

Annual Town Meeting  
March 17, 2009

I. Clerk called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Nomination of Moderator: Dave Miller nominated Sue Lawson – Sue Lawson declined the nomination. Ed Bruckelmyer nominated Phil Strom – Phil Strom accepted the nomination.

IV. Approval of Minutes from the 2008 Annual Meeting: Stephen Dahl made a motion to approve the minutes, Dave Mount seconded. Motion passed.

V. Call for Bank of Deposit: Currently North Shore State Bank and The Lake Bank. Sherry Camper made a motion to continue with North Shore Bank and The Lake Bank, Joan Norgren seconded. Motion passed.

VI. Call for Newspaper of publication: Currently the Duluth News Tribune. George Sundstrom made a motion to approve the Duluth News Tribune, Valery Brady seconded. Wendy Meierhoff offered an amendment allowing use of the Duluth News Tribune and the Two Harbors Chronicle, Janice Hooey seconded the amendment. *The option was for either the Two Harbors Chronicle or Duluth News Tribune as chosen by the Town Board.* Dave Mount made a friendly amendment allowing the fall back of simply using the Duluth News Tribune if this motion does not meet legal standards as set by our Town Attorney, this friendly amendment was accepted by Wendy Meierhoff and Janice Hooey. Moderator called for a vote on the amendment to the motion, by Hand Vote: Yes 25, No 21 – the amendment passed. Vote on the motion: the motion passed.

VII. Call for Official Posting Place:

- a. Town Hall
- b. Scenic Café
- c. Fire Hall #1
- d. Lakeview Castle – *replace with Lighthouse on Homestead*
- e. North Shore Community School

Dave Mount made a motion to adopt as the official posting places, the Town Hall, Scenic Café, Fire Hall #1, Lighthouse on Homestead and North Shore Community School, Stephen Dahl seconded, Motion passed.

VIII. Presentation of Budgets

Valery Brady made a motion to accept the Audit Report, Sherry Camper seconded. Motion passed.

Dave Mount, current chair of the Town Board of Supervisors gave a brief snapshot overview of the 2010 budget.

Police Department budget (**\$47,395.00**) was presented by Chief Shawn Padden. The budget showed an increase in liability insurance of approximately 200%.

Fire Department budget (**\$69,500.00**) was presented by Chief Robert Engelson. The Fire Department is currently accepting offers on the old Fire Truck a new FEMA Grant truck replaced. We received an Enbridge grant for road safety and traffic signs. Hall #2 needs to have the double door replaced by a single door to accommodate the new FEMA truck which added \$5500.00 to the budget.

General Township budget (**\$136,350.00**) was presented by Dave Mount. The energy conservation purchase for 2008 was an on demand water heater.

Dave Mount acknowledged and thanked Dave Miller for his 6 years on the Planning commission, and Jeff Cook who is retiring as a Town Supervisor for 15 years.

Planning and Zoning budget (**\$25,050.00**) was presented by Director Sue Lawson. Following a very lengthy discussion the budget stood as proposed.

*Question: Why so much in legal fees?*

*Answer: Legal fees incurred were all related to matters brought to both the Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustment by people who do not live in this township.*

*Question: Why not just turn Planning over to the County?*

*Answer: The County does not give the enforcement people are currently seeing in our township.*

*Question: Why are you increasing fees?*

*Answer: Currently we have no fee structure in place for subdivisions and the Board of Adjustment both of which take a great deal of effort, legal advice and time. Before this year the Board of Adjustment was held so infrequently that no one set a fee for the board. Now we know we need to fix that error by upgrading the fee structure.*

Cemetery budget (**\$5000.00**) was presented by Dan Tanner.

Road and Bridge budget (**\$103,000.00**) was presented by Jeff Cook. To receive State Road aid we will need to budget a minimum of \$97,000.00. Dave Mount made an amendment to the motion that the road and bridge budget be reduced to \$97,000.00, Dan Tanner seconded. Amendment passed.

Community Education budget and Recycling budgets are informational.

Community Center presentation by Stephen Dahl and Janice Hooey.

IX. Motion to approve total budget (\$380,295.00). Dave Miller made a motion to accept the total budget, John Kessler seconded. George Sundstrom wishes to amend the Planning and Zoning budget from \$25050.00 down 10% to \$18590.00, Don Long seconded. Vote on the amendment; by hand count yes 19 No 27, the amendment failed.

*Question: Isn't the Ending Balance shown at the end of the year reserve?*

*Answer: No, we receive the second half of our levied funds in December. Our 2009 levied funds will not be distributed until the end of June 2009, the second half of the levied funds will again be distributed in December 2009.*

George Sundstrom made an amendment to the motion to reduce all of the requests for all of the budget items by 10% with the exception of the Cemetery budget, We are to use the reserve to draw down the budget. Phil Strom reminded George that by reducing the Road budget 10% we would bring that budget below the \$97000.00 needed to receive State Aid. George amended his motion to leave off the Road and Bridge budget, the remaining levies would be reduced by 10%. Amendment to the motion died for a lack of second.

Valery Brady made an amendment to the motion to reduce the general budget from \$136350.00 to \$116350.00, Mary Ann Sironen seconded. Dave Mount made a friendly amendment to Valery Brady's motion, it will not make a deduction in the budget but a reduction in the levy, Valery accepted this friendly

amendment. Vote on the amendment; amendment passed. Vote on the Motion to approve the amended total budget of **\$360,295.00**. Motion passed.

X. George Sundstrom made a motion to approve March 9, 2010 as the date for the 2010 Annual Town Meeting, Jeff Cook seconded. Motion passed.

XI. Set time and date for continuation of the Annual Town Meeting in the event such a meeting is necessary. Jeff Cook made a motion to set the date of August 13, 2009 7:00 p.m.as the continuation date, George Sundstrom seconded.

XII. Election Results: 102 ballots were cast Mary Ann Sironen 101 Write in 1

XIII. Concerns from the Audience

XIV. George Sundstrom made a motion to recess this meeting, Jeff Cook seconded. Motion passed 10:55 p.m.

Election Judge:\_\_\_\_\_

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