

## 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes

The Township annual meeting started at 1:00pm CDT with Mr. Behrens calling the meeting to order. There were 10 residents in attendance and 2 guests. The group recited the pledge of allegiance as a group.

**Clerk Report** - Mr. Behrens provided time for reading the meeting minutes from the 2018 annual meeting. Mr. Behrens asked whether the group wanted him to read the minutes that were in their packet or if they wanted to waive the reading. Mr. Hanson made the motion to waive reading all the minutes, Motion seconded by Mr. Hagre. Motion carried unanimously. Then the group was asked if there were questions or discussion on any of the items. Motion made by Mr. Quam to accept the meeting minutes as written. Motion seconded by Mr. Tweite. Motion carried unanimously.

**Treasure's Report** — Mr. Behrens gave the treasures report and shared that the township is in good standing according to the auditor. He notified everyone that the treasure position was being filled by Lund Tax and Accounting (Ms. Kayla Shurson) and the interaction process between the firm and Kalmar was being worked out. Motion made by Mr. Hagre to accept the treasures report. Motion seconded by Mr. Tweite. Motion carried unanimously.

**Moderator Selection** — Mr. Behrens called for nominations for a moderator. Mr. Wharton nominated Mr. Glenn Larsen with Mr. Tom Larsen seconding the motion. Mr. Tweite motioned to close the selection process with Mr. Hagre seconding the motion. The vote occurred and was unanimous. Mr. Glenn Larsen was elected moderator and took over running the annual meeting.

**Gopher Bounty** — The current bounty is set at \$2.50 for pocket and \$2.50 for striped gophers. Motion was made by Mr. Tweite to match Salem township at \$3.50 for the value for pocket gophers and striped gophers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Delva. The motion carried unanimously.

**Web Site** — Mr. Larsen requested an update from the Clerk regarding the status of the website. Mr. Behrens stated that he had visited the site earlier in the day and confirmed that the site was up to date. Mr. Behrens stated that with the population getting younger in the township that there is more usage and interest in the web technology. Mr. Larsen then recommended that residents utilize the site. Ms. Baldus made the motion that the Kalmar web site ([www.kalmar.govoffice.com](http://www.kalmar.govoffice.com) or [www.kalmarmn.org](http://www.kalmarmn.org)) should be made the official web site for the township for posting. This web site and the posting board at the town hall should meet all requirements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wharton. The motion carried unanimously.

**Official Newspaper** — Motion by Mr. Tweite to close out the use of the Post Bulletin as the official newspaper due to shrinking circulation and cost. The motion was seconded by Ms. Baldus. The motion carried unanimously. The clerk will put a notice in the Dodge County paper and the Rochester Post Bulletin telling people of the change.

**Mount Hope Cemetery** — Mr. Behrens (representing Mount Hope Cemetery) provided a summary of the history of support provided Mount Hope Cemetery by the township. He gave the current status of the fence, flag pole and the cemetery in general. There were many comments on well it looked and anticipation on what it will look like when the flowers come

up and it's complete. Mr. Behrens stated he enjoyed being on the board and also the township board, because if the cemetery association dissolved, the township would have to take over managing it. It's been very educational and there is an actual class at MATS about Township managing a cemetery that he will attend. Motion made by Mr. Tweite to allocate \$800.00 for the cemetery association. Mr. Hagre seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Road Status/Tree Removal** — Mr. Hanson provided a report on road status and tree maintenance. The roads are in good shape so far, but the winter has been rough on them and the township expects a rough spring and some damage. There will be a spring road inspection in April to check out winter and spring damage. Rock bids will be opened at the March meeting. Mr. Behrens stated that there are 32.9 miles and the population was 1077 people.

**Fire Department** — Mr. Matt Grant (Byron Fire Chief) provided a report of the fire department status and confirmed that the fire department was requesting \$52,767.00 for 2019. Mr. Grant gave a report on the activities that it was involved in for the year. He stated that there were 32 members now and that they had a waiting list to get on staff. There were 14 calls to Kalmar Township, with the number of car accidents rising. He stated that \$1,300.00 was spent on fixing the furnace and the fire station is 27 years old and is starting to need some major systems updated. He stated that new turn out gear was purchased for the fireman, this gear will also help combat contaminants that are in the smoke and soot of the fire. The fires are getting more toxic with new building materials, plastics and such. The mini-pumper was sold and they replaced the single wheel one-ton truck with a UTV with a tank for mobility on grass fires.

A motion was made by Mr. Voll to accept the report and request for \$52,767.00. Seconded by Mr. Quam. Motion carried unanimously.

**First Responders** — Mr. Brian McGregor gave the Byron First Responders presentation and stated that the first responders were asking \$6,764.00. He gave a brief presentation on number of calls and their types. There was an increase in total calls in 2018 rising to 269. There were 45 calls in Kalmar Township with 23 being medical and 21 being accidents. They had drove out the new first responders' truck for people to see it and will do so again in summer.

A motion was made by Mr. Brekke to accept the First Responders request for \$6,764.00. Mr. Tom Larsen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**General Fund** — The recommendation of the township board to keep the levy for the general fund at \$100,000.00. Mr. Behrens gave a recap of what was covered in the general fund and then provided a summary of the 2018 expense detail. Motion made by Mr. Fields to accept the recommended value of \$100,000. Mr. Wharton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Chloride** — Mr. Behrens provided a summary of the 2018 cost of chloride (\$25,474.94) and provided the budgeted cost for 2019 (\$27,000.00). Mr. Behrens stated that the cost of chloride per gallon was going to be \$0.084 per gallon applied, which is 2 cents more than 2018. The general consensus was that residents still wanted it applied.

Motion was made by Mr. Fields to continue the Kalmar program to apply chloride to all residences, intersections, bike trail crossings and any other area that the supervisors deemed a safety issue, second by Mr. Tom Tweite. Motion carried unanimously.

**Road and Bridge** —Mr. Hanson went over the amount of road work to be done in the upcoming 2019 year. There was going to be an annual spring road inspection to find any issues that winter caused. Mr. Behrens provided a summary of Road and Bridge spending history and the decreasing money received from the state. There were no bridges to be repaired this year in the township. Mr. Hanson stated that there are approximately 32.9 miles of township roads and that the township would only be doing about half the roads this year. Motion by Mr. Tweite to set the road and bridge levy at \$244,500.00 second by Mr. Tom Larsen, Motion carried unanimously.

**TCPA** — Mr. Quam provided a summary of the services generally provided by the TCPA. Mr. Quam stated that the township should receive their original investment back this year from TCPA. No action required.

**Recycling** — Mr. Behrens provided a Recycling update and stated that we had 40 users and that they received 80 percent of the money that was available. The general consensus was that the program is working well and should be continued. Mr. Field made the motion to keep the program active and start it retro-active to January 1st, 2019. The last date for expense reimbursement requests must be received by the treasurer by the normally scheduled December township meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Brekke. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brekke made the motion to keep the reimbursement value at \$200.00, was seconded by Mr. Fields. There was discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Town Hall update** — Mr. Behrens reviewed the updates/maintenance to the town hall last year. He also gave an update on efforts in conjunction with the Eagle scouts for the KR 7 reservoir.

**Set Next Annual Meeting** — The citizens present decided to keep the 1pm start time and to have 3pm as the election time. Motion was made by Mr. Fields to have the next annual meeting at 1:00 pm on 3/10/2020 and General elections to be held at 3:00 pm till 8:00 pm, and seconded by Mr. Tom Larson, Motion carried unanimously.

The weather alternate is March 12th, 2020 and the board of canvas will be the day after the election at 6:00 pm at the town hall.

**Other New Business** — Mr. Brekke raised concerns about the Solar farms and gardens. There was a general discussion about ordinances and updates to existing ordinances. The consensus was that an advisory panel of citizens was needed to review the ordinances and suggest additions. Mr. Glen Larson asked that the board put together an advisory group to review the existing ordinances and suggest changes, this work is to be done by end of the year.

**Adjournment** — Mr. Hagre made motion to adjourn, and was seconded by Mr. Tom Larson, Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm CDT

Minutes respectively submitted by Terry Behrens

