

## 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

Kalmar Township annual meeting, March 8, 2022 was called to order at 1:00pm by the Clerk. There were 12 residents and 1 guest in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited to open the meeting.

**Moderator Selection** – Lisa Baldus made a motion to nominate Glen Larsen to be moderator. This was seconded by Tom Tweite. There were no other nominations. A vote was taken with Mr. Larsen being unanimously elected moderator.

**2021 Meeting Minutes** – Moderator asked if anyone had any corrections or additions to the 2021 annual meeting minutes as written. Richard Field made a motion to consider the minutes to be properly recorded. Lisa Baldus seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

**Audit Reports** – Clerk read the minutes from the January 20<sup>th</sup> Board of Audit meeting as required by state statute. There were no comments or questions on that report. Clerk explained that the township is also required to have an audit conducted by a CPA firm. That audit, performed by Smith/Schafer & Associates CPA firm, is complete; no deficiencies or errors were found in the township's finances.

**Financial Report** – Total bank deposits of the township as of 12/31/2021 were \$1,126,919 with nearly all of it held in a Money Market account. The township received an American Rescue Plan grant of \$58,247 in 2021 and an identical amount is expected in 2022. Of the money received in 2021, \$18,676 was transferred to the General Fund and all remaining money is expected to be transferred to the Road & Bridge Fund.

**First Responder Levy** – Brian Macgregor summarized that organization's work in 2021 when a total of 324 calls were responded to. Six new people are being certified to bring their ranks to 17 members. New jump suits and boots are being purchased for the responders this year. They are asking for a contract payment from Kalmar of \$7,659 in 2023. Lisa Baldus made a motion to approve the requested amount which was seconded by Richard Field. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Fire Protection Levy** – Brian Macgregor started to give an overview of the department's call volumes in 2021 but was interrupted by a pager call to respond to a structure fire. He did say that Byron Fire has entered into a mutual aid agreement with Rochester Fire and that Byron plans to replace their main engine truck in 2023. Lisa Baldus moved to approve the requested Fire contact levy of \$54,418 for 2023. Motion was seconded by Sue Underdahl. Motion unanimously approved. Bob Brekke asked how the cost to repair roof damage to the Fire Hall was being handled. Clerk explained that insurance will cover the damage; Kalmar's cost will be \$333 for its share of the deductible.

**Road & Bridge Levy** – A summary of 2021 road work, submitted by Mike Wood (Roads Contractor) was reviewed. No concerns over the proposed recommended 2023 levy of \$100,000 were raised. A motion by Jerry Fischer to approve the levy as requested was seconded by Richard Field. Motion was approved.

**General Fund Levy** – A number of expenses related to the General Fund were discussed. Mr. Brekke asked if the proposed budget assumed the sale of the Fire Hall was complete since no money had been allocated for building needs at the Fire Hall. Clerk explained that no major upgrades were planned for this year or next. Linda Behrens offered comments about the projects ongoing at Mount Hope cemetery. Clerk explained that the General Fund levy request for 2023 is \$0 since non-levy revenue along with the American Rescue Plan grant would cover the need. Kevin Delva made a motion to approve the levy of \$0 for General Fund. Glenn Quam provided the second. Motion passed.

**General Information Topics** – A summary of the work performed for the township in 2021 by TCPA (Township Cooperative Planning Association) was reviewed.

An update was given on progress made toward the sale of the township's ownership stake in the Byron Fire Hall. Mr. Brekke commented that taxpayers of the township should be given more opportunity to voice comments on the wisdom of the sale since that opportunity would promote good communications on the part of the town board and action without more citizen input could set precedence for other financial decisions such as building a new town hall without taxpayer input. Mr. Field recalled that no letter was sent to taxpayers when the township entered into the agreement with Byron to financially support construction of the Fire Hall 30 years ago. Mr. Larsen noted that the voters elect town supervisors to make those types of decisions. He asked if anyone had any reasons why the township should retain an ownership share of the building as long as Byron is willing to continue providing fire protection services to the township under the same cost formula. Clerk explained the formula, based on number of households and on tax capacity, that is used to calculate the annual contract costs for Byron, Kalmar and Salem Township. There was no further discussion regarding the proposed sale.

**Recommendations to Supervisors** – Jim Hanson explained that Kalmar is one of the few townships to provide dust control on its gravel roads at no cost to residents. Several attendees commented that they were very happy to have had the chloride spray applied last summer. No meeting attendees suggested making any changes to how the program is managed.

Ms. Behrens offered other comments on the condition of Mount Hope cemetery. Mr. Field made a motion to ask the board to make a \$2,000 donation to the cemetery this year. Ms. Baldus seconded his motion. Motion passed.

The clerk explained that an on-going resolution covering the gopher bounty will remain in place with a \$3.50 bounty until changed. There was no discussion to recommend a change.

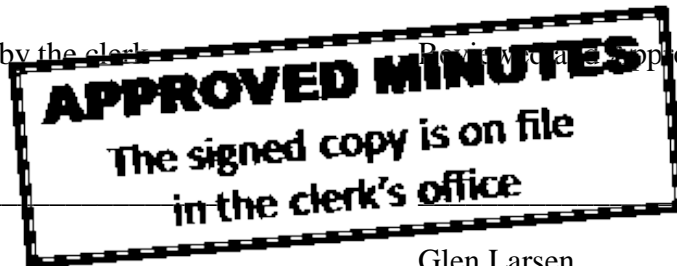
It was noted that only 22 households participated in the Recycle Reimbursement program in 2021. The clerk provided a breakdown of payments made. He also reminded attendees of other incentive programs that had been tried in previous years. Mr. Brekke suggested that a letter or postcard could be sent to residents to remind them of available reimbursement. Ms. Baldus estimated that such a mailing would cost \$600 to \$700. She noted that such mailings made in previous years had not resulted in increased participation. It was pointed out that information regarding the program is available on the township's website.

**2023 Annual Meeting** – The clerk explained that it a location and time must be set for the 2023 Annual Meeting which will occur on March 14, 2023. Mr. Jim Hanson offered a motion to set the meeting for the Kalmar Town Hall commencing at 1:00 PM. Mr. Tweite seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Other Business and General Discussion** – No one brought forth any other items for discussion. The clerk asked if anyone could help with traffic control during spring road rocking. Two attendees offered to assist.

**Adjournment** – Mr. Hanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Field offered a second to the motion. Motion was adopted. The 2022 Annual Township Meeting adjourned at 2:21 PM, March 8, 2022.

Minutes Submitted by the clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed and Approved by the Moderator



Robert Suchomel

Glen Larsen