

EUREKA TOWNSHIP
DAKOTA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2022

Call to Order

The 2022 Eureka Township Annual Meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m. by Clerk Rane Solis and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Residents Present: Ralph Fredlund, Gary Gunderson, Beth Eilers, Nancy Sauber, Colleen Riley, John Olson, Wendy Klager, Nathan Shaw, Stacy Shaw, Beverly Swanson, Bill Clancy, Lu Barfknecht, Paul Burkhardt, Deb Burkhardt, Glenn Benson, Alan Klager, Kathleen Kauffman, Ken Olstad, Donovan Palmquist, Gary Smith, Mark Nelson.

Others Present: Rane Solis, Amy Liberty, State Representative Jon Koznick.

Zoom Attendance: Georgie Molitor, Brian Ahern, Jeff Otto, Julie Larson, Mike Greco, Cheryl Schindeldecker.

Election of a Moderator

The floor was opened for nominations for a moderator. Lu Barfknecht moved to nominate Ken Olstad. Kathleen Kauffman seconded the motion. The Clerk called for any other nominations and, hearing none, the floor was closed. Nomination carried unanimously.

Motion to waive reading of the 2021 Annual Meeting minutes

Ralph Fredlund moved to waive the reading of the 2021 Annual Meeting minutes. Donovan Palmquist seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the 2021 Annual Meeting minutes

Lu Barfknecht moved to approve the 2021 Annual Meeting minutes. Ralph Fredlund seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Set the date and place for the 2023 Annual Meeting

Kathleen Kauffman moved to set the date and place for the 2023 Annual Meeting for Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 8:15 p.m. at Town Hall. Lu Barfknecht seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Set the polling place and time for elections

Lu Barfknecht moved to set the polling place and time for elections to be held at Town Hall from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Donovan Palmquist seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Motion to waive reading of checks written and received and accept the synopsis

Ralph Fredlund moved to waive the reading of checks written and received, and to accept the synopsis provided by the Treasurer. Nancy Sauber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Reading of the 2021 Treasurer's Report

Ranee Solis presented the Treasurer's Report. As of December 31, 2021:

Fund	Beginning Balance	Total Receipts	Sale of Investments	Transfers In	Total Disbursed	Purchase of Investments	Transfers Out	Ending Balance	Outstanding Checks	Bank Balance
General Fund	\$ 177,622.35	\$ 385,015.15	\$ 42,971.83	\$ -	\$ 205,514.42	\$ 593.46	\$ 123,200.00	\$ 276,301.45	\$ 6,514.04	\$ 282,815.49
Road & Bridge	\$ 259,918.25	\$ 428,457.89	\$ 27,050.52	\$ -	\$ 320,532.95	\$ 440.62	\$ 61,200.00	\$ 333,253.09		\$ 333,253.09
Permit Escrow - Gen Fund	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 5,500.00		\$ -	\$ 7,500.00		\$ -	\$ 5,500.00	\$ -	\$ 5,500.00
Permit Escrow - R & B	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
Covid - ARPA	\$ -	\$ 77,987.15			\$ 639.45			\$ 77,347.70		\$ 77,347.70
Fire & Rescue	\$ 18,813.61	\$ -		\$ 82,400.00	\$ 90,905.93		\$ -	\$ 10,307.68	\$ 9,444.20	\$ 19,751.88
Kelly Aggregate Fund	\$ 3,240.74	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 3,240.74	\$ -	\$ 3,240.74
Professional Services Fund	\$ 304.60	\$ -		\$ 25,500.00	\$ 6,752.25		\$ -	\$ 19,052.35	\$ -	\$ 19,052.35
Storage Building Fund	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -		\$ 5,100.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 10,100.00	\$ -	\$ 10,100.00
Asphalt/Hard Surface Fund	\$ 185,407.30	\$ -		\$ 51,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 236,407.30	\$ -	\$ 236,407.30
Road & Bridge CIP Fund	\$ 10,500.00	\$ -		\$ 5,100.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 15,600.00	\$ -	\$ 15,600.00
Town Hall CIP Fund	\$ 12,226.06	\$ -		\$ 10,200.00	\$ 5,615.00		\$ -	\$ 16,811.06	\$ -	\$ 16,811.06
Emergency Road Fund	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -		\$ 5,100.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 10,100.00	\$ -	\$ 10,100.00
Bank Total:	\$ 688,032.91	\$ 899,460.19	\$ 70,022.35	\$ 184,400.00	\$ 637,460.00	\$ 1,034.08	\$ 184,400.00	\$ 1,019,021.37	\$ 15,958.24	\$1,034,979.61

Fund	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
Petty Cash	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Beginning Account Balance	\$ 688,132.91	Ending Account Balances: \$ 1,019,121.37

Bank Balances as on January 1, 2022

New Market Bank checking account:	\$ 15,958.24
Less outstanding checks:	\$ (15,958.24)
General Fund Savings account:	\$ 418,660.98
Road and Bridge savings account:	\$ 600,360.39
Total Bank Balances:	\$1,019,021.37

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report

Ralph Fredlund moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Nancy Sauber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission Report

Planning Commission members 2022-2023

Randy Wood, Chair (2023), Bill Clancy, Vice Chair (2022), Julie Larson (2023), Chad Berg (2024), Deb Burkhardt (2024).

Planning Commission Research Conducted

- Minnesota Paving & Materials Findings Report
- Big Sky Development visit and Findings Report
- Rationale of 33-foot road frontage requirements
- Mining annual review letter – uniform/more comprehensive
- Exempt Agriculture Zoning Approval form update
- Over-the-counter permits review
- Extended Home Business – Ordinance discussion ongoing
- Housing Rights and Transfer – Public Hearing forthcoming

2021 Eureka Township Permits

➤ New Residence	4	➤ Roofing/Siding/Window	29
➤ Accessory Building	8	➤ Plumbing	5
➤ Ag-exempt Building	3	➤ Mechanical	14
➤ Remodel	1	➤ Septic	8
➤ Demolition	1	➤ Right-of-way	9
➤ Solar Energy	2		
Total Permits: 84			

Town Board Report

Town Board members 2022-2023

Donovan Palmquist, Chair (2023), Ralph Fredlund, Vice Chair (2023), Lu Barfknecht (2022), Nancy Sauber (2024), Tim Murphy (2024), Kathleen Kauffman (Interim).

Town Board Report

- Broadband Infrastructure Grant application
- State Road Grant application
- American Rescue Plan Act funds application
- Administrative Hearing system
- Town Hall keyless entry system
- Mining Ordinance setback text amendment
- Ordinance language to allow for the assessment of unpaid fees
- Home Extended Business
- Assigned liaisons to the Airlake Airport Advisory Committee
- Lakeville annexation of 2 parcels
- Moved all funds from Castle Rock Bank to New Market Bank
- Seal coating of Town Hall parking lot
- Litigation with Scotts Company/Hyponex Corporation
- Eureka Estates drainage project – Iceland Path area \$44,000
 - Ditch and swale grading along the east and north side of Iceland Path
 - Install 3 driveway culverts
 - Install 1 centerline culvert
- COVID-related upgrades:
 - Implemented Microsoft 365 systems
 - Postage meter and remote deposit banking

Road Report

2021 Road Work Completed

- Limestone overlay and spot gravel (15,898.80 ton)
 - 220th St. W. (1,191.45 ton)
 - 225th St. W. (1,991.93 ton)
 - 235th St. W. (134.87 ton)
 - 240th St. W. (1,710.07 ton)
 - 245th St. W. (859.55 ton)
 - 247th St. W. (903.76 ton)
 - 257th St. W. (975.01 ton)
 - 265th St. W. (2,921.50 ton)
 - Essex Ave (563.49 ton)
 - Fairgreen Ave (1,156.27 ton)
 - Grenada Ave (49.20 ton)
 - Highview Ave (570.90 ton)

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| 250 th St. W. (602.20 ton) | Iberia Ave (618.20 ton) |
| 250 th & Flagstaff (109.90 ton) | Spot gravel (17.94 ton) |
- Dust control (25,458 gallons)
 - Ditch mowing / brush removal (Township wide)
 - Tree/stump removal from rights-of-way (247th & Fordham and 225th St. W.)

Citizen Q & A

Q: What is the status of 245th St. as far as giving it back to the County?

A: The Board is looking into closing the road and has received some information from the attorney on the procedure.

Q: What is the status of the Scotts/Hyponex litigation?

A: There is a permit coming to the Town Board for review.

Q: Are we ever going to get dust control this year?

A: Yes. If you did not receive dust control last year, you will receive it this year.

Randy Wood suggested putting the dust control schedule on the website.

Beth Eilers stated that long discussions at meetings are preventing the Town Board from voting on agenda items. For the betterment of the Township and in the hope of creating a more efficient and productive meeting format, I make the following motion:

To limit each Town Board member to 10 minutes to speak on matters of importance. During the 10 minutes, no other member should speak. No member should participate again in discussion until every other Board member has had their opportunity to speak for 10 minutes. The Clerk or Chair should act as the timekeeper. Stacy Shaw seconded the motion for discussion. Kathleen Kauffman offered a friendly amendment that the initial introduction of a topic or a motion can be no more than 10 minutes and subsequent contributions can be no more than 5 minutes. Beth Eilers accepted the amendment.

Nancy Sauber noted that the Chair is supposed to be in charge of discussion and control the length. Ideas need to be explored thoroughly. Robust, lively discussion should take place without a timekeeper. Adopting this suggestion will cause more problems than it will solve.

Wendy Klager noted that if this motion passes, it is not binding on the Board. If passed, it constitutes advise only.

Stacy Shaw commented that there have been recent meetings where one member speaks at great length. This is the reason for the motion.

Nancy Sauber stated there have been times that she has had to point out to the Board that their actions are contrary to statute. She would like to work as a team of 10 and learn from each other. She asks the Planning Commission questions to help them understand the topic and has been thanked for it. She has taken more training than most Boards put together.

The Moderator asked to keep discussion on the topic of the motion.

Gary Smith commented that the general public attend the meetings and it is not fair for them to sit through lengthy discussion while waiting for their agenda item.

Donovan Palmquist noted the Board began having 2 meetings a month to limit the meetings to 3 hours . Some long discussions have happened, but we owe it to residents to discuss these issues in a clear and concise way.

Bill Clancy stated he understands and agrees with Beth's intent, but the math does not work. Doing so would allow 50 minutes for each agenda item.

Nancy Sauber stated the Board has always put permits at the beginning of the agenda. She commends the Chair for allowing citizens to speak, it is a good practice. This is our opportunity to speak together as a group without violating the open meeting law.

Jeff Otto commented that the dynamics of a small group meeting can be very efficient when allowing for free flow of information.

Beth Eilers stated her intent is not to prevent robust discussion, but rather that it be in a fair and orderly fashion so anyone who wishes to speak has an unobstructed ability to do so.

The Moderator called for a vote on the motion. With 7 votes in favor and 13 votes opposed, the motion failed.

Q: How do formal complaints get placed on the agenda?

A: If it is a citizen complaint regarding an Ordinance violation, they must complete the form and submit it to the Clerk. If the building inspector, Town Board member or Planning Commission member observe something that is clearly out of line with the Ordinances, they can ask to place the item on the agenda with or without a written form.

Kathleen Kauffman stated that, as a paid member of the Town Board, she has no issue with putting her name on a complaint form for an Ordinance violation and believes this to be the best practice.

Set the Levy for 2023

2023 Proposed Levy

Levy Category	Budget	Other Resources	Final Levy	% of Budget
Revenue	\$303,629	\$ (78,400)	\$225,229	29.47%
Road & Bridge	\$472,250	\$ (23,750)	\$448,500	58.68%
Fire Service	\$ 90,600		\$ 90,600	11.85%
Total Final Levy	\$866,479	\$(102,150)	\$764,329	100%

Ralph Fredlund reported that the 2023 levy represents an 8% increase over last year's levy of \$707,712. With inflation and increasing costs of fuel, etc. the Board wanted to build in a little cushion.

Ralph Fredlund moved to approve the 2023 Levy in the amount of \$764,329. Donovan Palmquist seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Announce unofficial election results

The Moderator announced the unofficial results of the election:

Lu Barfknecht: 127 votes

Write In: 2 votes

Adjournment

Donovan Palmquist moved to adjourn the meeting. Ralph Fredlund seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.