

1996 EUREKA TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of Eureka Township was called to order on March 12, 1996 at 8:00 PM by Clerk Oliver Leine.

George Johnson nominated Greg Gudbjartsson as Moderator, Gary Schulz seconded and he was elected.

The minutes of the 1995 Annual Meeting were approved as read. Gary Gunderson made a motion to approve, Clark Smith seconded and motion carried.

The treasurer report was presented by Gary Schulz. A starting balance of \$128,160.43 and an ending balance of \$162,401.49 was reported. Schulz reported on the Vermillion WMO payment agreement that was initiated after a threatened lawsuit. He also asked about legal bills and stated that the Middlemist bill came to about \$6,250. The township money was reported to be earning slightly more than 4% interest, with \$16,000 set aside in a CD earning 6% to be used for seal coating of lacktop streets. Bob Dawson made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report as read and Bob Edmonds seconded, motion carried.

Gary Schulz presented the 1997 proposed budget. It was determined to be a 6% increase over the 1996 budget. Lee Topp explained the reasoning for using the 1996 budget instead of the 1995 actual as a basis for budgeting. He pointed out that because of pending \$20,000 bill from the State for culvert rebuild the 1995 actual should really be considered slightly over budget instead of under.

Fire bills were then discussed. Farmington's bill was very high compared to Lakeville for their respective halves of the Township. It was suggested that Lakeville be asked if they would be willing to take over more of the township. Questions of response time to the SE sections may prevent this. It was reported that neither New Market nor Northfield would consider providing coverage for the township. Negotiations with Lakeville are scheduled for this year.

Wally Bohrn asked about the process that the county uses to collect and distribute property taxes. Gary Schulz stated that the reports have improved this past year and now we have a better idea as to where the money that we receive is coming from. It was pointed out that the state would have to be the agency that would audit the county.

Bob Dawson asked about the roads and maintenance. Kenny Miller and Lee Topp explained some of the processes and constraints that the Township roads. A general discussion of road problems ensued. The possibility of using more lime rock was brought up. It was reported to be better road but also costs much more. Greg Gudbjartsson showed the maintenance schedule for the township. He felt an updated schedule was needed and that records with a priority list should be available to the public. Wally Bohrn stated that he felt the roads were adequate for the township and that rebuilding them would be too expensive. Greg Gudbjartsson asked if the actual \$57,000 budgeted for the road surfaces could be spent only for that purpose. He was told that the board would try but that if it was too restrictive the township could run into problems if an emergency occurred. Gary Gunderson made a motion to spend 1/5 of the budgeted amount (\$10,000) on upgrading an additional section of road to lime rock. Clark Smith seconded and the motion carried.

Gary Schulz made a motion to approve the 1997 budget as presented (a 6% increase over the 1996 budget), Clark Smith seconded and the motion carried.

Calvin Pflaum recommended that the Planning commission be compensated for attending meetings. Gary Schulz made a motion to have Town Board pay \$25 per meeting to the planning commission members. Motion carried. Lee Topp made a motion to have the town board review the planning commission membership and the possibility of reducing it to 5 members. Kenny Miller seconded and the motion carried.

A motion to adjourn and set the next Annual Meeting for March 11, 1997 was made by Bob Edmonds, seconded by George Johnson and carried.

1996 Election Summary

A total of 26 ballots were cast in the Town Election

Cheryl Schindeldecker 24 votes for 3 year Supervisor term

George Johnson 22 votes for 3 year Supervisor term

Oliver Leine 26 votes for 2 year Clerk term

*Kenny Miller received 2 write in votes for Supervisor.

Cheryl Schindeldecker was elected Chair, Clark Smith was elected Vice Chair of the Town Board at the organizational meeting held immediately following the Annual Meeting.

Oliver Leine, Clerk