

Pelican Township Annual Meeting
March 8, 2022
Pelican Rapids Fire Hall
4:00 PM

Clerk Nelson called the 2022 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, Steve Toso and Everett Ballard

Lance Haugrud 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 2021 was approved as presented. Sheila noted that the Township is now using CTAS – the government accounting system that the State recommends and that is what we use to generate our financial reports.

Old Business – Reviewed the North Prairie Lake Road project; did not receive the grant from the State of Minnesota; therefore, moved forward with grinding up road top and resurfacing. Added about an inch of gravel to the top of the road prior to grinding – should provide better base. First lift was put down, second lift to be in the spring of 2022. Overall, the project will be over \$300,000 for the Township.

New Business

Mitchell presented a recap of road projects in 2021 and plans for 2022 noting the primary project on North Prairie Lake Road and smaller projects to fix trouble spots. Discussion on dust guard and graveling on the Township roads. Would like to get on a regular schedule where we do approximately 1/3rd of the Township roads with gravel each year. We've been doing spot graveling for a long time and think a more consistent approach might reduce some issues that we're seeing. Conversation noting that the hill tops are generally the worst, so maybe graveling them and covering with dust guard to try to keep from washing downhill would be a good approach.

Also discussed that given the costs associated with the North Prairie Lake Road – wouldn't be much room for additional projects this year, will look to complete that and do general service and maintenance. May reduce the number of miles of dust guard that the Township places in an effort to conserve on funds.

Lloyd presented the recommendation from the Town Board for the Tax Levy, \$210,000 which is a 7.6% increase over last year. \$150,000 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 2021 and the projections for 2022/23 based upon road projects, balance in accounts, etc. With the significant expenditure on North Prairie Lake Road and increases expenses in general, need to bring in some additional funds to cover costs and start to build a reserve back up. Don't want to move too far to fast, so will see how this year fares and continue to evaluate our financial condition.

Everett moved and Steve seconded to set the annual levy at \$120,000. 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 previous years. Carried.

Time and Place for next Annual Meeting – second Tuesday in March 2023, at 4:00 PM in the Firehall.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Lloyd Nelson, Clerk