

1997 EUREKA TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of Eureka Township was called to order on March 11, 1997 at 8:00 PM by Clerk Oliver Leine.

George Johnson nominated Wally Bohrn as Moderator, Ray Kadlec seconded and he was elected.

The minutes of the 1996 Annual Meeting were approved as read. Kenny Miller made a motion to approve, Lee Topp seconded and motion carried.

The treasurer report was presented by Gary Schulz. A starting balance of \$162,401.49 and a ending balance of \$ was reported. Ray Kadlec brought up the cost of dust control and the problems that it causes with ice formation in the winter. Duane Olmstead thought that dust control was good and should be continued. Kenny Miller explained some problems that using too much salt on the roads can cause. Clark Smith made a motion to approve the Treasurers report as read and Gary Gunderson seconded, motion carried.

Calvin Pflaum made a motion to use the same dust control process, time frame and material this year as in 1996. Duane Olmstead seconded the motion carried.

Comprehensive Plan: Cheryl Schindeldecker reported on the comprehensive plan process that is just starting. She reported that a new comprehensive plan for the township must be submitted for review and approval by the Metropolitan Council before the end of 1998. Bev Topp gave some information that she had learned from Carl Schenk, of the Met Council staff, on what help the Township could expect from them. Cheryl also stated that the Dakota Co. Townships and small cities were planning on jointly hiring a consultant to help create a generic plan that could be adapted to fit most situations. A discussion ensued about how to get the most public input into the drafting of this new plan. Several people wanted to make sure that any meetings held would be well publicized. This will affect the land use density for years to come. It seems that all in attendance thought this was a very important issue.

Alternate Form of Government: Bev Topp gave a short overview of the information that she had compiled for the Board on the possibility and desirability of incorporating the Township. She listed the requirements that the Municipal Board must use in determining if it will grant incorporation. She also listed several positives and negatives with becoming a city. A city has much more control over its own destiny but it requires to meet a lot requirements. Bev stated that there have been only a couple of incorporations allowed recently. Oak Grove which spent \$10,000 and Grant which spent \$30,000 on the process. She noted that they both had used the same lawyer because of his excellent track record in this type of case. She summed it up with the question of whether Eureka can come up with a good case or not.

Lawyer Needs: Cheryl Schindeldecker and Lee Topp then discussed legal needs. Some had brought up the idea of having a lawyer in attendance at all meeting because the issues being raised at these meetings were becoming too complex. A consensus of those present felt that the current system was probably best because if forced a cooling off period until the lawyers could be contacted. Wally Bohrn commented that the Township should not skimp on legal expertise at this time.

Fire Contracts: Cheryl reported that a new contract with Lakeville had been worked out for the next two years. A 6% increase each year. She also stated that no

other departments were willing to serve any part of Farmington's coverage area so the township is stuck paying what they dictate to us. Farmington is much higher than Lakeville.

Roads: A general discussion of road conditions was held. Greg Gudbjartsson brought up the road maintenance schedule and road inspection trip report. A discussion ensued as to what had been requested at the last annual meeting. Greg thought that the board had been directed to post both for public view. All agreed that it had been requested and Lee Topp said that he was sorry that the time constraints at the board meetings had prevented it from being done. Greg Gudbjartsson made a motion to post the maintenance schedule and road report. Calvin Pflaum amended the motion to direct Greg Gudbjartsson, Lee Topp and George Johnson to conduct a meeting to complete the update to the maintenance schedule and present the revised schedule to the Township's contractor and post it. They are to be paid \$25 for this meeting. Duane Olmstead seconded the amended motion and it carried. Greg Gudbjartsson made a motion to Post the Road Inspection Report by July 1st and Beth Eilers seconded it. Motion Carried. Kenny Miller warned that the cost of Lime rock had jumped and not as much could be done with the amount budgeted. Kenny also mentioned that he thought it would be a good idea to try and pull the gravel up out of the ditches with a disk attachment. He stated that the Townships current mowing contractor, Dale Kuchinka, has an attachment. He felt that someone should contact him to see about a trial project with a grader following along behind to spread out what was brought up.

Gary Schultz presented the 1998 proposed budget. It was determined to be 5.5% increase over the 1997 budget. Questions were asked about fund divisions and how the money was really kept in one fund and used where needed. Beth Eilers asked about the large difference between 1996 budget and actual. Gary stated that that most of the discrepancy was due to late bridge rebuild bill from the county. It should have been paid in 1996 but was not received until February 1997. Beth also stated that she didn't like the way the budget was drawn up and that it didn't follow good accounting practices. A discussion followed with the consensus seeming to be that while it wasn't pretty the bottom line was what really counted and the township was in the black for several years. Clark Smith made a motion to approve the 1998 budget as presented and Earl Schindeldecker seconded. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn and set the next Annual Meeting for March 10, 1998 at 8:00 PM was made by Lisa Schindeldecker, seconded by George Johnson and carried.

1997 Election Summary

A total of 41 ballots were cast in the Town Election

Clark Smith, 35 votes for 3 year Supervisor term

Wally Bohrn, 2 write in votes.

Beverly Topp, 29 votes for 3 year Supervisor term

Mike Ryan, 2 write in votes

Gary Schulz, 35 votes for 2 year Treasurer term

Kenny Miller, 1 write in vote

Mary Sly, 1 write in vote

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