

**WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
22295 FROSTVIEW ROAD
COLD SPRING, MINNESOTA 56320
*www.wakefieldtownship.net***

CHAIRMAN:
JOHN WILLENBRING

TREASURER:
JERRY FRIELER

PLANNING COMMISSION:
MARY HUETTL
GREG HENRY
WALLY BACKES
KEVIN DIERKHISING
SHAWN GARDING

SUPERVISORS:
SHAWN GARDING
CYRIL ERKENS

CLERK:
HEIDI M. STALBOERGER

WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 13, 2018 8:00 PM

The Wakefield Township annual meeting was called to order by Clerk, Heidi Stalboerger, shortly after 8:00 pm at the Wakefield Town Hall, 22295 Frostview Road, Cold Spring, Minnesota.

The Clerk asked for nominations for a moderator. **DON SCHRAMEL NOMINATED JOHN WILLENBRING AS MODERATOR. WITH NO ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS, JOHN WILLENBRING ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION TO MODERATE THE ANNUAL MEETING.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DON SCHRAMEL AND SECONDED BY MARK STALBOERGER TO APPROVE THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting were read. Clerk Stalboerger noted that the election results were incorrectly reported with a total ballot count of 262. The actual number of total ballots was 163. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY NOEL TERWEY AND SECONDED BY PAUL JEDDELOH TO ACCEPT THE 2017 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES WITH CORRECTIONS. MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PAUL JEDDELOH AND SECONDED BY DON SCHRAMEL TO READ A SYNOPSIS OF THE TREASURERS REPORT. MOTION CARRIED. The treasurer's report was read. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY PAUL JEDDELOH AND SECONDED BY DON SCHRAMEL TO ACCEPT THE TREASURERS REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Representatives from the Cold Spring Fire Department were not present. An annual report was available to attendees.

The Chain of Lakes Fire & Rescue District update was given by Chief Erik Jopp and Battalion Chief Zach Braegelmann. Jopp reviewed the rescue equipment and vehicles owned by the COL. The COL received a FEMA grant for a tanker truck for approximately \$262,000. The tanker has been ordered and will be available to the department this summer. The department has requested

a FEMA grant in the current grant cycle for extrication equipment, washer/extractor and turn out gear in the amount of approximately \$90,000. Jopp reviewed the grants and donations as well as the “rainy day fund”. Jopp reviewed the calls from 2017, call history from the past 10 years and cost for the township. The COL Relief Association will be holding the annual dinner fundraiser on April 6, 2018 featuring a comedian. Noel Terwey asked if the fire department is required to have an audit. John Willenbring explained that the department is not mandated to perform an audit, however, the Relief Association is and does have an annual audit. Jopp explained the first annual calendar fundraiser, featuring the fire fighters, has produced over \$10,0000 in donations so far. The annual meeting participants thanked Jopp, Braegelmann and the Chain of Lakes for their service with applause.

Stearns County Sheriff Sergeant Ann Klein was present to give an update from the Stearns County Sheriff’s Department. Klein reviewed calls from 2017 as well as call types from previous years. Klein also gave a report for calls that occurred in February 2018. Klein reviewed the County Updated Alarm Policy. Klein and the Stearns County Sheriff’s Department were thanked and applauded for serving and protecting Wakefield Township.

Wakefield Township Assessor Cheryl Foster was present. Foster explained the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization and reminded residents that the date of the meeting is April 23, 2018 beginning at 9:30 am. Foster also noted that the assessment notice will be included with the property tax statement. Foster reviewed the tax capacity rate, highlighting that Wakefield Township’s local share of taxes is at a rate of 19.08%. Foster reviewed values of residential, lakeshore, agricultural and commercial values. Foster reviewed sales, ratios and new construction in the township.

A road report was given next. John Willenbring reviewed the road work projects from 2017. Wakefield Township received a Local Road Improvement Program grant from MnDOT in the amount of \$750,000 for the Island Lake Road reconstruction project that will take place in 2018. Willenbring reviewed other projects that are under consideration: 260th Street (east), 200th Street and normal road maintenance, such as patching, crackfilling, brush trimming, sign replacement and culvert maintenance. Two culverts in need of improvements were discussed.

The proposed 2019 levy was reviewed. Willenbring reviewed the line items on the levy report. Noel Terwey requested an explanation of the proposed increased. Frieler and Willenbring noted that the general fund had gone underfunded for several years. The township will be shifting from the cash accounting basis to the accrual accounting basis, based on population and revenue, and the Board is taking steps to ensure amounts are more accurately reported. Willenbring and Frieler highlighted items that are paid from the general fund, including the audit expense. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY PAUL JEDDELOH AND SECONDED BY GREG HENRY TO APPROVE THE 2019 LEVY AS PROPOSED AT \$836,936. MOTION CARRIED.**

Election results were reviewed. With 178 votes, for the Office of the Supervisor position, Paul Jeddelloh received 53 votes and John Willenbring received 125 votes and no write-in votes. For the Town Question “*Shall Option B, providing for the appointment of the treasurer by the town board, be adopted for the government of the town?*”, 91 votes for Yes and 71 votes for No were reported.

Regularly attended meetings were reviewed; Annual Road Review, Cold Spring Fire Department, Chain of Lakes Fire and Rescue Department, Cold Spring City Council, Cold Spring Planning Commission, Richmond City Council, Richmond Planning Commission, Stearns County Township Officers Meeting, Stearns County Board of Commissioners Meeting, Stearns County Planning Commission Meetings, Fifth Monday meetings, Wakefield Township Planning Commission meetings and Minnesota Association of Township Meeting and/or Training Courses. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY PAUL JEDDELOH AND SECONDED BY ALICE STALBOERGER TO APPROVE A QUORUM OF BOARD ATTENDANCE AT THE ABOVE MENTIONED REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS WITHOUT SPECIAL NOTICE. MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PAUL JEDDELOH AND SECONDED BY NOEL TERWEY TO APPROVE THE 2019 WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP ANNUAL ELECTION VOTING HOURS FROM 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM AND THE ANNUAL MEETING ON MARCH 12, 2019, AT 8:00 PM AT THE WAKEFIELD TOWN HALL, 22295 FROSTVIEW ROAD, COLD SPRING MINNESOTA. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GREG HENRY AND SECONDED BY MARK KLEIN ADJOURN THE 2018 WAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING AT 9:16 PM. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi M. Stalboerger
Wakefield Township Clerk