

The Southside Township annual meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 by Clerk/Treasurer Carmen Merrill. The following people were present: Phyllis Latour, Tim Hable, Jim Hallstrom, Zane Schaefer, Dale Machovsky, Blaine Barkley, Kenneth Oscar Laney, Dana Kjaer, Dawn Schaefer-Stumpf, Al Ostlund, Barb Ostlund Jeremy & Brandi Kaskinen, Eric Munson.

Clerk Merrill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jim Hallstrom made a motion to appoint Zane Schaefer as Moderator. Hearing no other nominations the Clerk cast a unanimous vote for Zane Schaefer. Motion carried.

Zane asked for everyone to introduce themselves and let us know where they live in the township.

A motion was made by Phyllis Latour to approve the minutes of the 2015 annual meeting. Jeremy Kaskinen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Al Ostlund made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Clerk/Treasurer Carmen Merrill. Dana Kjaer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dale Machovsky were present as representative for the Annandale Fire Department. There are currently 28 members on the department. 3 new members in 2016. Dale took over as chief in 2016. All of the department's equipment is in good shape. They ordered a new tanker which will be delivered in December. The tanker came in over budget by \$19,000 which the relief association paid. The request for 2017 is the same as 2016. Future years may see an increase so money can be set aside for new equipment. Total calls for 2016 were 34. County Rd 3 and Hwy 55 were responsible for a few of the calls.

Oscar Laney and Dana Kjaer were present as representatives of the South Haven Fire Department. There are currently 25 members on the department. Total calls for the year were 119, 81 emergency and 28 non-emergency. Southside Township calls totaled 16. Their equipment is also in good shape. New air packs were purchased by the relief association for a total cost of \$53,000. They will last approximately 10-15 years.

Zane thanked the members for their service and stated he is proud and happy to have such a high class and well equipped department serving our township.

Clerk/Treasurer Carmen Merrill presented the 2017 budget. The General Fund tax levy request is \$91,515 which is a 6% increase over 2016. This is due to the increased cost of recycling services for the township. Residents present felt the new service was generally good. Road & Bridge tax levy request is \$334,550 which is an increase of 7%. The increase was for dust control and road and bridge maintenance. Phyllis Latour stated the board is watching reports regarding dust control and water quality. There has been talk that the runoff of dust control product into lakes could cause problems. Tim Hable stated the board will continue to monitor and make adjustments if necessary. Zane Schaefer stated the dust control has made a big difference on 97th St. The fire assessment increased 1% with a total assessment of \$88,283. Jim Hallstrom made a motion to set the levy for 2017 General fund at \$91,515; Road and Bridge fund at \$334,550 and fire assessment at \$88,283. Eric Munson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tim Hable, Township Supervisor, reported on the cemetery. The cemetery is in great shape with no damage to the fence in the past year. Wright County has requested a 686 sq. ft. easement at Malco

cemetery for construction of the right turn lane for County Rd 3. He stated they are aware of the need to be respectful of the area and will erect a fence to keep vehicles and people off of graves during construction.

Jim Hallstrom, Township Supervisor, is a representative for South Haven Fire. He is currently working on the fire assessment lists for both departments. He is making sure parcels that should have an assessment have them and those that do not require an assessment do not have them. He should have the lists ready by this fall. Once the lists are complete it will require just maintenance as new homes or buildings are erected or demolished. The other project he's working on are the holding ponds along 100th ST NW to help with water runoff to Norton Ave NW. He is working with Soil and Water Conservation and the Clearwater River Watershed District people to enlist their help and expertise with the problem. Last year's heavy rains were hopefully unusual but caused great damage to Norton Ave. The ponds should help alleviate the problem.

Phyllis Latour, Township Supervisor, is a representative for Annandale Fire. She thanked both departments for their time and work. She reported roads last year received a lot of damage due to the heavy rains but are now in good shape. She reported Midcontinent Communications will be installing internet and video to a portion of Lake John residents in Southside Township. Midcontinent has stated people can contact them if they are interested in getting services. If enough people in the area are interested they (Midcontinent) may consider extending service.

Jim Hallstrom reported he is investigating Extra Time which is a line of sight internet service that may be available if the tests prove the signal is strong. He will have more information in a few months.

In other business Zane Schaefer and Dawn Schaefer-Stumpf were present to request funds for support of Annandale Youth First. He stated Youth First provides positive interaction for children with adults and leaders through mentorship programs, after school programs and a variety of other activities. One of the mentor programs is Cardinal Buddies which pairs a senior high student with an elementary student. Many times the younger student grows up to become a mentor when they get to senior high. Dawn stated with parents busy working 2-3 jobs the children are left with idle time. The after school programs help students develop positive relationships with adults. She stated there are also programs that include all students such as roller skating. Adult health programs such as Yoga are also sponsored by Youth First. The group touches many people in the Annandale area. Phyllis Latour asked if other townships donate. Zane assured her they do. Carmen Merrill made a motion to donate \$1000 to AYF for 2017. Jeremy Kaskinen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jim Hallstrom made a motion to hold the 2017 annual meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at Southside Town Hall at 8:00 p.m. Tim Hable seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Phyllis Latour made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Jim Hallstrom seconded. Motion carried.