

TOWN OF LAKESIDE  
ANNUAL MEETING April 19, 2016

**Agenda:**

- **Meeting:** Called to order by Chairman Tom Johnson 7:01.
- **Roll Call:** Present: Chairman Tom Johnson, Supervisor Jon Winter, Supervisor Scott Luostari, Mark Rau, Miina Helske, Earl Granroth, Kevin Norbie, Ted Helin, Mark Saari, Tom Karas, Lila Ronn, Richard Ronn, Treasurer Tracy Ruppe and Clerk Ruth Ann Schnepfer.
- **Introduction of the board:** Tom introduced himself and all of the board members to the meeting attendees. Proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance. It was decided that all voting would be done by a show of hands.
- **Approval of 2015 annual meeting minutes:** Tracy Ruppe made a motion to accept the 2015 annual meeting minutes as presented, Scott Luostari seconded. 12 yays, 0 nays, 2 abstain.
- **Treasurer's report:** Tracy Ruppe presented: 2015 end of year balances \$286,710.25 total, with \$11,401.12 in the checking account, \$73,039.72 tax collections and \$202,269.41 in the remaining money market/savings accounts. Miina Helske motioned to accept the treasurer report as presented, Lila Ronn seconded, 12 yays, 0 nays, 2 abstain, approved as presented, 7:15pm.
- **Department and committee reports:**
  - **Fire department:** Tracy Ruppe represented the fire department. The FD had 31 calls. Memebrrs are desperately needed, as they are down to 9 active members. A resident questioned the possibility of a centralized fire station/department. As on many occasions other departments arrive on the scene before our own department. Having a centralized station fully staffed 24/7 would be very expensive, also many of the fire departments would rather just continue on their own. Fire departments struggle multiple times over the years with lack of memebrrs, some is do to more families having more people working during the day, as well as all the added training and requirements. Each Town would still be required to have equipment at their halls, and responders to attend, but there would also be issues as to who/where the central area would be. Also the fire departments together hold the "Be Solmebody" event every year and do not get much new mwmbrr interest. The Town's FD has done a good job to this point, but what about the future?  
**The FD is still in need of new members.**
  - **Sleepy Valley Loop bridge :** Mr Ponzloff not arriving until 8-8:15 pm. Residents still have questions on right of ways. The letting process is not scheduled to start until fall with construction starting 2017. The delay was caused due to the historical nature of the bridge, time had to be allowed for any interested parties to come forward to acquire/ move the brigde. There were a couple of interested parties but the expenses were too large. The bridge had also been pushed back 1 year due to the Towns budget constraints which no

longer are an issue.

- **Town Employees:** Mark and Mark were both present. It was an easier year for plowing this year, but the weather was harder on the roads. They used the big plow truck this year to plow rather than using the grader which saved a lot on fuel costs. They have now been busy grading and crowning roads as well as pulling the shoulders. The frost is just now coming out of the ground. The roads are in much better shape now than they were 2 weeks ago, again the weather was not good for the road conditions, even the loggers were having issues and were finding creative ways to continue working. Unfortunately there were numerous complaints, but until the weather cooperates and the road restrictions are lifted so we can acquire gravel, the guys are doing what they can. Reterson road is in terrible condition due to factors outside of the guys control. During the winter they rebuilt and replaced many parts on the little grader(front end, power steering, new muffler, radiator, seat) and have gotten that back into good running condition. The roads are being worked on, with the higher trafficked ones being worked on first, by the end of the week all the roads should have at least been touched once. Once that happens they will start again with the busiest ones first, getting them in better shape. A question was raised by a resident as to who is going to cover the expenses of fixing the Town road that a fellow resident decided to try to fix themselves, the Town should not be responsible for those expenses. Tom has been handling this situation, and had spoken to the resident today. Going forward the road damage ordinance needs to be presented. Also a drive was going in on Edstrom road that was scheduled to be completed last fall, Tom is going to check that out as well. A resident questioned the quality of the gravel last year and if anything will change this year, the bid process has been completed and the bids awarded, the quality level needs to be maintained through the year to be considered for future business. The Board is still waiting on the gravel rating from Phoenix farms, to complete their requirement for their bid proposal. The guys also mentioned that the 1999 lawn mower needs to be replaced, they will look around to see what is available. The guys were complimented on doing a good job.
- **Old Business:**
  - **Collection Site:** The Town has been talking for years about moving the collection site. It will cost a small amount to have it moved, and purchase rock, fabric etc to prop the area. Building an inside collection facility would be nice but that would be a major expense. We also need to see if we still have the ok to come off the highway with an entrance for it. The Town also had looked into the expense of moving to curbside only, but that option seems to have more cons than pros. There is still quite a bit of illegal dumping going on. It is also had to find reliable/responsible help to staff the site. A motion was made to continue with persuading the moving of the collection site to alongside the Town hall, 8 yays, 0 nays and 6 abstain, carried 7:39 pm
- **New Business:**

- **Audit:** The question was raised about the previous request for an audit, what were the results if it took place. Rut Ann advised that the audit did not happen due to issues with getting all the required parties together due to family/work issues. The year to be audited is 2013, due to the fact that there were multiple board changes that year. The question of annual or semi-annual audits was also raised. Tom mentioned that if the positions are appointed then an annual audit is required. The expense factor was also raised as an audit is costly. A resident expressed that they would not feel comfortable voting on an annual audit until more information was presented, they also wanted to know if/what other Towns were doing. Ruth Ann will inquire as to the costs related to annual/semi annual/ and various other options and report back to the board. But the 2013 audit needs to be completed by the end of 2016.
- **Cemetery:** The question was raised as to whose responsibility it is to maintain the fence around the cemetery. At one time there was a fence all the way around the cemetery, but now there are only posts in some areas. Also the SVL residents are wondering about signage stating where the land turns from public land to private land.
- **Creation of Ordinance:** A question was raised for the board to possibly create an ordinance regarding abandoned cars on Town roads. This way we could call and have those cars towed, then if the owners wanted to reclaim them they would have to deal with the tow shop and they would not be sitting on the Town roads. The county no longer has a responsibility for these. As a resident mentioned if a car was towed in the city it would be impounded and the owner would have to pay a fee for the cars release, so why would the Town be any different. The Board will look into creating an ordinance for handling future issues.
- **Mouth of the Amnicon:** Someone dragged a tree onto the road down there, needs to be removed. Also would it be possible to create a turn around at the top of the hill. The guys will take a look.
- **SVL:** Dave Ponzloff and Jake Zander-presented an update on the project. There has been a delay as there are environmental processes due to the bridge being historic pony truss bridge. Lots of photographs, a diary/record is to be created and presented to OBHS for possible display at the Davidson Windmill, the nameplate also needs to be preserved and will be presented to one of the museums. Also the bridge itself needed to be made available if someone wanted to move it to another site for preservation. There were several interested parties but none moved forward, all these factors delayed the start to 2017. They plan to cut cross sections through the berm, as the slope will be less than what it is now, it should allow for the grass to grow better, but will also take away some more land from the property owners. The plan to start letting bids for construction this fall, with construction to start spring of 2017. Should be approximately a 2.5 month project running somewhere between May 1-Sept 15 due to DNR restrictions on working in the river. Owners "right of ways" should be purchased by the Town Sep-Oct 2016, once all the historical preservation is completed. Right of way needs to be purchased from Helin's, Granroth's and the largest portion from Anderson's. Residents also asked about the possibility of trees being planted on Anderson's as they will be losing the largest amount of trees and area, that is something that can be negotiated when the Town purchases the right of ways. The bottom of the bridge will be lowered approximately 15 inches, the guard

rails will be longer, the bridge will also be wider, but there will still be gravel approaches for ease of maintenance. Power lines and mailboxes will have to be moved as well. There will be a pre-construction conference at which time all of those concerns will be discussed.

- **Other Bridges:** County is going to be sending out letters regarding washing the rest of the Town's bridges. Tom will talk to the FD as to whether they can do it otherwise the County will do and then send a more costly bill.
- **ATV Road Designations:** A question was raised as to why some of the roads are designated ATV while others are not. It was advised that in order to designate a road as ATV, **all** of the residents on the road would need to be contacted, and then depending on the majority view, the road could then be designated either ATV or non ATV. Only takes 1 resident to take the petition door to door but all residents need to be contacted and respond one way or the other.

**Next Annual Meeting will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in the month of April, 2017**

- **Adjournment**
  - Scott Luostari made a motion to adjourn, Miina Helske seconded, 13 ayes 0 nays. Meeting adjourned at 9:12pm.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Ruth Ann D Schnepfer, Clerk  
4/28/2016

Location, Town Hall, Collection Site, Garage

These minutes are posted as **unapproved**