

**FREDENBERG TOWN BOARD
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA
2018 FREDENBERG TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
March 13, 2018**

**TIME & PLACE: 7:00 PM
TOWN HALL/COMMUNITY CENTER**

The 2018 Fredenberg Annual Meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7:05 pm by clerk. Copy of the Board of Audit, 2017 disbursement and receipts ledger and Annual Road Report/Review were posted and available. Clerks read their welcome to 24 residents, and all stood in the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk called for nominations for moderator: Barb Pearman nominated Annie Cich, Jeff Blix nominated Glen Bergstrand. Vote by raised hand: Cich 7 Bergstrand 15, Glen Bergstrand elected moderator and invited to the front table.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** March 14, 2017 Board meeting minutes reviewed. Tom Pawlowicz made motion to accept minutes without correction, Joan Sutloff seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
2. **FINANCIAL REPORTS:** End of 2017 year financial report reviewed, Bill O'Brien/treasurer explained yearly reconciliation. Ending Balance of 605,901.66, which is increase of almost \$77,000.00 from 12/31/2016.
3. **TOWN ORGANIZATION:** Moderator introduced Town Supervisors, Treasurer, Custodians/Recycle Attendants and Clerks.
4. **REPORTS:** Clay Cich, Jeff Blix, Deb Pawlowicz, Town Supervisors present, Walter Rapp & Jim Ray were absent. Moderator inquired if reports needed to be read aloud and audience did not feel that was necessary as the reports in their entirety were in packets, which all in attendance received.
5. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. Fredenberg Park: Jeff Blix provided update on settlement agreement signed on July 5, 2017 with PEO and Town of Fredenberg,
 - B. Fairness in Road Paving Assessments: no one present to provide updated information
 - C. Broadband Update: Clay Cich announced that Fredenberg received \$1,800,000.00 grant from State of MN and \$2,100,000.00 award from Century Link (total of \$3,900,000.00) for providing Broadband to the township. Work will begin in May/June to install underground/above ground lines. Nodes will be installed to homes/areas that are too far from lines for service.
 - D. Committee for Property Values & Taxes: Clay Cich informed audience that they had met with St. Louis County two times to discuss. Most of discussion centered on how leased land works and is assessed. No concrete information provided from St. Louis County.
 - E. Web Site: Fredenberg.org is the Township web site and has been up and running since August 2017. Clerks summarized information provided on site including: 2 community calendars, links to St. Louis County, Reservoir Riders & MN Power, rental information & form. It is updated monthly, providing approved minutes of meeting, newsletters and upcoming meetings.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Comprehensive Plan: Deb Pawlowicz informed audience that the Draft of the 2018 Township Land Use Plan is complete, and a Public Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 7:00 – 8:00 pm.
- B. Essentia Regional Wellness Center: Mark McShane provided presentation on planned center for the old Hermantown Junior High, visual plans were provided and information on the project which is a collaborative project with Essentia, YMCA and Hermantown Community Schools. It has been endorsed by 13 Townships, including Fredenberg, also funded by \$8,000,000.00 from the State of MN. The facility will have many amenities for the community including swimming, fitness center and a childcare program. There is a fund-raising campaign and he was requesting community support. This is allowed under MN Statute 365.10, subdiv. 1-18, which allows a maximum of \$10,000.00 donation be voted on by the residents at the Township Annual Meeting. Fran Williams made a motion to authorize the Fredenberg Town Board to make a \$10,000.00 donation to the campaign, Gloria Pothast seconded. Vote taken. **MOTION PASSED BY MAJORITY.**
- C. Fire Department: Linda Bergstrand/Fire Chief informed the community that the Fredenberg Fire Dept. remains involved in providing free smoke alarms and installation through getasmokealarm.org. Strongly encouraged all residents to use this program to check and update current alarms. Also, Fire Dept. involved in new program: FILE OF LIFE, which provides a card file to fill out and leave in home for First Responders/Fire Dept. to refer to for vital medical and personal information. She handed one out to each person present, some will be available at Recycle Center, Town Hall office and at the Fire Departments Annual Pancake Feed in May. Clerks will also place notice in Township Newsletter.

7. **BUDGET & LEVY:** Bill O'Brien/Treasurer reviewed information in packet comparing 2018 levy to proposed 2019 levy, he proposed a 2% reduction in 2019 Levy. Noel Pearman inquired about previous funding for Township Cemetery to insure it is maintained indefinitely, current funding of \$1,000/year. Bill clarified that any capital improvements would come from the General Fund. Mark McShane made a motion to accept the levy as proposed at \$401,500.00 for 2019, Clay Cich seconded. Vote taken. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 8.. **ANNUAL MEETING 2019:** Moderator informed audience, second Tuesday of March in 2019 for Fredenberg Township Annual Meeting was March 12, 2019. Clay Cich made a motion to hold the Fredenberg Township Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Fredenberg Town Hall, Jeff Blix seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: Skeeter Tomczak, candidate for State Representative for District 6B present and introduced himself to the meeting, he remained available after the meeting for questions.

- 9.. **ADJOURNMENT:** Jeff Blix made motion to adjourn the meeting, Mark McShane seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane C. Palmstein/Clerk

Glen Bergstrand/Moderator