Annual Meeting



Becker Township Annual Meeting of the Electors

Agenda Tuesday, March 14, 2023 Becker Township Hall

1. Call to order

2. Election of Moderator

Moderator needs to be available to meet with clerk by Thursday, March 16, 2023, to sign minutes.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve as distributed or corrected.

4. Minutes

Motion to dispense with reading of 2022 Meeting Minutes and approve as distributed or corrected.

- 5. Board of Audit Report Clerk Lucinda Messman
- 6. Treasurer's Report & Depository Recommendation Treasurer Tanya Danielson
- 7. Road Report Township Road Supervisor Joe Danielson/Road Supervisor Robin Boros
- **8.** Fire Department Preliminary Budget Allocation Report
- 9. Permits Report Supervisor Brad Wilkening, Chair Joint Planning Board

10. Newspaper Recommendation

Motion required to recommend: Official Newspaper (Currently, The Patriot)

11. Open Forum

Any other considerations prior to setting the levy

12. Set Next Annual Meeting

Motion required to set: Time: 8:01 p.m., Date: 3/12/2024, Location: Becker Township Hall

13. Set Posting Location(s)

Motion required to recommend location(s):

Currently posting locations:

Becker Township Hall, 12165 Hancock Street

Becker City Hall, 12060 Sherburne Avenue (Is the post office a better location?)

Becker Township Website, www.beckertownship.org

14. Town Board Report

Town Board Chair, Brian Kolbinger

15. Township Levies

Motion by category as listed in Board of Audit Report

16. Report of Annual Election

Moderator to read unofficial results. Final results available after Board of Canvass to meet immediately following this meeting.

17. Adjourn



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.

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
 - o There will be stop signs at intersection
 - o 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
 - o 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

- o 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.
- o Town Hall fund recommending hold at \$15,000. That is what is required to maintain/upkeep Township Hall and grounds
- o 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.
- o 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%.

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

Becker Township Board of Audit Report March 6, 2023

Becker Town Board Supervisors Reviewed Clerk and Treasurer financial records.

Beginning Balance 2022:	\$ 1,966,113.15
Total Receipts for 2022:	2,351,950.74
Total Disbursements for 2022:	2,611,296.12
Ending Balance 2022:	1,709,168.31

The following levy recommendations are shown below next to last year's levy.

Fund	2023 Certified Levy	2024 Levy Recommendation
General Fund	180,000	195,000
Road & Bridge Fund	1,050,000	1,300,000
Town Hall Fund	15,000	25,000
Fire Fund	120,000	150,000
Total Levy	\$ 1,365,000	\$ 1,670,000

As on 12/31/2022

Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Sale of Investments	Transfers In	Disbursements	Purchase of Investments	Transfers Out	Ending Balance	Investment Balance	Total Balance
General Fund	159,495.32	200,542.88	0.00	0.00	212,113.35	0.00	0.00	147,924.85	0.00	147,924.85
Road and Bridge	1,168,544.88	1,109,739.14	0.00	200,000.00	1,602,897.23	0.00	0.00	875,386.79	0.00	875,386.79
Town Hall Fund	35,335.55	15,487.25	0.00	0.00	36,700.85	0.00	0.00	14,121.95	0.00	14,121.95
Fire Fund (Joint with city)	127,491.01	102,849.36	0.00	0.00	130,055.00	0.00	0.00	100,285.37	0.00	100,285.37
Fire Hall Bond (Joint with City)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fines and Fees	45,233.13	15,175.75	0.00	0.00	55,131.88	0.00	0.00	5,277.00	0.00	5,277.00
Permits - (Internal Break Out from General Fund)	76,624.09	314,971.47	0.00	2,694.60	220,926.07	0.00	0.00	173,364.09	0.00	173,364.09
Escrowed Funds - Held	46,389.00	88,766.25	0.00	0.00	72,398.15	0.00	3,494.60	59,262.50	0.00	59,262.50
Park Acquisition and Development (Optional)	12,000.00	1,600.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,400.00	0.00	14,400.00
Boulder Croosing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COVID Fund	295,000.17	299,324.04	0.00	0.00	77,578.99	0.00	200,000.00	316,745.22	0.00	316,745.22
Total :	1,966,113.15	2,148,456.14	0.00	203,494.60	2,407,801.52	0.00	203,494.60	1,706,767.77	0.00	1,706,767.77

Becker Township General Revenue Fund

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022

RECEIPTS		2022		2021		\$ Change
State of MN MV Credit Agr/Real/MH	\$	8,801.12	\$	7,880.94	\$	920.18
City Annexation Payment		5,256.88	\$	-,,000.5	\$	5,256.88
County Tax Receipts		175,038.76	\$	177,002.79	\$	(1,964.03)
Forfeited Land Sales		175,050.70	\$	12,057.28	\$	(12,057.28)
Assessment Fees.	Φ	100.00	\$	125.00	\$	(25.00)
Money Market Deposit Account Interest	\$	3,167.49	\$	901.67	\$	2,265.82
Gopher Bounty		3,107.49	\$	480.00	\$	(480.00)
Filing Fees/Admin Fees/Other		8.00	\$	6.00	\$	2.00
Local Government Aid	Φ Φ		\$ \$	0.00		
	Φ Φ	301.41	-	764.00	\$	301.41
State Aid		1,729.00	\$	764.00	\$	965.00
Score Grant	\$	559.77	\$	1,876.62	\$	(1,316.85)
Mailboxes	\$	603.00	\$	564.00	\$	39.00
Transfers from other funds	_		\$	9,808.30	\$	(9,808.30)
Donations		1,000.00	\$	-	\$	1,000.00
Reimbursements		3,626.95	\$	-	\$	3,626.95
	\$	350.50	\$	582.71	\$	(232.21)
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE FUND	\$	200,542.88	\$	212,049.31	\$	(11,506.43)
DICHIDCEMENTS		2022		2021		© Change
DISBURSEMENTS.	¢		¢		Ф	\$ Change 5,063.50
Supervisors	Φ	17,923.54	\$	12,860.04	\$	*
Election	2	16,124.52	\$	1,009.01	\$	15,115.51
1 3	\$	55,279.81	\$	44,144.20	\$	11,135.61
Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer	\$	8,680.21	\$	699.88	\$	7,980.33
Phone Reimb.	\$	-	\$	1,920.00	\$	(1,920.00)
Fed Withholding Employee & Employer		26,812.59	\$	17,886.16	\$	8,926.43
State Withholding Employee and Employer		4,223.56	\$	3,140.34	\$	1,083.22
Education		684.00	\$	=	\$	684.00
Recording and Reporting		406.24	\$	737.46	\$	(331.22)
Employee Recognition		-	\$	500.00	\$	(500.00)
Printing/Publishing		46.25	\$	314.75	\$	(268.50)
Postage		-	\$	408.16	\$	(408.16)
Mileage/Travel		-	\$	169.68	\$	(169.68)
Audit		14,608.37	\$	15,750.00	\$	(1,141.63)
Engineering Fees	\$	3,750.00	\$	3,110.00	\$	640.00
IT - Software	\$	4,003.51	\$	5,789.07	\$	(1,785.56)
Park and Recreation	\$	16,500.00	\$	15,000.00	\$	1,500.00
Appraisal Fees/Assessing	\$	17,055.68	\$	16,967.33	\$	88.35
Historical Society	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	-
Becker Clean Up	\$	575.00	\$	1,809.72	\$	(1,234.72)
Insurance	\$	4,719.00	\$	4,406.00	\$	313.00
Impound	\$	265.00	\$	2,029.00	\$	(1,764.00)
Cemetery Association		2,450.00	\$	2,300.00	\$	150.00
Supplies		6,139.84	\$	4,491.39	\$	1,648.45
	\$	515.00	\$	955.00	\$	(440.00)
MAT Dues/Sherburne Cty Assoc. Twsp	\$	2,418.72	\$	2,445.92	\$	(27.20)
	\$	1,050.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	(450.00)
Legal		4,697.50	\$	8,084.47	\$	(3,386.97)
Planner	\$	2,645.00	\$	4,277.50	\$	(1,632.50)
Mailboxes	~	2,043.00	\$	1,058.00	\$	(1,058.00)
Miscellaneous		39.01	\$	484.48	\$	(445.47)
Transfers to other funds		<i>57.</i> 01	Ψ	707.70	\$	(-TT-3-T/) -
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE DISBURSEMENTS		212,112.35	\$	174,747.56	\$	37,364.79
	Ψ		Ψ	1, 19, 17,50	Ψ	21,004.17

Becker Township Town Hall Fund Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022

RECEIPTS		2022		2021		\$ Change
County Tax Receipts	\$	15,260.00	\$	15,213.13	\$	46.87
State Tax Receipts			\$	-	\$	-
Interest	\$	250.00	\$	255.66	\$	(5.66)
TOTAL TOWN HALL RECEIPTS	\$	15,510.00	\$	15,468.79	\$	41.21
DISBURSEMENTS		2022		2021		© Change
	Ф		Ф		Ф	\$ Change
Gas/Electric/Water/Sewer/Garbage		6,862.32	\$	-,	\$	658.10
Outside Maint	\$	17,119.50	\$	8,285.00	\$	8,834.50
Inside Maintenance	\$	7,997.60	\$	4,083.00	\$	3,914.60
Supplies	\$	1,273.04	\$	316.73	\$	956.31
Insurance Claim	\$	3,000.00			\$	3,000.00
Misc	\$	448.39	\$	45.00	\$	403.39
TOTAL TOWN HALL DISBURSEMENTS	\$	36,700.85	\$	18,933.95	\$	17,766.90

Becker Township Fines and Fees Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022

RECEIPTS	2022	2021	\$ Change *
Fines and Fees Received	\$ 15,032.90	\$ 16,588.28	\$ (1,555.38)
Sign Replacement		\$ 75.00	
Interest	\$ 142.85	\$ 242.24	\$ (99.39)
TOTAL FINES AND FEES RECEIPTS	\$ 15,175.75	\$ 16,905.52	\$ (1,654.77)

DISBURSEMENTS	2022		2021	:	\$ Change *
Fire Numbering and Signing		\$	-	\$	-
Sign and Signing\$	54,918.3	8 \$	2,353.39	\$	52,564.99
Legal \$	57.5	0 \$	-	\$	57.50
Recording & Reporting\$	156.0	0 \$	-	\$	156.00
Transfer to other funds		\$	-	\$	-
TOTAL FINES AND FEES DISBURSEMENTS \$	55,131.8	8 \$	2,353.39	\$	52,778.49

Becker Township Road & Bridge Fund Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022

RECEIPTS		2022	2021	Change
County Tax Receipts	\$	1,008,447.97	\$ 962,114.63	\$ 46,333.34
Green Acres Payback	\$	58.25	\$ 920.84	\$ (862.59)
State Pmts in Lieu of Aid				\$ -
Gravel Tax	\$	1.88	\$ 120.48	\$ (118.60)
Gas Tax/Road Allotment	\$	62,882.82	\$ 42,503.77	\$ 20,379.05
Money Market Deposit Account Interest	\$	15,861.38	\$ 7,460.15	\$ 8,401.23
Miscellaneous			\$ 240.48	\$ (240.48)
Reimbursements	\$	22,486.84	\$ -	\$ 22,486.84
Transfer from other funds	\$	200,000.00	\$ 1,140.00	\$ 198,860.00
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE RECEIPTS	\$	1,309,739.14	\$ 1,014,500.35	\$ 295,238.79
DISBURSEMENTS		2022	2021	
Gravel Roads	\$	67,273.34	\$ 224,453.78	\$ (157, 180.44)
Snow/Ice Removal	\$	129,817.00	\$ 99,040.00	\$ 30,777.00
Ditch Assessments	\$	169.35	\$ -	\$ 169.35
Land Acquisition	\$	19,515.00	\$ -	\$ 19,515.00
Culverts		-	\$ -	\$ -
Mowing/Weed Control	\$	8,925.00	\$ 7,277.50	\$ 1,647.50
Cat/Dozer/Loader/Trucks/Small Equip/Labor	\$	1,045.00	\$ 3,032.00	\$ (1,987.00)
Tree Removal and Trimming	\$	8,040.50	\$ 14,932.50	\$ (6,892.00)
Recording and Rptg - Advrtsig & Publishing.	\$	1,159.44	\$ -	\$ 1,159.44
Engineering Fees	\$	206,814.11	\$ 165,748.63	\$ 41,065.48
Attorney Fees	\$	4,427.50	\$ 2,802.50	\$ 1,625.00
Planner		-	\$ 637.50	\$ (637.50)
Technology		-	\$ 200.00	\$ (200.00)
Garbage Collection		1,162.25	\$ 2,634.48	\$ (1,472.23)
Supervisor/Clerk/Deputy Clerk/Road Tour	\$	9,034.19	\$ 9,412.38	\$ (378.19)
Mileage	\$	-	\$ 1,583.00	\$ (1,583.00)
Road Const New/Reconstruction - Paved Stre		1,104,075.65	\$ 196,192.73	\$ 907,882.92
Grading/Summer Road Work		13,680.00	\$ 15,145.03	\$ (1,465.03)
Sweeping		13,800.00	\$ 17,078.74	\$ (3,278.74)
Shouldering	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -
Dust Control	\$	2,415.00	\$ -	\$ 2,415.00
Misc	\$	829.90	\$ -	\$ 829.90
HWY 25 Coalition	\$	10,714.00	\$ 10,714.00	\$ -
Transfer to other funds	_	1 (04 (07 - 7 -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE DISBURSEMENTS	\$	1,602,897.23	\$ 770,884.77	\$ 832,012.46

Becker Township Fire Fund Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022

RECEIPTS	2022	2021	Change
County Tax Receipts\$	100,968.71	\$ 100,212.88	\$ 755.83
State Tax Receipts\$	-	\$ _	\$ -
Money Market Deposit Account Interest \$	1,880.65	\$ 1,110.13	\$ 770.52
Miscellaneous		\$ -	\$ -
Transfer from other funds		\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL FIRE FUND RECEIPTS\$	102,849.36	\$ 101,323.01	\$ 1,526.35
-			
DISBURSEMENTS	2022	2021	
Fire Protection\$	124,055.00	\$ 117,710.00	\$ 6,345.00
Fireman's Retirement - Relief Assoc \$	6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -
Misc		\$ -	\$ -
Legal		\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL FIRE FUND DISBURSEMENTS\$	130,055.00	\$ 123,710.00	\$ 6,345.00

Becker Township Permit Fund Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022

RECEIPTS		2022	2021	Change
Permits	\$	309,464.38	\$ 198,951.25	\$ 110,513.13
Transfers from other funds	\$	8,118.44	\$ =	\$ 8,118.44
Misc	\$	83.25	\$ -	\$ 83.25
TOTAL PERMIT RECEIPTS	\$	317,666.07	\$ 198,951.25	\$ 118,714.82
DISBURSEMENTS		2022	2021	
Supervisors/Planning/Joint Planning	\$	8,204.92	\$ 9,053.86	\$ (848.94)
Clerk /Deputy Clerk	\$	22,151.59	\$ 19,379.01	\$ 2,772.58
Treasurer	\$	6,858.80	\$ 2,099.60	\$ 4,759.20
Printing/Publishing	Ψ	0,050.00	\$ 3,152.27	\$ (3,152.27)
Recording	\$	2,657.92	\$ 920.00	\$ 1,737.92
Soil Borings	\$	5,950.00	\$ -	\$ 5,950.00
Legal	\$	8,932.50	\$ 9,296.13	\$ (363.63)
Engineering Fees	\$	16,802.50	\$ 13,152.50	\$ 3,650.00
Planning/Zoning	\$	15,266.22	\$ 6,463.15	\$ 8,803.07
Planner	\$	30,197.50	\$ 31,385.00	\$ (1,187.50)
Technology	,	,	\$ 740.00	\$ (740.00)
City for Permits	\$	5,347.50	\$ 14,236.60	\$ (8,889.10)
Building Inspections	\$	88,997.92	\$ 61,103.90	\$ 27,894.02
Reimbursements	\$	93.00	\$ 791.95	\$ (698.95)
State Surcharges	\$	8,691.82	\$ 5,386.80	\$ 3,305.02
Misc	\$	210.18	\$ 3,000.00	\$ (2,789.82)
Transfer to Other Funds			\$ 9,250.00	\$ (9,250.00)
TOTAL PERMIT DISBURSEMENTS	\$	220,362.37	\$ 189,410.77	\$ 30,951.60

Becker Fire Department – Preliminary Budget Allocation

Jurisdiction	2022 Allocation Percentage	2022 Allocation Amount	Allocation Percentage	2023 Allocation Amount
City of Becker	74.34%	\$ 359,422	68.19%	\$ 368,414
Becker Township	25.66%	\$ 124,055	26.63%	\$ 133,704

Fire Department funding is based on Tax Capacity of the two entities. The City of Becker's tax base will be decreasing due to the loss of the power plant; the Township's allocated share will be increasing.

Township residents consider fire protection an important asset and we are able to provide this excellent protection which is owned jointly by the City and Township.

The Joint Fire Department contracts services for Santiago Township.



Top image is the 1909 fire station courtesy of Sherburne History Center. Lower image is the current fire station taken by the clerk in 2020.

Becker Township Building Permit Report											
12/31/2019 12/31/2020 12/31/2021 12/31/2022											
Number of Commercial & Residential Building Permits Issued 323 385 263 984*											
Total Building Permit Valuation	10,623,841	13,951,576	11,687,497	34,904,132							

^{*}due to May 2022 storms, high number of re-roofing/siding permits

Type of Permit Issued	Number of Permits Issued		2022 Valuation
	2021	2022	2022 Valuation
New Single Family Dwellings	21	19	\$ 8,122,626
New/Upgraded/Repaired Septic Systems	52	45	\$ 441,000
Accessory Structures - Residential	26	22	\$ 1,462,580
Commercial - New Structure	1	1	\$ 3,113,991
Commercial Renovation/Addition	4	12	\$ 669,080
Cell Towers	4	3	\$ 70,000
Deck/Pool	15	17	\$ 538,434
Interior Renovation/Additions	39	31	\$ 955,770
Miscellaneous	44	139	\$ 4,797,477
Roofing/Siding	52	691	\$ 14,550,310
Solar - Commercial Permit	0	1	\$ 54,000
Solar - Non-Commercial	5	3	\$ 128,864
Total Building Permits Issued 2021	263	984	\$ 34,904,132

Becker Township Non-Building Permits Issued			
	12/31/2021	12/31/2022	
Use Permits	24	17	
All other non-building permits*	39	14	

^{*}Non-building permits include Private Kennels, Driveway, Food Trucks, Solicitors, and Utility Permits. End of 2020 and 2021 saw an uptick in Utility Permits related to internet.



2023 Annual Meeting Becker Township Road Report



PURPOSE:

- The purpose of this report is to present a general summary of the road projects and/or maintenance activities completed in 2022.
- For additional information and/or details regarding specific Township maintenance projects, actual work completed, and/or budgets please attend Town Board meetings or contact Town Hall for information.

GOAL:

• The goal of the Township is maintain the Township roads such that they ensure the safety and welfare of our residents while balancing the relatively high-cost of road maintenance.

GENERAL:

- Becker Township maintains approximately 72 miles of township roads of which approximately 59 miles are covered with bituminous (asphalt), and approximately 13 miles are covered with gravel.
- Road inspections are typically conducted by the Township Road Supervisors. The spring tours are mainly used to determine which projects will be completed and the fall tour is used to review the work that was completed. An inventory of road conditions is maintained by the Town Board. A select list of projects is generated through the use of the CIP each year as a result of reviewing the inventory. The proposed road projects are then evaluated, prioritized and selected for potential maintenance options. Based upon the costs of the proposed maintenance projects the annual road and bridge fund budget is generated and recommended by the Town Board.

ROAD MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP)

In 2018, the Township initiated a Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). As a first step in creating the Plan the existing Township Road Map was reviewed and updated to meet current road classifications. The next step was to inventory all the roads in the Township. The activities involved in developing the CIP are continual and subject to change as conditions warrant.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

As a result of the CIP ongoing evaluations and fluctuations in materials costs from year to year will determine which road maintenance projects can be completed. The continual increases in diesel fuel and oil prices have impacted the cost of planned maintenance as planned per our CIP. We are recommending an increase in the levy to help account for this in future years.

Planned Road Improvements for 2022 included:

- 82nd street
- 164th Pavement
- 67th two portions cost sharing with Santiago Twp
 - Culvert
 - Gravel
- 127th/153rd Cost sharing with City of Becker

Unplanned Road Improvements

- 170th Street SE Bridge View Development
- 137th Street SE gravel portion

MOWING AND WEED CONTROL

- Mowing and weed control involves mowing and controlling select weeds along all of the Township road ditches.
- The ditches are periodically mowed and the weeds are controlled as needed. In general the ditches are mowed in accordance with MN §§160.232 and select weeds are controlled as needed.

TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL - BRUSHING-STUMP REMOVALS AND GRINDING

- Tree trimming and brush removal involves trimming tree branches, removing trees and stumps from the Township ROW. In general, our goal is to focus our trimming activities on oak trees during the winter to avoid the spread of oak wilt and do trees such as elms, cottonwoods, etc. in the summer and/or fall.
- The Township continually conducts tree trimming/removal activities that are prioritized based upon the risk to public safety.

PAVED ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CRACK FILLING/SEALING/PATCHING/STRIPING

• Crack Filling/sealing/patching are maintenance activities that are used to extend the life of asphalt pavement.

ROAD IMPROVEMENT PLANNED FOR 2023

- 97th Avenue LRIP grant to cover portion of cost.
- Crack filling
- Patching
- Double Chip Seal of two roads

DUST CONTROL

• Dust Control is a maintenance activity that is used to reduce the amount of airborne dust. Dust control activities are applied as warranted throughout the summer.

SHOULDERING - MATERIAL AND PLACEMENT

- Shouldering is a maintenance activity that is used to repair and grade road shoulders that have eroded from various maintenance activities throughout the year.
- Select road shoulders are repaired as warranted throughout the year.

SWEEPING

- Sweeping is a maintenance activity that is used to reduce the amount of sand and debris along the roads. Sweeping activities are completed as warranted throughout the summer.
- In general road sweeping is completed as needed in the spring.

GRADING GRAVEL ROADS

• Gravel roads are periodically graded as warranted throughout the summer. Grading activities are typically conducted after a rain event if possible.

ICE AND SNOW REMOVAL

• Snow is plowed and/or removed from the roads typically when approximately 2 inches of snow has fallen onto the Township Roads. Snow removal also involves placing sand and salt as warranted.

SIGN PROGRAM

