

Perham Township Annual Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2020

Present: Chris Schuelke, Otter Tail County Historical Society; Mary Schmidt, Perham Area Library; Eric Ruther; Kevin Keil, Kelvin Rudolph, Russ Kadow, Jade Berube, Darla Medeck-Johnson, E.O.T. Master Gardeners Group; Marie Ashland, Betty Staebler, Judy Haverland, and Shawn Sweere.

Deputy Clerk, Kathy Steinmetz, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the P.A.C.C. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Nominations were taken from the floor for Moderator, and Shawn Sweere nominated Kevin Keil, Kelvin Rudolph second, and he was elected Moderator.

The Minutes: Annual Meeting March 2019 were read by Kevin Keil. They were approved with correction that "the person who made the second is unknown" for the time and place of the next annual meeting. A motion was made by Russ Kadow, second Shawn Sweere, and it carried.

The Treasurer's Annual Report was read by Kathy Steinmetz.

The beginning cash balance on January 1, 2019 was \$225,608.81

The total receipts were \$314,593.71

The total disbursements were \$299,723.05

The operating balance on December 31, 2019 was \$240,479.47.

The audit was completed on February 4, 2020.

A motion was made to approve it by Shawn Sweere, second by Kelvin Rudolph, and it carried.

Old Business:

Pine Crossing road was discussed- to be completed this Spring.

Reports:

The Hospital Report was given by Kelvin Rudolph. He attended the annual meeting and the Hospital Report looks pretty good with a high rating on the audit. After taxes were included, they had a profit. They have approximately 1200 employees from forty different communities. The hospital hired quality doctors, which also attracts technicians to serve the Perham Sanford.

The Road Report was given by Shawn Sweere. All roads in the township were crack sealed in 2019. The Theodorson area was completed. Shouldering was also done on a majority of roads. Fort Thunder will have high traffic due to County 34 being redone this year. We must pay attention to 435th, and Aerovilla is planned to have total reclamation this year. No money was spent on it in 2019.

The Fire Report was given by Shawn Sweere; he attended the annual meeting with the other supervisors. There is a need for a new fire truck. The busiest month is April; the busiest day is Saturday. Some incidents were: 26 rescue vehicle, six grass fires, and thirty category 1 fires. They have an ISO rating of 4. They have applied for grants through FEMA to help with the oxygen packs needed. The department is sixteen calls up from 2018.

The EMS Report was given by Shawn Sweere. He attended the meeting with the other two superintendents and also did the walkthrough of the EMS facility in Detroit Lakes.

The EMS has a good, diverse staff. There is a need for more housing for the number of staff members who use it. Lots of training is also done at the building. It is crowded, and currently the EMS staff is short three people.

To retrofit the current building to make it a Schedule 4 building would appear to cost more than building new.

The Allegro Building was discussed to determine what or how it would meet the needs of Perham EMS. Also he toured the new EMS facility in Detroit Lakes.

Roads:

According to a feasibility study and cost estimate of the following roads:

Pine Crossing Theodorson Area plans to be complete this year.

Fort Thunder plans to be done next year in two phases. The first phase to approximately the Cactus will cost approximately \$84,995.46. The second phase will cost approximately \$281,340.00

Aerovilla plans to be done this year with a total reclamation, including putting up mailboxes, etc. There are 53 parcels with 51.75 shares at \$116,952. At this time, there is a cost of \$2,259.94 per share.

450th project with City is proposed at \$180,000- \$190,000, hoping to finance with them. There is also a plan to work with them on a grant.

Bids plan to be out in the next month.

430th Ave. was stated from the floor by B. Staebler. It gets beat up with a lot of traffic.

The Levy was set after discussion about the Roads was completed. It was set for \$285,000 with a motion by Sweere, second by Rudolph, and carried.

New Business:

The authorized newspaper for the township is the Perham **Focus**. The motion was made by Shawn Sweere, second by Betty Staebler, and carried.

The authorized bank depository for the township is the **United Community Bank** of Perham. The motion was made by Judy Haverland, second by Sweere, and carried.

Donations:

2019 total amount last year was: \$3000

Requests for donations for 2020 were made:

Otter Tail County Historical Society MN Stat. 138.053 Letter was sent and presentation given by Chris Schuelke. He listed eight events in the Perham area that are done from one to three times per year each.

Master Gardeners' Projects: Darla Medeck presented on Outreach Minnesota and Horticulture Day. They are planning to have a 16' X 7' greenhouse on a trailer frame. Currently they have a \$2,500 shortfall. Any help is appreciated.

Perham Center for the Arts MN Stat. 471.941 A letter was sent and Russ Kadow presented on the construction at St. Stan's Church to get bathrooms and eventually an elevator.

Perham Area Public Library: Mary Schmidt sent a letter and presented on circulation and needs. Perham Township residents checked out 2,639 items and 53% have library cards. Needs are for e-books, technology, and other books. This facility is also a site for offering classes and testing.

The Bridge Community Pantry sent a letter requesting donations. This Mobile Pantry helped 627 families and made 2,630 total visits distributing food to those in need.

History Arts & Culture Association MN 501(c)(3) Organization –EIN 4: They sent a letter requesting donations. They have four organizations under their umbrella: The Pioneer Grounds in Perham, the History Museum of East Ottertail County, the ITOW Veterans Museum, and the EO Historical Society.

Perham Area Community Center MN Stat. 471.935 The P.A.C.C. sent a letter requesting donations for the sports and physical activity programs for the Summer Recreation Program. The total cost to run it in 2019 was \$32,000.

New York Mills Regional Cultural Center MN Stat. 471.941 They sent a letter requesting donations for programs.

A motion was made by Shawn Sweere, second by Haverland to allocate up to \$4,000 for donations with preference given to those who meet tax exempt status and are important to Perham Township. Carried.

Announcement:

The Board of Appeal and Equalization will be held on Thursday, April 16 from 10:30 to 11:30 at the P.A.C.C.

The next annual meeting will be held on March 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the P.A.C.C.

Motion was made by Sweere, second by Rudolph, Carried.

Adjourn:

Motion was made by Sweere, second by Staebler, Carried.