

Becker Township Board Annual Meeting | 2022

Attendance: Joe Danielson, Tanya Danielson, Brad Wilkening, Russ Armstrong, Bryan Olson, Mark Swanson, Brian Kolbinger, Marilyn Danielson, Robin Boros, Fran Seeley, Lucinda Messman

Meeting took place immediately following the close of polls for township elections on March 8, 2022.

Clerk Lucinda Messman called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m..

Nominations for moderator opened. Bryan Olson was nominated for moderator by Brian Kolbinger, Second by Russ Armstrong. Motion carried all voting in favor.

Bryan Olson was elected moderator for the 2022 Becker Township Board Annual Meeting took a seat up front and conducted the meeting.

Motion to accept agenda by Tanya Danielson. Second by Brad Wilkening. Motion carried, all voting in favor.

Motion to dispense with reading of the minutes and approve as distributed by Brian Kolbinger. Second by Tanya Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.

Centra Care Health Annual Report – Mark Swanson is the representative for Becker Township. He stated the handouts were distributed in keeping with the Hospital's Covid-19 policy. The hospital offered to attend a meeting via zoom if any questions come up. Mark also stated people should go look at the hospital if they have not seen lately, many improvements,. Some mental health beds have been added to the emergency area now, the cancer center is expanding, there are no more covid ward in the long term care facility area and there is a nice walk area by the river.

Board of Audit Report read by Clerk Lucinda Messman.

2021 Treasurer's report presented in the evening packet - Treasurer Tanya Danielson

- In full disclosure, Treasurer Danielson stated she is an employee of the Sherburne State Bank.
- Depository recommendation for 2022 remains as it was last year, Sherburne State Bank.
- ARPA funds have increased our reserves, but is not a long term source. One time funding.

Open Forum portion of the meeting brought no comments:

- Mark Swanson, School Board Chair stated that since the referendum passed, the bus garage will be moving outside town in the area of CR 67 and 107th Street SE. 107th is a gravel Township road. Other roads abutting the area are county roads. It is a year or so out, but different traffic patterns will be coming and road upgrades may be needed in the area. The school has approved preliminary plans – has the township seen them yet? No. The current bus garage area will become the early childhood center.

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Road Report presented by Supervisor Robin Boros. Information distributed could be read by those in attendance. Discussion topics

- A few roads delayed last year and pushed to this year
- 127th/153rd is cost shared with City of Becker
 - There will be stop signs at intersection
 - Bid prices secured for this year – good due to volatility of world market for oil
- 2023 the 97th Street Joint project (City of Becker and Clear Lake Township) is planned. About ½ the funding from an LRIP grant.

Fire Department preliminary budget numbers were reviewed by Supervisor Brian Kolbinger.

- We have a Joint Powers agreement established with the City of Becker
- Santiago Township contracts with us for services
- Fire department is funded based on Tax Capacity
- Our portion is \$124,055 this year. Levy is recommended at \$120,000 as we continue to use the remaining surplus from prior years.
- Q: is the value of Sherco closing going to impact the Tax Capacity for the City, increasing the Township contribution rate? A: unknown at this time. There are many changes allocations and the decommissioning is not a known factor right now. Yes, it is believed it may impact our share in the future, but we do not know yet.

Permit Report Data distributed in packet was reviewed Supervisor Brad Wilkening.

- 263 permits in 2021
- 21 new homes

Newspaper recommendation – keep as The Patriot. Motion by Joe Danielson. Second by Brian Kolbinger. Motion carried, all voting in favor.

Next Annual meeting set for Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 8:01 p.m. at Becker Township Hall, 12165 Hancock Street, Becker, MN. Motion by Tanya Danielson. Second by Robin Boros. Motion carried, all voting in favor.

Posting locations recommended as Becker Town Hall, Becker City Hall and Becker Township website www.beckertownship.org. Motion by Mark Swanson. Second by Joe Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.

Town Board Report – Brian Kolbinger, Town Board Chair

- Highlights of the year were reviewed
 - Economy is experiencing inflation
 - ARPA funds are not included in the budget or levy. We are using to complete several updates
 - ADA Compliant restroom
 - Updated FIRE signs for all township addresses – plan to replace this year
 - Federal funds – they just opened up so we can use on roads, so that is where the bulk of that funding will likely be used

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- General Fund levy – recommending 5,000 increase due to costs of business that are increasing
- Road and Bridge Levy – recommending increase of 50,000. From 1,000,000 to 1,050,000.
 - Our CIP is helping to project road expenses
 - Steady increase in this levy each year is needed to stay on track
 - Petroleum and other costs have increased.
- Town Hall fund – recommending hold at \$15,000. That is what is required to maintain/upkeep Township Hall and grounds
- Fire Fund Levy – recommending we increase to \$120,000. We have been using the excess funds and we are almost through using. Have spent last approximate 5 years working to return to balanced level.
- Benchmark recommendations for Townships is to increase levy 4-6% per year to stay on track with inflation and increased costs of maintenance of roads. Our increases fall in that area at 5.81%.

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Township Levy -


- **8:27 pm General Fund – motion to approve at \$185,000 by Robin Boros. Second by Tanya Danielson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**
- **8:28 pm Road and Bridge Fund - motion to approve \$1,050,000 by Joe Danielson. Second by Russ Armstrong. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**
- **8:28 pm Town Hall Fund – motion to approve \$15,000 by Brad Wilkening. Second by Mark Swanson. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**
- **8:28 pm Fire Fund – motion to approve \$120,000 by Brad Wilkening. Second by Robin Boros. Motion carried, all voting in favor.**

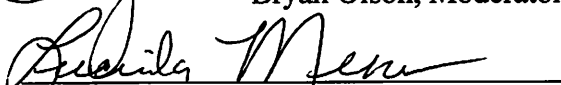
Report of Election – Seat #3 retained by Brad Wilkening See Board of Canvass minutes and website for complete results.

Last call for other topics – none presented.

Moderator Bryan Olson thanked all town officers present for their service in the past.

Becker Township 2022 Annual Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.


Bryan Olson, Moderator


Lucinda Messman, Clerk