clarified that legally, the township needs to have at least two written quotes for work anticipated to cost within \$25,000-\$100,000. Mathowitz amended his motion to subcontract the services with no specific company, discontinuing the search for an employed maintenance man. Jon Graupman seconded the amendment. Motion passed with 56 voting in favor and 0 opposed.

It was recommended to have a county employee grade on the weekends for the township.

Jon Dammann motioned to adjourn the continuation of the annual meeting at 9:22 pm. Scott Tesch seconded the motion, motion carried by a clear majority.

Ryan Ide, Moderator

Amy Meyer, Clerk