

**ANNUAL MEETING
CASCADE TOWNSHIP
MARCH 10, 2009**

THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WAS HELD IN THE TOWN OF CASCADE, IN THE COUNTY OF OLMSTED AND THE STATE OF MINNESOTA AT THE CALVARY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH MEETING ROOM AT 8:15 PM. CLERK JOE VROMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER. THE CLERK INTRODUCED THE BOARD MEMBERS TO THE PUBLIC, SUPERVISOR ARLEN HEATHMAN, SUPERVISOR HAROLD ATKINSON, CHAIRMAN LENNY LAURES, CLERK/TREASURER JOE VROMAN. EVERYONE ROSE TO SAY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

THE CLERK ASKED THE ELECTORS TO CHOOSE A MODERATOR FOR THE EVENING. PETE STREIT VOLUNTEERED AND WAS APPROVED BY THE ELECTORATE TO BE MODERATOR.

PETE STREIT THEN CHOSE 3 PEOPLE TO COUNT THE VOTES FROM THE ANNUAL ELECTION TO ELECT ONE SUPERVISOR FOR THREE YEAR TERM. THE THREE PEOPLE WERE JOANNE HEATHMAN, KEVIN LENZ AND JOHN VRIEZEN.

THE CLERK READ THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING. MINUTES WERE APPROVED ON A MOTION BY JOHN RUEGG, SECONDED BY JUDY OHLY, ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

THE CLERK REPORTED THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REVIEWED THE TOWN BOARD OF AUDIT AT THE MARCH 2nd, 2009 BOARD MEETING, AND ALL FUNDS WERE FOUND TO BE IN ORDER. THE FORMAL AUDIT REPORT OF TOWN FUNDS WILL BE PRESENTED BY CPA FIRM OF SMITH SCHAFFER AT THE JUNE 1st, 2009 TOWN BOARD MEETING.

TREASURER JOE VROMAN GAVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2008. BEGINNING BALANCE WAS \$296,850.95, RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR TOTALED \$672,668.12, DISBURSEMENTS TOTALED \$648,533.12, FOR AND ENDING CHECKING BALANCES ON DECEMBER 31, 2008 OF \$320,985.95. A MOTION BY TONY KNAUER APPROVES THE TREASURERS REPORT AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY DAVID LUCAS, ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

THE VOTE TOTALS WERE REPORTED AS FOLLOWS: TOTAL OF 150 VOTES CAST TO ELECT A SUPERVISOR FOR A 3 YEAR TERM. LENNY LAURES RECEIVED 112 VOTES, WRITE IN CANDIDATE LOU OHLY JR. RECEIVED 29 VOTES, WRITE IN CANDIDATE LOU OHLY RECEIVED 6 VOTES, WRITE IN CANDIDATE PAUL OHLY RECEIVED 2 VOTES, AND WRITE IN CANDIDATE TERRY THRONDSOON RECEIVED 1 VOTE. LENNY LAURES WAS DECLARED THE WINNER.

THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN MARCH (MARCH 9TH, 2010). THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM 5:00 TO 8:00 PM AND THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING WILL START AT 8:15 PM ON A MOTION BY TONY KNAUER, SECONDED BY JOHN RUEGG, ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

MARCH 10, 2009 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED:

A MOTION BY TONY KNAUER TO CONTINUE THE GOPHER BOUNTY FOR 2009 THE SAME AS LAST YEAR AT \$1.50 FOR EACH PAIR OF FEET AND TO LIMIT PAYMENT ON THE BOUNTY TO TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS AND LAND OWNERS ONLY, SECONDED BY NEIL BUSACKER, ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

DEPUTY SHERIFF VAL COE INTRODUCED HERSELF AND GAVE A PRESENTATION ON HER DUTIES OVER THE PAST 13 YEARS AS DEPUTY SHERIFF AND AS THE TOWNSHIP DEPUTY FOR THE LAST 2 YEARS TO CASCADE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS. SHE STATED THAT SHE IS THE GO TO PERSON FOR CONTINUITY OF SERVICE AND IS OPEN TO ATTEND MEETINGS FOR THE NEIGHBOR HOOD WATCH PROGRAMS. SHE ASKED THE RESIDENTS WHERE THEY WOULD LIKE BEST TO SEE HER IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS AND CULDESACS OR ON THE MAIN ROADS. THE GROUP SAID IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS AND CULDESACS. THE RESIDENTS RESPONSE WAS OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE AND WAS VERY APPRECIATIVE FOR THE JOB SHE IS DOING. SEVERAL QUESTIONS FOLLOWED.

THE MODERATOR ASKED THE CHAIRMAN LENNY LAURES TO PRESENT THE PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET AND TAX LEVY TO THE CITIZENS. CHAIRMAN LAURES SHOWED A DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF ALL ITEMS OF EXPENSES AND REVENUE FOR THE TOWNSHIP. DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOLLOWED. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ENTIRE 2010 BUDGET AS PRESENTED WAS MADE BY DAVID LUCAS, SECONDED BY JOHN RUEGG, ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

THE BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS:

\$57,950 FOR GENERAL REVENUE, \$419,742 FOR ROAD AND BRIDGE, \$181,743 FOR FIRE PROTECTION, \$22,000 FOR PUBLIC SAFETY, \$5,000 FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND, AND \$10,000 TO REBUILD THE RESERVE FUND FOR A PROPOSED TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF \$696,035.

THE DIFFERENCE FROM THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE AND THE PROPOSED LEVY IS A \$56,700 REDUCTION FOR ESTIMATED REVENUE FROM GAS TAX, ANNEXATION PAYMENT, BANK INTEREST, AGGREGATE TAX AND MARKET VALUE CREDITS.

THE 2010 PROPOSED TAX LEVY IS \$639,335, WHICH IS AN INCREASE OF \$554 FROM THE 2009 TAX LEVY.

SUPERVISOR HAROLD ATKINSON INTRODUCED SPECIAL GUEST THIS EVENING, SECRETARY OF STATE MARK RITCHIE. HE SPOKE FOR ABOUT 30 MINUTES ABOUT THE LAST STATE AND NATIONAL ELECTION CYCLE AND TOOK QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

CHAIRMAN LAURES GAVE A PRESENTATION ON FIRE PROTECTION COSTS.

CHAIRMAN LAURES AND SUPERVISOR HEATHMAN GAVE AN UPDATE ON CAPITOL EQUIPMENT PURCHASING, MOWING TRACTOR TRADE IN AND PURCHASED A NEW TRACTOR MOWER, AND REPLACING THE 1997 FORD PLOW TRUCK.

MARCH 10, 2009 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED:

CHAIRMAN LAURES DISCUSSED BUILDING PERMITS. THE PEOPLE ARE TO CONTACT T.C.P.A. (TOWNSHIP COOPERATIVE PLANNING ASSOCIATION) AT THEIR NEW ADDRESS, 4111 11TH AVENUE SW, IN AN OFFICE AT THE ROCHESTER TOWNSHIP HALL. PHONE NUMBER REMAINS THE SAME AT 529-0774.

SUPERVISOR HEATHMAN GAVE AN UPDATE ON NUISANCE AND DOG ORDINANCE.

CHAIRMAN LAURES GAVE AN UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SEPTIC AND WATER SYSTEMS, WHICH ARE NOW ADMINISTERED BY GOPHER SEPTIC SYSTEMS.

SUPERVISOR HEATHMAN DISCUSSED STORM WATER, POLLUTION PREVENTION TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON ILLICIT DISCHARGE AND DUMPING. HE ASKED THE CITIZENS TO MONITOR FOR FOREIGN MATERIAL IN DISCHARGE PONDS. THE QUESTION WAS ASKED OF THE CITIZENS IF THEY FELT THAT OUR TOWNSHIP HAD AN ADEQUATE STORM WATER POLLUTION PROGRAM. THE ANSWER WAS YES.

UNDER OLD BUSINESS, NONE

NEW BUSINESS

THE BOARD ANNOUNCED A NEW WEBSITE FOR CASCADE TOWNSHIP. IT IS WWW.CASCADETOWNSHIP.US WHICH WILL CONTAIN THE MEETING MINUTES AND AGENDAS FOR BOTH THE TOWN BOARD AND THE PLANNING COMMISSION. THIS WAS AN ITEM WHICH WAS REQUESTED AT LAST YEARS ANNUAL MEETING.

DUE TO A CHANGE IN RULES REGARDING BURNING PERMITS FROM THE DNR, THE ELECTORATE WAS ASKED IF THEY WANTED TO CONTINUE WITH PAPER PERMITS WHICH WILL ONLY BE GOOD FOR 3 DAYS FOR \$5.00, OR COMPUTER GENERATED PERMITS FROM THE DNR WHICH WILL BE GOOD FOR 1 YEAR FOR \$5.00, THE ELECTORATE VOTED TO GO WITH THE COMPUTER GENERATED PERMITS FROM THE DNR.

THE ELECTORS VOTED TO ALLOW THE TOWN BOARD TO SPEND UP TO \$500 TO COMMEMORATE AN EVENT OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE TO THE TOWN, TO RECOGNIZE VOLUNTEERS, SERVICE EFFORTS, AND RETIRING TOWN OFFICERS OR HOST OR SUPPORT A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION. THIS WAS APPROVED ON A MOTION BY JOHN VRIEZEN, SECONDED BY JAMES LARSEN, ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:45 PM ON A MOTION BY MIKE BROWN, SECONDED BY JERRY OLSON, ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.