

Annual Town Meeting

March 8, 2016

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 8:18 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Nomination of Moderator:

Mary Ann Sironen nominated Rolf Carlson, Wendy Gustofson seconded. There were no further nominations, Rolf accepted the position of moderator.

Approval of Minutes from 2015 Annual Meeting:

Don Sitter made a motion to approve, Devon Cahoon seconded. Correction, under nomination of moderator, Darcy Rolfe's name was misspelled as Rolf. With that amendment to the minutes, the minutes were approved.

Call for Bank of Deposit Currently The Lake Bank and North Shore Bank of Commerce:

Corlis West made a motion to keep the banks of deposit as The Lake Bank and North Shore Bank of Commerce, Barb Crow seconded. Motion carried.

Call for Newspaper of Publication Currently the Duluth News Tribune:

Corlis West made a motion to keep the Duluth News Tribune, Don Sitter seconded. Motion carried.

Call for Official Posting Places Currently the Town Hall, New Scenic Café, Fire Hall #1 and the North Shore Community School:

Don Sitter made a motion to keep the same official posting places, Corlis West Seconded. Motion carried.

Presentation of Budgets

Motion to approve total budget of **\$352,018.00** Corlis West made a motion to approve the total budget, Devon Cahoon seconded.

Don Sitter presented an update on the new addition and its cost. The 2015 projected project cost was \$705,000.00. The 2016 actual cost to date is \$696,600.00. Stormwater post construction has not been done (waiting until spring) and one Architectural and Engineering fee of approximately \$4000.00 remain unpaid.

Police Department budget of **\$56,860.00** was presented by Police Chief Shawn Padden: This is Shawn's 28th Annual Town Meeting. Police budget is a \$500.00 increase over last year.

Fire Department budget of **\$64,910.00** was presented by Fire Chief Robert Engelson: We work out of 3 fire halls and are under contract to provide fire service to Alden Township. We have 7 rigs in our 3 halls, 4 trucks in Hall 1 (3 stall garage) and a full roster of fire fighters and first responders. We need to add a 4th bay to Hall #1, approximate cost will be almost \$200,000.00.

General Township budget of **\$113,620.00** was presented by Board Chair Don Sitter: increase of approximately \$1200.00 from last year. Cost of living, custodial and need to add insurance.

Question: you took approximately \$200,000.00 from general budget for the new addition.

Answer: Actually we took \$225,000.00

Planning and Zoning budget of **\$23,128.00** was presented by Planning Director Sue Lawson: Thank you to planning commission members John Schifsky, Paul Voge, Jo Thompson, Larry Zanko, Wayne Dahlberg, Jerry Hauge, Brigid Pajunen, Beth Mullan Secretary and Town Board liaison Don Sitter. We had an 8 unit Planned Unit Development (Kiviranta) through our planning system in the past year. Planning budget increases were tied to cost of living increases and mileage.

Wendy Gustofson presented Don Sitter and Mary Anne Daniel with a thank you for all of their work over the past 3 years.

Cemetery budget of **\$8,500.00** was presented by Cemetery Supervisor Mary Anne Daniel: Molly Tillotson is our Cemetery Sexton, over the past year the following happened in the Cemetery: 9 burials, 2 were full casket burials the rest were cremains; 20 new plot layouts were completed; 3 settled graves were filled and reseeded; 3 monuments were reset and the North and West fields were brushed and chipped. Some of the needs for 2016 are gravel, sand, soil and a wheelbarrow. A decision is needed on the building, some funding needs to be invested into repair or replacement. We continue to work with Twin Ports Bedrock on stone cleaning and are pursuing green burials. The monument section is filling, a decision will need to be made in the future.

Question: last year a motion was made to move \$7000.00 to recreation for hockey boards.

Answer: funds were not moved.

Question: Brushing of the field was to make more room?

Answer: not necessarily it is basically to keep down the brush.

Question: the window in the shed has been an issue has the window been replaced?

Answer: no.

Road and Bridge budget of **\$85,000.00** was presented by Road Supervisor Travis Stolp: spendable balance of \$44,941.16 after removing the \$35,000.00 emergency road escrow.

Community Education/Recreation: both Community Education and Recreation were closed; the final funds were moved to the Township Capital Improvement budget.

Question on page 6: why are we charging \$8000.00 for Legal Services however we only spent \$1720.00?

Answer: we never are sure what legal needs will be needed during the year.

Vote on the motion to approve the total budget of **\$352,018.00** Motion carried with one dissenting vote.

Set time and date of the 2016 Annual Town Meeting (March 14, 2017 8:15 p.m.) Corlis west made a motion to set the time and date of the next Annual Meeting for March 14, 2017 at 8:15 p.m., Dale Lewis seconded. Motion passed.

Election results: 357 Total Ballots

Barbara Crow: 236

Bruce Duncan: 94

David Mount: 227

Shane Stolp: 128

Concerns from the Audience

- Recommendation for the supervisors to attend MAT's township training
- The township has much more money in their accounts than is prudent

Darcy Rolfe made a motion to hold meetings at the school at the Town Boards discretion, Wendy Gustofson seconded.

Discussion:

- This is the civic center for the town.
- What kind of notice would North Shore need? Answer approximately 24 hours
- It used to be the school was closed to strip and wax the floors. Answer: rubber floors we no longer have to strip and wax.

Vote on the motion: Motion carried

- We voted to move \$10,000.00 to recreation.
- It is despicable that \$100,000.00 was moved for the addition.
- There is money in the Community Center fund, certainly it would get some support from that fund without having to increase the recreation fund.
- Community center funds are for the entire community.

Adjournment Corlis West made a motion to adjourn, Wendy Gustofson seconded. Motion carried 9:15 p.m.