

**TOWN OF FREDENBERG
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA
2019 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TIME & PLACE: 7:00PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019

TOWN HALL/COMMUNITY CENTER

The 2019 Fredenberg Annual Meeting was CALLED TO ORDER at 7:01 pm by Diane Palmstein/clerk. The 2018 disbursements and receipts ledger were available for review and the Board of Audit approved meeting minutes from January 16, 2019 were posted. Clerks read a Welcome message and 28 residents stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk called for nominations for meeting moderator, Jim Ray nominated Glen Bergstrand, Mark McShane seconded. By show of hands from the audience, the vote was **UNANIMOUS**, Glen Bergstrand accepted the nomination.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** March 13, 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes were reviewed from the Annual packet. Jeff Blix made a motion to accept the minutes from March 13, 2018 Annual Meeting without correction, Mark Baker seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
2. **END OF YEAR 2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** Bill O'Brien/Treasurer explained report. Disbursements are costs paid out by the funds listed. Road & Bridge Fund in the hole by \$4,761.00, due to extensive road prep work done on paving projects. Road Paving fund was large because number of assessments collected for road paving projects and amount due to contractor did not come out until after Dec. 31, 2018. Jeff Blix asked for clarification on where Parks & Rec dollars spent (which is reset at beginning of each year), Treasurer would have to pull claims and get back to him. Jim Ray made a motion to accept the year end Treasurer's Report, Clay Cich seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
3. **TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION:** Glen Bergstrand, moderator thanked each Township supervisor and employee for their service.
4. **REPORTS:** Glen Bergstrand, moderator asked if audience wanted these read aloud as they were in packets and no one requested to have them read. Clerk did read January 16, 2019 Approved Board of Audit Minutes aloud.
5. **GUEST SPEAKERS:**

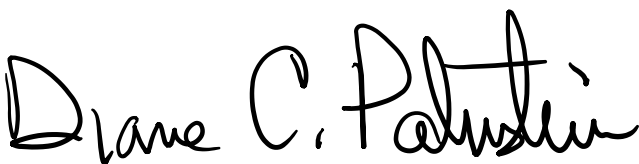
Kerry Juntunen/Hermantown School District Superintendent was scheduled to speak but had to cancel due to illness.

St. Louis County Sheriff's Department: Deputies Matt Sobczak and Deb Veovan presented report. There were 113 calls for service from Fredenberg Township for 2017 and 113 again in 2018. Variety of calls: assaults, burglary, domestic abuse, property damage, disturbances, forgery, DUI and theft (most prevalent). Recommended area residents: make sure windows and doors are locked, lock your vehicles also, place security signs on property, take valuables out of your car. They thanked the Fredenberg Fire Department and Hi-Banks Resort for their assistance in the area in past years. Noel Pearman, resident, thanked them for their good work. Clay Cich, resident, asked about prevalence of a drug problem in our community. Sheriff Deputies responded that it is not a huge problem, but they are aware of users and dealers in area.
6. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **BROADBAND UPDATE:** 3 representatives from Century Link present: Mark Swanson, Greg Lietz & Jim Tomczak. There is now fiber to homes in the area, Century Link is slightly ahead of schedule, turning up fiber before March 14, 2019. Residents can now call Century Link and schedule service

set up. Not all lines have been buried because of frost and snow, some issues with animals gnawing at fiber above ground. Many pedestals/pods are buried by snow and Century Link would appreciate if residents shoveled them as able as they are being dislodged by machinery removing snow. Residents do have to sign up for service, it will not be automatic. Broadband is not replacing DSL, but it is significantly faster/more durable. All hook-ups are to the outside of your home but unless you take service will not be into your home. Clerks requested Century Link set up an Informational meeting at the Townhall to provide information to a larger population in the Township. Several residents commented on the significant difference in internet speed with fiber optics.

- B. **FREDENBERG COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN:** Deb Pawlowicz, lead member of committee informed the meeting that the Township Comprehensive Plan was approved by Town Board and submitted to St. Louis County and accepted for use as a guideline in conjunction with the St. Louis County Comprehensive Land Use Plan being completed at this time.
- C. **DATKA PARK:** Diane Palmstein/clerk presented the following from Town Board Supervisors: The Township presented evidence that violations to the mediated settlement use of Fredenberg Park had occurred last winter. The decision maker assigned to the matter denied the violations and directed the Township to assist in the creation of trail access across Minnesota Power property to Island Lake (this matter remains unsettled because of Minnesota Power legalities).
7. **NEW BUSINESS:** Glen Bergstrand requested from the audience any new business. No one raised issues.
8. **2020 TOWNSHIP LEVY:** Bill O'Brien/treasurer reviewed financial information from 2019 and 2020 budget & levy in packet. It was explained that the proposed 2020 levy is less than the proposed 2020 budget in an effort to lower Township checking account balance, which was a concern brought up by residents in past Annual Meetings. The last two years, even with a decreased Township levy, it has sustained a healthy balance. He recommended a reduction of about 1 percent for FY2020. Clay Cich made a motion to accept the proposed 2020 levy, which includes a reduction of about 1 percent for 2020, Fran Williams seconded. By show of hands, **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
9. **OTHER BUSINESS:**
- A. **TIME/DATE OF 2020 ANNUAL MEETING:** clerk informed audience that following MN Statute, the second Tuesday in March is designated as Annual Township Meeting Day, which is on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. Glen Bergstrand, moderator, recommended time of meeting to begin at 7:00pm with the location of Fredenberg Town Hall. Charley (Bud) Johnson made a motion to set the 2020 Fredenberg Annual Meeting for Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7pm in Fredenberg Town Hall, Mark Baker seconded. By show of hands, **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Troy Sunnarborg made a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting, Gary Pothast seconded. By show of hands, **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane C. Palmstein/Town Clerk



Glen Bergstrand/Moderator