

The Southside Township annual meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 by Clerk/Treasurer Carmen Merrill. The following people were present: Jim Hallstrom, Tim Hable, Jeff Hardin, AFD, Horacio Torres Jr, AFD, Kenneth Laney SHFD, Derek Patuoda , SHFD, Zane Schaefer, David Burd.

Clerk Merrill led the pledge of allegiance.

Jim Hallstrom made a motion to appoint David Burd as moderator. Tim Hable seconded the motion. No other nominations were heard a unanimous ballot was cast to appoint David Burd as moderator.

Jim Hallstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 annual meeting. Tim Hable seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk Merrill presented the treasurer’s report. Cash fund balance on January 1 was \$841,658. December 31 balance was \$783,542. General fund intergovernmental receipts were over budget by 88,758 due to funds received from the American Rescue Plan. Expenses for the township hall were over budget by 5,836 due to the new ramp and railing. Cost for Civil Defense siren was up 2,396 due to new batteries. ARPA disbursements of 21, 857 was repayment of unspent money received in 2020. Road and Bridge fund assessments received were 44,850 for the 62nd ST road project. Over budget on legal fees, engineers and street projects due to 62nd St NW, sealcoat and overlays. Motion by Jim Hallstrom to approve the treasurers report with a second by Tim Hable. Motion carried.

Annandale Fire Department representative Jeff Hardin reported the department has 24 members. Their new rescue rig should arrive in June. They had a total of 325 calls with an average response time of 8:48 and Southside Township response time of 12:11. There were 32 calls in Southside Township. They are asking for \$49,752 for 2023 budget.

South Haven Fire Department representative Derek reported they had 198 calls for 2021. 169 emergency calls and 29 non-emergency. 82 were in Southside Township. They currently have 22 members with 4 retiring in the past year and 1 passed away. They are requesting \$49,299 for 2023.

David thanked the firefighters for doing their volunteer work and answering the call when paged. Those present applauded the firefighters.

Clerk Merrill reported on the 2023 budget. The Board is asking for \$135,135 for the General Fund and \$498,850 for the Road and Bridge fund. The general fund receipts and expenses remain very close to 2022 budget. The road and bridge fund budget is going up \$114,000 due to increases in road projects, engineering and legal. The Board plans to continue maintenance and upkeep on the township roads. Cost of oil may impact that as well as professional fees. Jim Hallstrom made a motion to approve the following tax levy for 2023:

LEVY WORKSHEET	2022 LEVY REQUEST
GENERAL FUND	\$135,135.00
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$498,850.00
FIRE FUND ASSESSMENT	<u>\$94,051.00</u>
*ANNANDALE FIRE (629 UNITS)- \$79/unit	\$49,752.00
*SOUTH HAVEN FIRE (629 UNITS) - \$78/unit	\$49,299.00
TOTAL LEVY	<u>\$728,036.00</u>

Tim Hable seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jim Hallstrom reported on road projects and vacations for 2021. 62nd St NW project was successful and the township used assessments to pay for a portion of the project. Overlays, sealcoat and striping was done on several roads. The Board is working on cleaning up a road vacation from 1998. Roads will continue to be a big item. 80th St NW speed study done in 2021. The study came back with the recommended speed limit of 55 mph. The township did purchase a couple of radar signs to try to get traffic to slow down in residential areas where people walk.

Tim Hable stated the Board will continue to work on the roads to maintain them as they should be maintained. Overlays, chip seal and gravel will be used to keep them in good condition.

Marty Ferguson reported the fence at Grace Southside cemetery was damaged by a vehicle. The fence will be repaired as well as the headstones that were toppled. 62nd ST NW project was a big success. The Board does plan on more road projects this year but will have to weigh the costs due to the increased oil prices.

Zane Schaefer addressed those present to ask for funding for Annandale Youth First. In the past years the township has donated \$1500 to the organization that targets at risk youth in the Annandale area. The kids get great benefits from the programs let by coordinators Mary Barkley Brown and Pam Wurm. Several organizations in the area also raise money for the organization. Jim Hallstrom made a motion to approve \$2500 in donations, \$1500 for Annandale Youth First and \$1000 for Annandale food shelf for 2023. Tim Hable seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tim Hable made a motion to set the 2023 Annual meeting for Tuesday, March 14, at 7 p.m. at Southside town hall. Jim Hallstrom seconded the motion. Zane Schaefer stated there are elections being held that day so perhaps the meeting should be set for 8 p.m. when the elections close. Tim amended his motion to 8 p.m. Tuesday March 14, 2023, at Southside town hall. Jim seconded. No further discussion. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

No other requests or comments were heard.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42p.m.