

**2017 Sunrise Township Annual Meeting
Royal Wilcox Community Center
Sunrise, Minnesota
Tuesday, March 14, 2017**

Chairman Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson called the 2017 Sunrise Township Annual meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present:

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Supervisor Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson | Clerk Wendy Kowalke |
| Supervisor Gerald Bjork | Treasurer Karen Anderson |
| Supervisor Eric Leivian | |
| Supervisor Jeske Noordergraaf | |
| Supervisor Stephen Merten (absent) | |

Others Present

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Tony Klanderud | Rick Olseen | |
| Tom Graleske | Deborah Graleske-Kelleher | Lisa Novak |
| Bill Campbell | Bruce Hampton | Dawn Cash |
| Charlotte Wilcox | Peggy Pearson | Shane Stepp |
| Brian Geisbauer | Lee Larson | Mike Shank |
| Jim McCarthy | Lynn Wolleat | |
| Lena Nelson, Family Pathways | | |

Appointment of Moderator: Rick Olseen volunteered to be the Moderator. No nominations were taken as Rick Olseen volunteered.

Meeting Minutes: Motion by James McCarthy, second by Tony Klanderud to approve the 2016 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Books closed for 2016 year.

Commissioner Rick Greene Update (not present): Commissioner Rick Greene was not present, but had delivered Annual County update paperwork to include public safety, public works, health and human services, economic development recorder / treasurer, information technology, environmental services and other general information. The Chisago County Sheriff’s office saw property crimes reduced by 4% and major crimes reduced by 6%. The Sheriff’s office conducted a Citizens Public Safety Academy, and are proceeding with construction of a smaller more modest County Jail and Law Enforcement Center. General updates for the County Attorney’s Office, Health and Human Services, Economic Development, County Recorder, County Auditor / Treasurer, County Assessor, Environmental Services, General Government and Partnerships and Cooperative Efforts and Public Works.

Treasurer’s Annual Report for 2016 and 2018 Budget: Treasurer Anderson went of the Treasurer’s Report for Fiscal Year 2016 with the ending balances as follows: general fund \$80,291.34, Road and Bridge Fund \$197,245.96, Road Maintenance Fund \$23,877.94, Fire Fund

57,890.44, Park Fun \$5,503.18 Township Hall and Land Fund \$24.10, Equipment Debt Fund \$46.02. Rick Olseen had a question regarding interest Bruce Hampton wanted to know how much was allocated toward road maintenance equipment. \$90,000 for gravel and budgeted street maintenance at \$55,000. All was spent. Sunrise Township will have to buy gravel once the current gravel pit has no more gravel in about a year. Bruce Hampton wants to know how much it is costing us to keep the road grader going. Oil is under contract with Ziegler. The hours on the grader cost less than hiring out. Deborah Galeske-Kelleher was wondering if there was an extended warranty. Ziegler offers a 7 year buyout program. It is very expensive to keep the grader fixed of things that are not covered under the warranty. The buyout is determined on calendar years. Rick Olseen would like to see in the annual township report status and value of equipment. It is the Town Board's responsibility to determine equipment needs. Treasurer Anderson explained to Rick Olseen that work compensation is rolled all into road and bridge fund. 2016 wasn't paid until 2017 so we are going to have to pay twice this year. Motion by James McCarthy, second by Tony Klanderud to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried

2018 Tax Levy by Fund: Treasurer Anderson informed the citizens of Sunrise that Sunrise Township has decreased the budget for the past several years with only 1 increase in 2016 of 4% due to road reallocations put in place by Chisago County. At the February 2017 Budget meeting a motion was made to present to the Citizens of Sunrise Township by Jeske Noordergraaf, second by Gerald Bjork to propose to the Citizens of Sunrise Township at the annual meeting to keep the 2018 budget at a zero (0%) increase at \$516,092.73. Motion carried. Motion by Lisa Novak, second by Mike Shank to accept the 2018 levy. Motion carried. Discussion took place regarding Sunrise Township having an accumulative reserve and wanted to know why there any reason why the budget can't lower. Treasurer Anderson explained that \$200,000 is for a future town hall and there is \$200,000 for the road and bridge purposes. Sunrise Township didn't increase the levy but more budgeted because of purchasing and new piece of equipment. If you decrease too much you lose state aide dollars. Same with the money we get from Chisago County. A lot is based on levy. Townships get very little of gravel tax. Road and bridge fund is a designated fund. State statute says that it has to be used specifically for that. Bruce Hampton wanted to know what the money from the land sale was going to be used for. It will go in the general fund / blacktop fund. Treasurer Anderson said it will sit in the general fund until the board decides to move it into a designated line item.

2016 Annual Township Report: Rick Olseen went over the Annual Township Report highlighting Subordinate Service District (SSD) which actually took place in 2017. Supervisor Carl Peter "Pete Johnson said it is in place and paperwork is being completed. The cost of attorney fees and additional fees will be rolled into the assessment. Sunrise Township is ultimately responsible for default on taxes. Sunrise Township has to pay the bills up front and wait for the assessment fees to be reimbursed. The Bond will not be renegotiated each year because it would exceed the amount of money to get back. Potentially the bond could get paid off sooner as new residents build in the SSD.

2nd Street was paved in 2016.

Bruce Hampton wondering about the roads that were turned over to the Township, Chisago County will receive more money from the state than the townships will get. Chisago County is

not interested in maintaining roads that are turned over. Chisago County turned over Old CR 70 (now Oriole Avenue to Sunrise Township. Chisago County put a chip seal on the road which did not come out as good as hoped for either Chisago County or Sunrise Township. Chisago County is going to pay half to have the road paved, Sunrise Township will pay \$88,000, Amador Township will pay \$88,000 and Chisago Lakes will pay \$300,000.

Future road expenditures will consist of seal coating on black top roads. There will be more maintenance costs.

Donation Requests:

Lena Nelson, Family Pathways.

Motion by James McCarthy, second by Shane Stepp to distribute \$3,000 for 2017 at the discretion of the Town Board for donations. Motion carried.

The following entities were represented at the Sunrise Township Annual Meeting:

- Family Pathways – Charitable Organization, (teen centers, 10 thrift stores, senior program, youth center, food shelves, and thrift stores).

Other items discussed:

- The Board stated that according to the State there is specific criteria for the distribution of money slated to be donated.

Gopher Bounty: Motion by Dawn Cash, second by Lisa Novak, to set the gopher bounty at \$2.00. Motion carried.

Road Grader: Chisago County offered \$170,000 for Sunrise Township’s road grader. The cost for a new grader will be approximately \$300,000. Township is exempt from sales. There has not been any interest because Sunrise Township owns the grader. Payment is over a period of 5 years. Buyback from Ziegler would be approximately \$130,000 after 7 years (Sunrise is in its 6th Year). New graders come with road software, but there is a service charge if the township goes with software. Monthly service fee of \$40 to \$80 per month. The town citizens are wondering if there is an extended warranty and if it is not cost prohibited to purchase a new machine. This is a 7 year cycle.

Sunrise Cemetery Mowing: Current secretary, Jed Wilcox, is retiring and looking for someone to take over this position. The Cemetery Association is looking for someone to complete land care services, please contact Jed Wilcox.

Town Hall: Sunrise Town Board has tried to get bids but people aren’t interested in it because of asbestos, mold and bats. Shane Stepp said it is worth the few thousand dollars to get an assessment done on hazardous materials in existing building.

Township Owned Land: Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson and Stephen Merten accepted a \$40,000 proposal of a 23 acre land-locked piece. Contract is signed and waiting for owners copy of title insurance. There will be joint ownership on the new piece. It is low land and the intent is to use

it for hunting. Town Board would like to receive at least fair market value for Township owned land. Bruce Hampton wants to have a list of land that Sunrise Township owns. Township does not pay taxes on property, most pieces are land locked and would like to sell property to create revenue. Bring to March 16, 2017 meeting.

Gravel: Loren Johnson Pit only has another year or 2 of gravel left. Sunrise Township has an opportunity to buy about 10,000 yards from another source and put that on the road to trying to save what we have in the Johnson Pit. That is another reason for looking a blacktopping roads. Sunrise Township is paying approximately \$7 or \$8 per yard, when buying from a contractor we will be paying approximately \$12 to \$15 per yard.

Subordinate Service District (SSD) for high speed internet with CenturyLink update: The SSD has been formed. There is a 60 day waiting period and haven't heard anything from anybody. The timeline would be drug out and may lose the DEED Grant if there is opposition.

A company can improve their infrastructure anytime they want to. Sunrise Township is the 3rd entity in the state of Minnesota to form a SSD for high speed internet.

Road Reallocation update: Old CR 70 now Oriole Avenue is going to be paved.

Recycle Day: Last year's recycle day wasn't very busy and Sunrise Town Board is thinking of going to every other year.

Community Night Out: Community Night Out is held in conjunction with National Night Out which will be held August 1, 2017. Sunrise Town Board is asking for volunteers.

Annual Meeting: Motion by Bruce Hampton, second by Dawn Cash to hold the 2018 Annual Township meeting on Tues., March 13, 2018 at 8:15 Motion carried.

Other Business:

Election Results:

Sunrise Township March 14, 2017 Election Results: Clerk Kowalke read the March 14, 2017 Election Results. .

*A Total of 211 votes cast
(Total number of on register of electors 1,242)*

Supervisor A – Three (3) Year Term

*Eric Leivian..... 129
Lisa Novak 77
Brian Geisbauer (write-in) 1*

Supervisor B – Three (3) Year Term

*Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson.. 134
Dawn Cash..... 74*

Supervisor D – One (1) Year Term

- Deborah Graleske-Kelleher. 130
- Jess Ventura (write-in)..... 1
- Valise (write-in) 1
- Jack Kopp (write-in) 3
- Dawn Cash (write-in) 1
- Ted Napery (write-in) 1
- Joyce Meyers (write-in) 3
- Brian Geisbauer (write-in) 21
- Wilbur Holman (write-in) 1
- Peter Johnson (write-in) 1
- Chuck Sinn (write-in)..... 5
- Rick Olseen (write-in) 2
- Greg Strom (write-in) 2
- Ron Istvanavich (write-in) 1

Planning Commission H – Three (3) Year Term

- Greg Strom..... 171
- Nicki Klandarud (write-in) 2
- Jim McCarthy (write-in) 1
- Ted Krause (write-in)..... 1
- Jack Kopp (write-in) 3
- Brian Geisbauer (write-in) 1
- Trevor Haaven (write-in)..... 1

Public Comments: Rick Olseen stated that Shane Stepp is a very important part to this community. Shane Stepp, Stepp Manufacturing, moved here in 1957. This will be Stepp Manufacturing’s 75th year in existing. There was a fire in the plant in September, 2016. Shane Stepp said that unfortunately, Sunrise is not a good place to invest in commercial property. Mr. Stepp looked at moving out of Chisago County and out of the State of Minnesota. Mr. Stepp decided not to move his business out of Sunrise. Stepp Mfg. now has 43 families back on the payroll. Stepp Manufacturing is looking at mid-April to get high speed internet. Thank you for getting on board. The Town Board thanked Mr. Shane for making the decision to stay in Sunrise. Rick Olseen thank all in attendance to have the opportunity to serve as moderator.

Motion by Shane Stepp, second by Mike Shank to adjourn at 9:49 p.m.

Attest: Wendy Kowalke, Clerk

Moderator