

**BERGEN TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2015**

The Bergen Township Annual Meeting was called to order at 8:00pm by Clerk Amy Meyer. County Commissioner Ron Shimanski addressed the group first so he could attend other township meetings also taking place. Shimanski gave an update on the county's single sort recycling changes and offered the township the opportunity to purchase the current recycling shed for \$1. 8 yard dumpsters will be replacing the shed and all sorting will take place at the Hutchinson facility. The jail expansion project is moving forward, Baldwin Court in Bergen Township qualified for FEMA last year for the extensive flooding that took place, and the public utilities commission recently held a meeting for planned solar panels on Hwy 7 & County Rd 9.

The clerk requested a nomination for a moderate. Nathan Ide motioned to have Harlan Mathews moderate. Harlan Mathews declined the nomination. Harlan Mathews nominated Ryan Ide as moderator. Nathan Ide seconded the motion, motion carried.

Dave Hoernemann motioned to waive the reading of the 2014 Annual Meeting and Continuation Minutes. DeVan Stoltenow seconded the motion, motion carried.

Dave Hoernemann motioned to approve the meeting minutes as printed. Harlan Mathews seconded the motion, motion carried.

Angela Leverich summarized the treasurer's report. DeVan Stoltenow motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Larry Ide seconded the motion, motion carried.

Glencoe Fire Department reported 5 calls for Bergen Township in 2014, with a total of 117 calls. All fire department vehicles are now jointly owned by townships and city, split by building valuations. An expansion of the fire hall is being considered. When purchasing their aerial truck, they were limited in choices because of the size of their current facility. GFD also reported that federal dollars went toward lowering the speed limit in Glencoe city limits on Hwy 212 to reduce accidents. GFD recently went through training for dealing with calls involving spills.

Lester Prairie Fire Department reported 3 calls for Bergen Township in 2014, with a total of 154 calls in all. LPFD reminded residents that carbon monoxide detectors should be replaced within every 7 years and recommended digital readouts, that should read zero.

Plato Fire Department reported a record 56 calls in 2014, due to an increase in mutual aid to other departments. In evaluating their call statistics, they are finding that 8-noon is the busiest time of day for calls, with Thursdays being the most called day.

OLD BUSINESS

The residents were given an update on the Town Hall/Maintenance Shed options that the committee has prepared.

Duane Mathews motioned that \$220,000 be used toward a new town hall structure. Tim Mathews seconded the motion. Residents voted by ballot with 13 in favor and 23 opposed. Motion did not pass.

Dave Hoernemann motioned that \$276,000 be used toward a new town hall structure. Larry Ide seconded the motion. Residents voted by ballot with 13 in favor and 23 opposed.

Motion did not pass.

Edward Dammann motioned that \$600,000 be used toward a new town hall structure. DeVan Stoltenow seconded the motion. Residents voted by ballot with 16 in favor and 20 opposed. Motion did not pass.

Melissa Tonn motioned that \$400,000 be used toward a new town hall structure. Roger Martin seconded the motion. Residents voted by ballot with 21 in favor and 15 opposed. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion took place regarding the County's proposal to replace the green street signs. It is estimated that the township share would be around \$4400, but final amount is dependent on the number of signs in our county that require replacing. The county would be responsible for intersections of county/county road intersections as well as county/township road intersections. The Township would be responsible for township/township intersections.

Ed Dammann motioned to approve the board recommended levy amount of \$130,000 for Road & Bridge, \$33,000 for General Fund, and \$25,000 for Fire Protection. John Graupman seconded the motion, motion carried.

Francis Burch motioned that the 2016 Annual Meeting be held the 2nd Tuesday of March at 8pm and the location to be determined. Dave Hoernemann seconded the motion, motion carried.

John Graupman motioned to recess the Annual Meeting until the September Monthly Board Meeting. Jon Dammann seconded the motion, motion carried.

Meeting was recessed at 10:20pm

Ryan Ide, Moderator

Amy Meyer, Clerk