

2008 Eureka Township Annual Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2008
Eureka Town Hall

Call to Order

Township Clerk Nanett Champlain called the March 11, 2008 Eureka Township Annual Meeting to order at 8:15 pm.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Election of Moderator

The Clerk called for nominations for moderator. Andre Stouvenel and John Strunk were nominated for moderator. Butch Hansen moved to close nominations, the motion was seconded. The motion carried. John Strunk was elected as moderator.

Approval of Minutes

Clerk Nanett Champlain read the March 13, 2007 Annual Meeting minutes. Butch Hansen moved to approve the Annual Meeting minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Dan Rogers. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Report

A motion by Butch Hansen: to waive the reading of all the checks written and received, to read just a synopsis. The motion was seconded by Ken Olstad. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Complete ledgers of Bills and Receipts were available for review.

Clerk Nanett Champlain presented the Treasurer's Report. Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2007 was \$2,417.65. Savings Account Balance \$250,926.53. CD Balances \$154,818.83. Total Account Balances are \$408,163.01.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Business

General Overview

Supervisor Dan Rogers presented a general over view of 2007. A handout was available for citizen review titled "Eureka Township Board Report" *see attached*

Supervisor Jeff Otto presented a road report which included a 5 year road plan.

A check for \$13,710.00 was received from Northern Natural Gas for extra road maintenance costs on certain Township roads due to the pipeline installation in the area. A special road project on 225th Street was delayed due to citizen concerns. Because of this delay \$37,200 allocated for roads in 2007 was not spent. These funds remain in the Road and Bridge Reserve Fund. The special project will be rescheduled for completion in 2009.

Jeff proposed the paving of a 150 foot apron where a Township Road intersects a County Road. The estimated cost would be approximately \$25,000 per apron. Approximately 20 citizens showed interest in this concept, with 1 opposed. Jeff will do further study on this concept and report back at next years Annual Meeting.

A motion by Butch Hansen: The \$13,710 that was paid by Northern Natural Gas and the \$37,200 (Amount allocated for the Special Road Project on 225th St W.) a total \$50,910 be put back into the road budget to catch the Township up on the maintenance and repair to roads so that we get as close to seven miles scheduled, so we are caught up to the 5 miles per year. Mark Malecha seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ray Kaufenberg commented on the Elko/ New Market Interceptor project in regards to the paving of 245th St. Paving of 245th Street is not in the plan. The Town Board has reopened it for discussion with the Met Council. The original proposal was a cost share. Ray Kaufenberg stated that the Bryce Pickart of Met Council had stated at a meeting that blacktopping of 245th St would not be a problem. That Eureka has no benefit from the line however they were willing to blacktop that portion of the road. Mr. Kaufenberg felt that they should be held accountable.

Supervisor Cory Behrendt presented Township analysis and expense summary.

Supervisor Dan Rogers thanked and acknowledged Strategic Vision Citizen Advisory Group, Board Members and Planning Commission members retiring.

Planning Commission Report

Planning Commission Member Mike Greco presented a general overview of Planning Commission business for 2007. Handouts titled "Planning Commission Report" were available for the public to view. *See attached*

Old Business

Sound System

Supervisor Brian Budenski and Planning Commission member Ken Olstad are currently working on obtaining a sound and recording system. New technology is being developed to record and translate dialog into a computer program. This system has an estimated cost of \$8,500.

New Business

Commercial District

Mark Malecha moved to direct the Board to include a Commercial District in the Comprehensive Plan that is currently being developed. Motion seconded by Andre Stouvenel. Don Pflaum offered a friendly amendment: That you work with willing property owners to determine where the appropriate zone should be.

Mark Malecha felt that the Township needs to expand the tax base. A commercial district are would set land aside to be commercially developed. Less business would be built on Township roads that aren't suitable for business traffic.

Don Pflaum wanted to make sure that the commercial zone area has property owners that are willing to have their land developed into a commercial use.

The Comprehensive Plan Work Group is looking at this issue. Currently the Township cannot provide services such as sewer and water.

After a lengthy citizen discussion the motion was voted on, 19 citizens voted in favor, 31 opposed the motion. The motion failed.

Butch Hansen asked about (Transfer Development Rights) TDRs. Mike Greco commented that the Comprehensive Planning Committee is considering TDRs meetings are open to the public, concerned citizens are welcome to attend. Jeff Otto commented preliminary talks with the Met Council indicate that the proposed TDR program is compatible with other existing programs.

Don Pflaum commented on concerns with property rights in the Township, such as regional needs trumping property rights. Pipeline, power lines, airport expansion, County regional park plans on Township property. We need to pay attention to property rights. We need to work together as a community and property owners to make sure our property rights are not taken away.

Andre Stouvenel proposed a resolution that if a person is placed on the agenda of a Town Board meeting, that they are contacted by registered mail. Motion seconded by Laura Adelman. Discussion followed. Andre Stouvenel amended his motion to read: That a resident or landowner be notified if their name appears on the agenda as an item of discussion. Laura Adelman seconded the motion. Vote was taken on the motion. 37 citizens voted in favor of the motion. 1 opposed the motion. The motion carried.

Butch Hansen asked if the annual meeting can be rescheduled to prior to the supervisors election. Could it be held the day before? The annual meeting must be held on the second Tuesday of March and it cannot be held during the hours of 10:00 am and 8:00 pm. (Election hours) by State Statute.

Butch Hansen expressed to the Board that they make every effort possible to work with the landowners if they feel there is a violation before they engage an attorney.

Set Levy for 2008

The clerk presented the proposed levy to the citizens. The proposed levy totaled \$480,000.

A motion by Butch Hansen: to approve a levy for \$450,000. The motion was seconded. After discussion a vote was taken on the motion. 10 citizens voted in favor of the motion. 34 opposed the motion. The motion failed.

A motion by Mike Greco: to approve the proposed levy for \$480,000 for 2009. Motion seconded by Nancy Sauber. A citizen moved to call the question. Vote was taken on the motion. 35 citizens voted in favor of the motion. 15 opposed the motion. The motion carried.

Don Pflaum made a motion that in all future years that we to set the levy time at a time certain of 9:00 pm, so that we are not spending a half a million dollars at 11:00 pm. The motion was seconded.

The clerk stated that by State Statute the levy needs to be taken in the order it is on the agenda. Don Pflaum withdrew his motion.

There was a suggestion made that the levy be moved up in the agenda, if possible.

Report of Annual Election

There were a total of 220 voters at the annual election. Supervisor position #1- Brian J. Budenski received 197 votes. Supervisor position #2- Carrie E. Jennings received 159 votes and Alberta B. Gelineau received 57 votes. Brian J. Budenski was elected as Supervisor #1 and Carrie E. Jennings as Supervisor #2. These are unofficial results until the Board of Canvass scheduled for March 13, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Eureka Town Hall.

Time and Place for next year's annual Meeting

A motion by Cory Behrendt to set the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 8:15 pm, at the Eureka Town Hall. Motion seconded by Glen Shirley. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Call for Adjournment of the Annual Meeting

A motion by Ken Olstad: to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mike Greco.

The meeting was adjourned.