2022 Sunrise Township Annual Meeting
Royal Wilcox Community Center
Sunrise, Minnesota
Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Chairman Mark Osland called the 2022 Sunrise Township Annual meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present:

Supervisor Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson
Supervisor Dan Kaiser
Supervisor Eric Leivian
Supervisor Jeske Noordergraaf
Supervisor Mark Osland
Clerk Wendy Kowalke
Treasurer Karen Anderson
Engineer: Cristina Mlejnek

Others Present

Tony Klanderud	Ted Krause	Rick Olseen
James McCarthy	Peggy Pearson	David Stertz
BJ Thorstenson	Clair Dickson	Tyler Richter
Shane Stepp	Alexander Lamminen	

Appointment of Moderator: James McCarthy nominated Rick Olseen for moderator, second by Jeske Noordergraaf. Hearing no other nominations, Motion carried.

Approve Agenda: Motion by David Stertz, second by Lynn Wolleat to approve the 2022 agenda. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes: Motion by James McCarthy, second by BJ Thorstenson to approve the 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report: The 2021 financial books are closed. Treasurer Karen Anderson went over the Annual Treasurer's report. The year ending checking account balance for 2021 is $1,571,701.32. The ARPA balance is $105,003.36, which is included in the checking balance total. The Township budgeted $690,945.93 in receivables for 2021 and received $826,646.84. The ARPA funds are not included in the total receipts. The Board budgeted $679,300.00 in expenditures and the actual disbursements totaled $658,180.66. Motion by BJ Thorstenson, second by Lynn Wolleat to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Proposed 2023 Levy: Treasurer Karen Anderson went over the budget for 2023. At the February 22, 2022, audit and budget meeting a motion was made by Jeske Noordergraaf, second by Dan Kaiser, to propose to the Citizens of Sunrise Township at the Annual Meeting a 0% increase for the 2023 levy. Setting the levy at $531,375.54 for 2023. A separate Levy for the Blacktop Fund of $100,000.00 will continue through 2024, which the Citizens approved for 5 years in 2019. Motion made by James Stertz, second by BJ Thorstenson to approve the 2023 levy with the continuance of the blacktop fund.

A question was raised on the 2023 Town Hall budgeted disbursements. The Board budgeted $100,000 in 2023 to put towards the new Town Hall. The money will be disbursed from the general fund to the township hall fund, should the project start in 2023. The ARPA funds of $227,252.38 that the Township will receive is not part of the $100,000.00.

Other discussion took place on whether the Town Board is planning on building a new town hall in 2022. Jeske Noordergraaf informed the citizens that there is a process that needs to be followed and it will take some time before a building could possibly be built.

2021 Annual Township Report: Annual Report available at meeting. Motion by BJ Thorsenson, second by Ted Krause to waive the reading of the 2021 Annual Township Report since it was readily available for the citizens to review and make the correction of Ferry Road being 1.3 miles in length – not 3.1 miles. Motion carried.

Road Report: Annual road report is included in the Annual Township Report. Motion by BJ Thorstenson, second by Ted Krause to accept the road report. Motion carried.

Resolution Reestablish Sunrise Township Precinct and Polling Place: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Jeske Noordergraaf to approve Resolution No.: 2022-03-08-1 Reestablishing Sunrise Township Precinct and Polling Place. Motion carried. Resolution signed by the Sunrise

Resolution No.: 2022-03-08 – 1
Sunrise Township, Chisago County, MN
Resolution Establishing Precincts and Polling Places

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of Minnesota has been redistricted; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute section 204B.14, subd. 3 (d) requires that precinct boundaries must be reestablished within 60 days of when the legislature has been redistricted or at least 19 weeks before the state primary election, whichever comes first;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of Sunrise Township, County of Chisago, State of Minnesota hereby establishes the boundaries of the voting precincts and polling places as follows:

Sunrise Township Precinct
All areas within the boundaries of Sunrise Township

Polling Place
Sunrise Township Royal Wilcox Community Center, 41529 Oak Street, North Branch, MN 55056

Attached to this resolution, for illustrative purposes, is a map showing said precincts and the location of each polling place.

Adopted by the Sunrise Town Board this 8th Day of March 2022.

Commissioner Rick Greene Update (not present):

Donation Requests:

Motion by Rick Olseen, second by David Stertz, to distribute $4,000 at the discretion of the Town Board at the April meeting. Motion carried.

Donation requests were received by Family Pathways, Chisago County Historical Society, Chisago County Ag Society, Almelund Fire & Rescue, Seven County Senior Federation, North Branch Fire Department.

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

- Family Pathways (Julia) – Charitable Organization, (teen centers, 10 thrift stores, refuge network, senior program, youth center, food shelves, and thrift stores, domestic violence, delivery of food to housebound seniors, aging services). Several families from Sunrise are being served.

Board Pay: Jeske Noordergraaf explained that the Sunrise Town Board spends a lot more time than in past for township items. Sunrise Township Board pay is currently $60 per meeting plus $100 per month. Planning Commission is paid $60 per meeting, no monthly stipend. Motion by David Stertz, second by Lynn Wolleat to increase the Sunrise Township Board pay $10 per meeting and 20% monthly stipend. To increase Planning Commission $10 per meeting as well; effective March 2022. Motion carried.

Gopher Bounty: Motion by Lynn Wolleat, second by BJ Thorstenson to set gopher bounty at $4.00 per pair for pocket gophers only. Motion carried.

Gravel Update: Lead Maintenance Lynn Wolleat said the gravel pit on River Road is now closed. Jeske Noordergraaf informed the citizens that Sunrise has contracted with Kip Rydberg & Sons for 6,000 cubic yards of gravel for 2022. Eric Leivian stated that there was quite a bit reclaimed off of Ferry Road before blacktop was placed.

Ferry Road: Jeske Noordergraaf informed the public that Ferry Road was paved in 2021. There will be no parking signs placed and the public is parking on the road instead of in the State Park Parking lot to avoid paying for a park vehicle permit. Sunrise Township is in the process of putting together a "no parking" ordinance for Ferry Road.

Ferry Road – Snowmobiles: Snowmobiles have been traveling on the west side of the road. Citizens seem to be okay with this.

Olson Road: Citizens are happy with Olson Road.

New Town Hall: Sunrise Township is starting the process of looking into a new town hall. Board Members Dan Kaiser and Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson have taken a look at Chisago Lakes Town Hall. Chisago lakes did a great job with their town hall. There is a concrete floor inside.

They did not put in a commercial kitchen. Sunrise Town Board is looking to form a task force to include public and board members. Ted Krause, Tyler Richter, Bobbi Harrington, James McCarthy are interested in being on the task force. Motion by James McCarthy, second by Ted Krause to establish a volunteer task force to of up to 5 citizens and 2 board members. Motion carried. Sunrise Township currently has $245,327.94 in a new town hall fund

American Rescue Plan:
Treasurer Anderson stated that Sunrise Township has received $115,456,69. There was additional amount received $111,795.62. Originally ARPA funds were supposed to be spent on anything to do with COVID. Now you can ARPA funds can be spent on anything.

Cares Grant: Sunrise Township CARES money was received in 2020 when COVID first started for COVID items based on population. If the Township didn't use it, it went back to Chisago County to use. There was an additional CARES grant for election items. Sunrise Township gave approximately $30,000 back to the Chisago County.

Tiller Corporation Update: Tiller Corporation was sold to Martin Marietta. Lead Maintenance Lynn Wolleat said that Martin Marietta is selling rocks and sand out of the River Road pit until it is all gone and then pit will be shut down Treasurer Karen Anderson stated that Sunrise Township received $2,000 in 2021 for gravel tax.

River Road / Mill Street: Jeske Noordergraaf said that Sunrise Township will be paving River Road and Mill Street which will include curbing and gutter. Also looking at DNR grants for trails in the future. Engineer Cristina Mlejnek said that River Road and Mill Street are scheduled to be paved in 2022. James McCarthy suggested that if bids are too high to consider waiting another year.

Blue Address Signs: Blue signs will be ordered twice a year. An order for blue signs will be placed in order to have the signs available for installation by spring. Any signs that are destroyed will need to be replaced at the property owner's expense by calling Sunrise Township. Signs are $125.00 per sign. The fire department really benefits from them.

Community Night Out: Tuesday, August 2, 2022. Motion by Tony Klanderud, second by BJ Thorstenson to appropriate $500 towards Community Night Out. Motion carried.

2023 Annual Meeting: Motion by Tyler Richter, second by Tony Klanderud to hold the 2023 Annual Meeting on Tues., March 14, 2023 at 8:15. Motion carried.

Other Business: Moderator Rick Olseen thank Lynn Wolleat for his time in service for Sunrise Township and will be missed. Lynn Wolleat is retiring June 2022.

Sunrise Township March 8, 2022 Election Results: Clerk Kowalke read the Election Results.

A Total of 44 votes cast
(Total number of on register of electors 1,451)

Supervisor E – Three (3) Year Term
Jeske Noordergraaf.....35
Write-ins.....7
Undervotes.....2

Clerk Kowalke – Three (3) Year Term
Wendy Kowalke.....*42*
Write-ins.....1
Undervotes.....1

Motion by BJ Thorstenson, second by Lynn Wolleat to accept the Township Election Results as read. Motion carried.

Public Comments: No other public comments.

Motion by Eric Leivian, second Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson to adjourn at 9:18 p.m.

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Attest: Wendy Kowalke, Clerk Moderator