

TOWN of MAY
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
ANNUAL MEETING – OFFICIAL MINUTES
March 9, 2021

The Town of May held its Annual Meeting on March 9, 2021 via ZOOM. Those present included: Todd Holt, Cheryl Holt, Greg Glenn, John Adams, James Brockberg, Laurie Carlson, Chris Hause, Sheila Hause, John Pazlar, David Szczepanski, Bill Voedisch, Kathy Adams, Angela Knudson, Paul Creager, Nancy McKay, Don Rolf, Tony Frattalone, Toni Osojnicki, Molly S, Washington County Commissioner Fran Miron, Washington County Public Works Deputy Director Wayne Sandberg, and Clerk/Treasurer Linda Tibbetts. Tibbetts called the meeting to order at 8:17 p.m.

At their March 4, 2021 Town Board Meeting, the May Town Board adopted Resolution 2021-04 allowing the Annual Meeting to be conducted virtually.

Election of Moderator

Tibbetts asked for nominations from the audience for moderator of the annual meeting. Kathy Adams moved, seconded by John Adams, to nominate and elect Paul Creager as moderator of the Annual Meeting. Roll call vote: ALL YES. Motion passed.

2020 Annual Meeting Minutes, Reading or Waive, and Accept

The 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes were posted on the website in March 2020 for review. Creager asked for a motion to read the minutes, or to waive the reading of the minutes and accept. Creager moved, seconded by Glenn, to waive the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes as presented. Roll call vote: ALL YES. Motion passed.

2020 Financial Report, Reading or Waive, and Accept

The 2020 Financial Report was posted on the township's website in advance of the meeting. Szczepanski moved, seconded by John Adams, to waive the reading and accept the 2020 Financial Report as presented. Roll call vote: ALL YES. Motion passed.

Youth Service Bureau

Creager reported in 2020, the town paid \$2,500.00 to Lakes Center for Youth & Families and \$2,500.00 to Stillwater Youth Service Bureau. The proposed 2022 levy includes the same. Szczepanski moved, seconded by John Adams, to not donate to Lakes Center for Youth & Families and Stillwater Youth Service Bureau.

Szczepanski opined that townships are not the appropriate place to fund social welfare programs. These programs are funded by the State of Minnesota, Washington County, and local school districts. Voedisch said the township does not “donate” rather enters into a contract-for-services with the two bureaus. Although she agrees with, in part, Szczepanski, Kathy Adams opined in favor of aiding the youth services bureaus as this is a way for our community to come together to help one another. Chris Hause asked if how many township residents have benefited from these programs? Tibbetts was unsure and it was noted no representative from either Lakes Center or Stillwater Youth was present at the meeting. Sheila Hause asked how the “contract” situation worked. Tibbetts responded that both bureaus send contract-for-services that is presented and approved by the Town Board on an annual basis, based on the Annual Meeting outcome. The proposed \$5,000 is included in the proposed 2022 levy. Szczepanski said there are numerous

programs/non-profits in the area that provide assistance to residents and to pick just two is wrong as he believes the township should take into consideration more than just the bureaus. Voedisch stressed the bureaus provide intervention needs to residents in the community with at-risk children.

Roll Call Vote: Todd Holt-No, Cheryl Holt-No, Glenn-Yes, Szczepanski-Yes, Kathy Adams-No, Paul Creager-No, Knudson-Abstain, John Adams-Yes, Chris Hause-Yes, Sheila Hause-Yes, Pazlar-No, McKay-No, Rolf-Yes, Frattalone-No, Osojnicki-No, Carlson-No, Voedisch-No, Molly S-No. Motion failed at 11-6.

Creager moved, seconded by Voedisch, to allocate \$5,000.00 for the local youth service bureaus in the 2022 levy. Roll Call Vote: Todd Holt-Yes, Cheryl Holt-Yes, Glenn-No, Szczepanski-No, Kathy Adams-Yes, Paul Creager-Yes, Knudson- Yes, John Adams-Yes, Chris Hause-No, Sheila Hause-No, Pazlar-Yes, McKay-Yes, Rolf-No, Frattalone-Yes, Osojnicki-Yes, Carlson-Yes, Voedisch-Yes, Molly S-Yes, Brockberg-Yes. Motion passed.

Proposed Tax Levy 2022

The proposed 2022 budget/levy was mailed to citizens in the February 2021 Newsletter as well as published on the township's website. The Town Board approved the proposed 2022 tax levy at \$969,045, an 8.92% increase from the 2021 tax levy.

Szczepanski questioned the significant increase in the tax levy. Pazlar responded that the township costs for grading and plowing have grown considerably. Further, the township owns trucks that are old with high mileage which tend to breakdown frequently which has driven high repair bills and maintenance costs. Dresel Contracting does a great job and repairing the trucks quickly and getting them back into service. Also, Pazlar noted the cost for fire service in the township has increased as well as costs for dust control on township gravel roadways. Pazlar noted with past levies, the township had reserve funds wherein they were able to "buy down" levy increases. Those reserved funds have been exhausted.

Frattalone questioned the application of calcium chloride application to gravel roadways in the township. He opined the application is put on "too heavy" especially on May Avenue which is creates a road environment that is abusive to resident vehicles and driveways. He would like to see the township review and reduce the application rate of calcium chloride. Pazlar responded that the township applies calcium chloride for several reasons: it controls dust and particles from leaving the road and reducing the efficiency of the gravel and it prolongs the lifespan of a gravel roadway. He understands and appreciates both sides of the argument of whether or not to treat gravel roadways. Nevertheless, the number of complaints the township receives when dust control is not applied far outweigh the idea of no dust control. However, Pazlar appreciated Frattalone's concern with the amount of the application and will work hard with the contractor to find a rate of delivery and other means that will avoid pooling of calcium chloride. Frattalone was urged to contact the Town Clerk if he has concerns or questions regarding the roadway application.

Szczepanski moved, seconded by John Adams, to approve the 2022 levy set at \$969,045. By Roll Call Vote: ALL YES. Motion passed.

Election Results

Tibbetts provided the Town Supervisor election results as follows: Steve Magner received 91 votes. There were zero write-in votes.

Legal Newspaper

Creager noted the township's legal newspaper for 2020 was *Country Messenger*. Szczepanski moved, seconded by Frattalone, to continue using the *Country Messenger* as the town's legal newspaper. By Roll Call Vote: ALL YES. Motion passed.

Gopher Bounty

Creager reported that in 2020, the town paid \$39.00 in gopher bounty. Szczepanski moved, seconded by Chris Hause, to continue the gopher bounty at \$1.50 per pair of front feet. By Roll Call Vote: ALL YES. Motion passed.

Comments/Concerns about Current Permits

Creager asked if residents had any comments or concerns with current May Township permit holders, which include small business and Conditional Use Permit holders. No comments or concerns were brought before the meeting.

Set Time and Place for 2022 Annual Meeting

It was noted that the Town Hall should be the place to hold the Annual Meeting in 2022. Due to the pandemic, the 2021 meeting was held virtually. Szczepanski moved, seconded by Glenn, to hold the 2022 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 8:15 p.m. at the May Town Hall. By Roll Call Vote: ALL YES. Motion passed.

Washington County Updates

County Commissioner Miron was in attendances, as well as County Public Works Deputy Director Sandberg. He appreciates representing May Township on the Washington County Board of Commissioners. He wanted to report on a number of projects that impact the township.

County Highway 3/Norell Avenue – this stretch of road from County Road 4 south to County Road 7 is planned for reconstruction in 2025 with a budget of \$1.6 million. They have worked through public engagement to determine the future plans for this roadway. Township and community feedback has determined minimizing impacts on the roadway and environment is a priority and the project team is preparing for a second on-line engagement open house tentatively planned for April or May of 2021.

County Highway 15/Trunk Highway 36 – this intersection is a planned grade separated interchange where 15 would go 36 with corresponding ramps. Tree clearing of the area has already begun and construction will begin in May or June of 2021. This is a \$32 million estimate cost project that will take two years to complete with traffic detours and impacts.

Highway 15 – this stretch of road from County Road 12 north 17 miles to the county border will have a center rumble strip installed. This stretch has a serious history of fatal crashes involving head-on collisions. The county is hoping the center rumble strips will warn drivers who cross to help reduce accidents. The county will be coordinating with the township and other communities to deliver this project. With regard to the rumble strip, the county is currently looking at designs and ways to keep the noise to a minimum.

Square Lake Park – the township support at is March 2021 board meeting the Square Lake Park Master Plan. A concern mentioned by the town was concerns related to the roadway and additional

