

Pelican Township Annual Meeting
March 9, 2021
Pelican Rapids Fire Hall
4:00 PM

Clerk Nelson called the 2021 Pelican Township Annual Meeting to order at 4:00 PM as had been published in the notice and asked the Board and residents to join him in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Board Members present, Paul Restad, Lance Haugrud, Sheila Johnson, Mitchell Egge and Lloyd Nelson, others present, Tom Marty, John Field, and Everett Ballard

Everett Ballard was elected as Moderator and Lloyd turned the meeting over to him.

Previous Year's Annual Meeting Minutes were approved as read

Treasurer's Report – For Year Ended 2020 was approved as read.

Old Business – Discussed the lack of progress on North Prairie Lake Road reconstruction; is on the topic for new business, but in short, did shoulder work in fall of 2020. Now trying for funding from State of Minnesota to reconstruct 1 mile and overlay 1 mile of the road. Moore Engineering has been contracted by the Township to assist with the process. Overall, \$1.4 million dollar project of which the Township would be responsible for approximately \$300,000. If approved by State, start engineering work and going for bids fall/winter of 2021 – construction of project summer of 2022. Would be a 10 ton road.

New Business

Mitchell presented a recap of road projects in 2020 and plans for 2021. Discussion of the dust guard treatments that are being applied; general consensus is that they are working well. Old Fergus Road was completed in 2020, hauled in clay, reworked, and applied heavy dust guard. Road seemed to hold up well, but Tom noted that he was disappointed that it wasn't graded prior to winter arriving. Thought it should have been. Board plans to continue to identify areas to work on shoulders, improve crowns, and consider a plan to gravel all the roads in the Township on a scheduled basis. Presently only apply gravel to areas based upon road inspections but should have a more comprehensive plan in place. Have graveled heavier in places by having trucks go side by side instead of just down the middle. Will continue to work to improve overall quality of the roads.

Already talked about the North Prairie Lake Road project, will update when we've learned from the State if we've been selected for funding. If not, will plan to overlay the road, but that wouldn't be the best option long term.

Paul presented the recommendation from the Town Board for the Tax Levy, \$195,000 which is a 4% increase over last year. \$135,000 for Road and Bridge, \$20,000 for Fire Fund, and \$40,000 for the General Fund. The levy amounts were determined by reviewing the actual spend in 2020 and the projections for 2021/22 based upon road projects, balance in accounts, etc. He noted that the total levy had been at \$180,000 for the prior six years to last year without an increase; but with increased costs and more road maintenance, need to increase slightly.

Tom moved and John seconded to set the annual levy at \$195,000. Carried.

Lloyd presented the grant funding requests that had been received from the Otter Tail County Historical Society and the Pelican Rapids Public Library. Paul moved and Lance seconded to recommend funding the Library at \$4,000 and Otter Tail County Historical Society at \$500.00, the same level as last year. Carried.

Time and Place for next Annual Meeting – second Tuesday in March 2022, at 4:00 PM in the Firehall.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15.

Lloyd Nelson, Clerk