

ANNUAL MEETING
PARTRIDGE TOWNSHIP
March 14, 2023

The Clerk called the annual meeting to order at 8:16. Those present were David Durheim, Ron and Laurie Jorgensen, Jennifer Wiczorek, Tony Ecklund, Ovid Jensen, Lee and Sharen Johnsen, Matt Klocke, Scott Peterson, Gary Stitt, and Anne Stitt.

Pledge of Allegiance recited. Motion made by Lee Johnsen to have Gary Stitt act as moderator, 2nd by David Durheim, Motion carried 12-0.

Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting were read, Moderator asked for any additions or corrections, none being stated Minutes approved as read.

Election results were as follows: Total of 71 Ballots cast, Supervisor Jennifer Wiczorek received 9 votes, write in Scott Peterson received 62, Treasurer Laurie Jorgensen received 59 votes, and 12 were blank. Both Scott and Laurie accepted.

The treasurer's report was read. We had a beginning balance \$285,519.37, receipts totaled \$185,662.16 and disbursements of \$119,996.78 to bring our ending balance of 2022 to \$351,184.75. Opened up for questions, none were asked. Moderator asked if they were any additions or corrections, none being stated Treasurer's report was approved as read.

Business from the floor:

Joan Taylor had called the Clerk and said they couldn't be at the meeting tonight but asked that the Clerk put forth a motion to have the electors vote on giving the Board the authority to look at the cartway in front of their property at 33572 Partridge DR. Clerk made a motion to give the Board authority to look at possibly starting to maintain Partridge Dr to Taylor's property. Discussion was held about the cost that would entail, it was explained that the Township would not start maintaining until the property owner(s) brought the road up to maintainable condition as agreed upon by the Board during the review process, that the landowner would have to obtain all easements needed as this is not a Township Road. After the discussion ended, the motion failed for lack of a second.

According to MN Statute **365.10** Subd. 6. **Build town building.** Once the town gets a site for a town hall the site must not be changed for another site, except by a vote choosing a new site. To get a new site two-thirds of those voting on the question must vote for it. As you may or may not know, the Township Hall was sold for a nominal give to the City of Askov recently. We are asking the electors to vote to hold all Township Meetings and conduct all Township business at the Askov Community Center. Motion by Sharen Johnsen to move all meetings to the Community Center. Second by Tony Ecklund, motion carried 12-0. Effective with the April Reorg meeting the posting site for the Township will be changed to the bulletin board located in the front hall of the Community Center. If anyone should inquire, please let them know to look there.

According to MN 365.10 Subd. 17.(a) To grant the town board authority to provide for a specific activity that is within any of the following categories:(7) the general welfare. (b) Authority under this subdivision may be exercised by ordinances that the board deems expedient and that are consistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States and this state. The Township Board is requesting the elector's permission to start developing a Nuisance Ordinance to adopt. This ordinance would cover a lot of things and at this point we are not sure what it will look like. We have inquired with Pine County and other Townships to see how they handle their Ordinance and will be reviewing the information received if given permission to proceed. Motion by Lee Johnsen to give the Township Board permission to proceed with the development of a Nuisance Ordinance. Tony Ecklund made a second. Motion carried 12-0. This is going to be a process and discussions will be held at further Township Meetings and as always, we welcome the public to attend and give their input, suggestions and ideas or just observe.

Road Report

Ovid Jensen said it costs approximately \$60,000 to \$70,000 a year to maintain our roads. We have 28 miles of road and we try to do a rotation so every 3 years each road gets gravel. Of course, if an issue occurs then we can address that separately. There was a comment from the floor about how nice the roads have been plowed wide this year, even with all the snow we have had and the fact that the Township is putting down on sand on the icy spots is very much appreciated. No further questions or comments on roads.

Presentation and approval of the levy:

Discussion was held on the rate of inflation, and the fact that we received a large increase to the amount of our Fire Contract to \$40,687.82. The Board at the Board of Review meeting had come up with a suggestion to raise the levy by \$4,000.00 to offset the increase in costs. After the Board of Review the Township was able to negotiate the cost of the fire contract down by \$9,476.82 to \$31,211.00. The consensus was to leave the increase there as we know inflation has sky rocketed. Sharen Johnsen made a motion to accept the levy as below for a total of \$137,100, David Durheim made a

Second. Motion carried 12-0.0

General: \$17,600.00

Road & Bridge: \$69,300.00

Fire: \$43,600.00

Zoning: \$5,500.00

Building Maintenance: \$1,100.00

Any Other Comments:

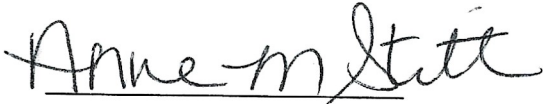
There were none.

The Reorganization Meeting is set for Wednesday April 5, 2023 at 6:30 pm. The regular April Board Meeting of Supervisors will be called to order immediately after the Re-organization Meeting is adjourned. Public is welcome to attend.

Tuesday 3/12/2024 from 5 to 8pm is next year's Township Election and Annual Meeting will begin once election process is complete.

Gary Stitt adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Anne M. Stitt
Clerk



Gary Stitt
Moderator