

Denmark Township Annual Meeting
March 09, 2010

Supervisors Present: Kathy Higgins, Gary Dixon, Jim Keller and Steve Kramer.
Supervisors Absent: Joe Moore

Call to order: Clerk called meeting called to order at 7:02 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chair Higgins acknowledged and welcomed State Representative Denny McNamara. Representative McNamara addressed residents stating that he has been involved on behalf of Denmark with the BWSR/Denmark watershed issues. Representative McNamara also discussed the Cottage Grove 3M Incinerator permit and ongoing concerns regarding Fluorocarbons in the water. Impacts on both issues are being monitored. Representative McNamara welcomed any comments/concerns on any issues.

Select Moderator: Motion George Stoffel/2nd Pat Johnson-Keller to nominate Steve Biscoe as Moderator.
No other nominations. Motion George Stoffel/2nd Pat Johnson-Keller to close nominations. Motion Carried.
Steve Biscoe moderated meeting.

2009 Annual Meeting Minutes: 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes were reviewed by the public rather than read aloud.
Motion George Stoffel/2nd Pat Johnson-Keller to accept the 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes. Motion Carried.

Gopher Bounty: (currently at \$2.50)
Motion George Stoffel/2nd Jim Keller to recommend keeping the gopher bounty at \$2.50 per gopher.
Motion Carried.

Legal Paper: (currently Hastings Star Gazette-also publishing in St. Paul Pioneer Press when directed by Board)
Motion Mark Zuzek/2nd George Stoffel to recommend keeping Hastings Star Gazette as legal newspaper.
Motion Carried.

Supervisors Salary: Current pay is \$300 per month for Chair and \$70 per meeting. Motion George Stoffel/2nd Dave Munter to recommend keeping Supervisor salary at \$70 per meeting and Chair \$300 per month.
Motion Carried.

Set 2010 Annual Meeting Site and Time: Motion Mark Zuzek/2nd Dave Munter to set the 2011 Annual Meeting March 8, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall (inclement weather date would be 03/15/2011). Motion Carried.

Resident Comments:

Resident dissatisfied with the charges he incurred from one of the trash haulers licensed in Denmark. Found charges between haulers and customers were not uniform. Inquired whether Denmark could publish this information. Higgins stated that these were private companies licensed in Denmark and that residents are responsible for doing their own research when hiring one of the four licensed haulers in Denmark. Licensed haulers are listed on the website.

Resident requested Board to consider total dust coating of the gravel roads and not just in front of houses. Suggested dust coating the most heavily traveled gravel roads to hold down the road bed. Resident has noticed PH balance of fields along the gravel roads has been affected by gravel road dust.

Supervisor Reports:

KELLER: Former chair of LSCWMO Board, which has been dissolved. Working to resolve issues relating to which watershed district Denmark will become a part of.
Red Rock Corridor- High speed rail, light rail and commuter rail are advancing.
Conditional Use Permits-most Conditional Use Permits have been complied with.

KRAMER: Town Hall maintenance, park and mowing. Weed Inspections, fire sign installation (in the spring). Parks studies were done for both O'Connor's (80th St between Neal and Oakgreen) and Town Hall parks, to lay out long-term visions for each park. The savings in the Park and Recreation fund can only be used for the parks. In addition, the Town was informed that there were some grant monies available for prairie projects, so the O'Connor's

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Park Plan was submitted for a grant, although this project was not selected. Some options in the Town Hall Park Plan include changing the current ball field into a multi-use field, adding a restroom facility, adding a sports court, revising the parking lot for more efficient parking/entering/exiting. Plans for O'Connor's 20 acre park include improvements to enhance and develop prairie plantings and to create walking paths. Resident requested that before we proceed on this vision of parks improvements that we maintain and take care of what we currently have. Residents would like more information on parks study. The plans are only ideas and options for future park improvements. The Parks study/plans will be put on the website for resident review and feedback.

Discussion regarding bringing back the newsletter. Residents would like to be informed on Town business not just through the website, but also by a hard copy mailing of a newsletter, at least a couple times a year. This discussion was brought up a number of times throughout the meeting.

Motion George Stoffel/2nd Jim Keller to recommend recreation of the newsletter. Motion Carried.

DIXON: Roads/Bridges-2009 plan was to pave another mile of Neal. This was not done due to concern of the economic time (decreased revenues and decreased government aid). Seal Coat/Crack sealing was done. For 2010 project plans include seal coat/crack sealing and shouldering. Resident suggested getting back on track with blacktopping roads. Animal Control-Town is tracking costs for animal pick-up and impound to keep costs in check.

HIGGINS: LSCWMO alternate- Working to resolve issues relating to which watershed district Denmark will become a part of. Denmark becoming a part of South Washington Watershed District would be beneficial for Town. Fire Services-Denmark is part of the Hastings Rural Fire Association, which consists of Denmark Township, Nininger Township, Ravenna Township, City of Vermillion, Vermillion Township and Marshan Township. Services are purchased from the City of Hastings. Budget figures are based on the property assessments.

2009 Financial Report: Summary financial reports consisting of Revenues of \$580,092 and Expenditures of \$423,633 were supplied to the public.

Year ending 12/31/2009 balances: Checking Account-\$145,814.96 (outstanding checks \$33,666.87, outstanding deposits in transit \$2,521.10) ending balance \$114,669.19.

General Savings Account-\$604,902.81

Park/Recreation Restricted Account-\$237,527.95

Cable Restricted Account-\$5002.50

Total Assets \$962,102.45. Detail reports were entered into record at the February 1, 2010 Board Of Audit and have been posted in the Town Hall prior to the Annual Meeting.

2011 Budget recommendations presented to the electors at the September reconvening of the 2010 Annual Meeting.

Other Business:

Dixon reported that there is interest in a Town Community gathering. **Motion Mark Zuzek/2nd Pat Keller-Johnson to authorize an expenditure of up to \$1000 on a Town celebration for the purpose of community fellowship.**

Motion Carried. Valda VanAlstine will bring the idea to the Historical Society for their possible involvement.

Motion Dave Munter/2nd George Stoffel to pay the 4-H groups \$800 to clean the Township ditches in 2010.

Motion Carried.

8:30 PM **Motion Valda VanAlstine/2nd George Stoffel to recess the Annual Meeting to September 7, 2010 at 7:00 PM. for the purpose of the 2011 Budget/Levy recommendations.** Motion Carried.

Becky Herman
Denmark Township Clerk/Treasurer

Annual Meeting Moderator or Chairperson