

**SALEM TOWNSHIP  
ANNUAL MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 8:17 p.m. by Sharon Petersen with the pledge of allegiance.

Sharon Petersen called for nominations for a moderator for this meeting. A motion was made by Drew Moessner and seconded by Rick Lutzi to nominate David Rassel. No other nominations were made. A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Drew Moessner to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for David Rassel. The motion passed unanimously.

David Rassel asked residents review the minutes from last year's annual meeting.

#### **Byron Fire Department**

Matt Grant presented information about the upcoming fire department budgets, etc. Last year the Byron Fire had 85 calls with 14 in Salem Township. Byron Fire Department currently has 31 members. There are no one on the waiting list currently. The parking lot has been re-paved. This was paid for by the townships and the City of Byron. Byron has an auto aid agreement with the City of Rochester. This is a mutual aid agreement. Questions were asked about calls they answered last year.

#### **Byron First Responders**

Brian McGregor presented information about the current makeup of his department. They had 320 calls last year. They did get some additional equipment for CPR with CARES funds the City received in 2020. All volunteers have received the vaccine.

#### **Other Discussion**

Rick Lutzi discussed the current negotiations with the City of Byron, Kalmar Township about selling out our 1/3 ownership of the fire hall. If an agreement is reached, it does not change the service agreement with the City of Byron. The building was appraised for \$975,000.00. The current offer is lower than a

full 1/3 of the fair market value. There will additional discussion about this issue.

### **Unofficial Election Results**

Vince Hoover presented the unofficial election results. They were as follows:

Supervisor: Drew Moessner 31 Votes

Treasurer: Diana Connelly 31 Votes

### **Set Time and Date for Annual Meeting and Polling Times for 2022**

After discussion, a motion was made by Ben Scott and seconded by Gail Fritts to set the polling hours from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for township elections in 2022, and the annual meeting to convene after 8:15 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Official Posting Designation**

After discussion, a motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by John Donovan to designate the posting board outside Town Hall as the official posting designation for Salem Township for 2021. Notices will also be posted to our web site. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Notification for Next Annual Meeting and Special Meetings or Issues regarding our township**

A motion was made by Ben Scott and seconded by Tom Ferris to continue sending out newsletters for the annual meeting and post cards for special meetings and or issues. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Burning Permits**

Burning permits will continue to be issued for \$10.00 for the calendar year.

### **Financial Report of the Township**

Gail Fritts presented the financial report of the township.

After discussion, a motion was made by Tom Ferris and seconded by Char Lutzi to approve the financial report as given. The motion passed unanimously.

Gail Fritts was thanked by residents for her years of service as treasurer to the township.

### **Town Road Report**

The town road report was given by Brian Connelly. He reviewed road work done last year and the extensive storm damage work that was finished in 2020. The State of Minnesota has reimbursed the township for 75% of the cost we paid in 2020.

### **2022 LEVY**

Dave Russel presented the proposed levy recommendation from the town board. After discussion, a motion was made by Ben Scott and seconded by Tom Ferris to approve the total levy of \$390,000.00 for 2022. The details on the levy funds approved are as follows:

Road and Bridge	\$225,000.00
Fire Protection	\$ 65,000.00
Fire Building Maint.	\$ 10,000.00
First Responders	\$ 9,000.00
Building Updates	\$ 10,000.00
General Revenue	\$ 55,000.00
Safety	\$ 2,000.00
Legal	\$ 4,000.00
Emergency Fund	\$ 10,000.00
Total Levy	\$390,000.00

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Chloride**

The town board is proposing to continue subsidize a portion of the cost to residents on township roads as previously done. It was noted that grading

will be done on an as needed basis regardless of whether chloride has been applied.

### **Gopher Bounty**

A motion was made by Rick Lutzi and seconded by Brian Connelly to set the gopher bounty for pocket gophers and streaky gophers at \$3.50 each. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Beaver Bounty**

A motion was made by Tom Ferris and seconded by Vince Hoover to approve the beaver bounty of \$20.00 per animal. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Solar Garden Discussion**

Dave Rassel gave the residents a report on the work being done by the Planning and Zoning board to update our solar ordinance.

If anyone is interested in applying for planning and zoning board positions or board of adjustment, they should fill out an application. The application is on our web site.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other issues were brought up by residents. A motion was made by Dave Rassel and seconded by Tom Ferris to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

David Rassel  
Moderator

Sharon Petersen  
Clerk

APPROVED