

WEST LAKELAND TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

March 11, 2014

8:00 p.m.

Oak-Land Jr. High Cafeteria

Call to Order and Appointment of Moderator for the Meeting

The Clerk of the Township, Ms. Susan Agrimson, called the Annual Meeting to order at 8:02 p.m. The first order of business was to appoint the moderator for the evening. Mr. Joe Puppini made a motion to nominate Mr. John McPherson as the moderator. Duly seconded by Bob Schwartz. The motion carried.

Reading of Minutes from Last Year's Annual Meeting

The Clerk of the Township presented the minutes of last year's meeting, March 12, 2013. Mr. Gerald Agrimson made a motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion seconded by Mr. Bill Sanders. The motion carried.

Reading of Board of Audit Report

The Clerk of the Township stated that the Board of Audit held on March 3, 2014 with 15% of the receipts and 15% of the disbursements audited between the Clerk's and Treasurer's ledgers showed that all of the randomly selected claims, receipts and interest received were found to be accurate and true. Mr. Bill Sanders made a motion to accept the Audit Report as posted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gerald Agrimson. The motion carried.

Introduction of the Evenings Guests by Moderator McPherson -

Sheriff Hutton of Washington County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Hutton began by introduction of Deputy Jacobson and Commander Dexter. He did say that the new Records Management System for Sheriff's Department will be going on the website www.co.washington.mn.us for the citizens to see what is happening in the County with regard to incidences that do occur. He also noted that the criminal activity in West Lakeland is comparatively low.

He said that the Washington County Sheriff's Department is a full service division with 240 fulltime employees, 30 temporary part timers and more than 100 volunteers. The jail has a 228 bed capacity with 27 beds typically being used on any given day. They do lease beds to the State as well as Chisago County.

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Questions from the audience –

Someone asked if it is possible to have a tour of the jail? They were instructed to call the Sheriffs' Department. Sheriff Hutton said that this Fall there should be a Citizens' Academy with an application on their website.

Question on CodeRed – West Lakeland uses this system of emergency notification. The “landliners” don't have to sign up as those are already in the County data base.

Amount of patrol cars out in West Lakeland? – The Department could have up to 4 or 5 cars with a specific incident but typically there is a roving approach within the Township and neighboring communities that are not contracted with the Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Kyлло thanked the Sheriff's Department for the good job they are doing within our community.

Fire Chief, Mark Swenson, City of Bayport Fire Department

Chief Swenson noted that the Fire Department is staffed by all volunteers. He said that West Lakeland has not had any structural fires for a few years and indicated that we are doing a good job with fire prevention activity, getting the word out to have addresses on each home and keeping trees trimmed for vehicle access if needs be. He said that the current fire department sits across from the Anderson Elementary School and that the City of Bayport purchases all of the equipment. However, the last ten years there has been talk of building another fire hall where all the neighboring communities using the Bayport Fire Department could begin discussing a Fair Share Formula and decide how much each community would pay for their portion of the new fire hall.

He said that the City of Bayport would put up \$2 mil towards the project. With the help of Representative Kathy Lohmer and Senator Karin Housley introducing a bill requesting this vacant 4 acre parcel of land on the northeast corner of Stagecoach Trail and Fifth Avenue that once was part of the prison farm, the City of Bayport received this land free of charge for the purpose of building a new fire hall. No state agency or local agency expressed an interest in this parcel that had been sitting idle for years.

The plan is for the participating cities/townships using the City of Bayport Fire Department services to come up with a 15 year building contract commitment that would be calculated as the Fair Share Formula for the yearly fire contracts.

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Introduction of the Town Board

Supervisor Dave Schultz

Supervisor Schultz began with recognition of the staff of Clerk, Deputy Clerks, Treasurer, Attorney, Building Inspector, Engineer as well as the efforts of the volunteer Planning Commission chaired by Dave Dupay.

He said that his primary responsibilities on the Board relate to the Gateway Corridor Commission, TAC member and Joint Airport Zoning Board member. Representatives on the Gateway Corridor are from Minneapolis all the way to Wisconsin as well as Metropolitan Council and MnDot.

With the advent of the safety study from Washington County for Manning Avenue, there have already been meetings and open houses for residents and stakeholders. This information does appear on the West Lakeland Township website.

Also, keeping track of the Lake Elmo Airport 2014-2020 Capital Improvement Plan and seeing how the funding progresses.

Supervisor Schultz said he also oversees the approximately 45 miles of roads from ditch mowing, snow removal, chip sealing to seal coating. Approximately 0.8 miles of roads in the Artisan development were paved with the final wear course. Twenty one regulatory and warnings signs consisting of *Stop*, *Stop Ahead*, *turn arrows* and *speed advisory plates* were replaced this past year due to age and not meeting sign the reflectivity criteria. There were two plugged culverts that were cleaned out on Nolan Avenue and Paris Avenue. Due to the heavy rains in early 2013, two culverts east of TH-95 washed out and had to be replaced.

Supervisor Steve Ebner

Supervisor Ebner gave thanks to all those working along with him in participating in our local government. He is pleased with the wonderful staff and the Planning Commission for doing a great job.

He said that there has been a Well Advisory Area change in May 2013 with the Minnesota Department of Health lowering the Health Based Guidance Value for TCE from 5 micrograms per liter(ug/L) to 0.4 ug/l, These values were lowered to protect at risk infants, young children and pregnant women. The Township Ordinance was updated in September to reflect the lower value where installation of a carbon filter is required.

The Washington County Local Government Administrators' Meetings is another area of involvement which has covered the new Sheriff's Department new Records Management System, County economic development, the failing septic systems, State and Federal Legislative

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updates with those that especially affect local governments, Met Council growth projections(Thrive 2040) and ground water development with regard to the White Bear Lake lawsuit and low lake levels, MNDNR North & East Ground Water Management areas and the Washington County Municipal Water Coalition.

He also attends the Lower St. Croix Management Commission Partnership Team, Gateway Corridor Commission, the Alliance meetings and is the Board liaison for the West Lakeland Township Planning Commission. Through the year, he also attends various workshops that help with his Supervisory job. He mentioned that as part of his responsibility as weed inspector, he has placed information on the West Lakeland website identifying noxious and invasive weeds that residents can refer to in helping to control these types of weeds in their yards.

Lastly, with regard to his involvement with the Washington County Recycling Performance Scorecard Committee, he said that he has been involved with this project that sets standards and measures progress of the communities toward achieving the County's Waste Management Plan 2012-2030 goals. The draft scorecard was completed in July.

Chairman Dan Kylo

Chairman Dan Kylo projected 5 charts on the screen for the audience to view:

Disbursements (expenses paid)

Receipts (revenue collected)

Receipts versus Expenses

2 - Property Tax Comparisons between Communities

Mr. Kylo demonstrated on the charts that over the past 10 plus years, the expenses mostly related to snowplowing, fire and emergency and road maintenance have continued to go up and revenues; such as, bank interest and permits have continued to stay flat or go down. Unfortunately, this trend forced the Board to propose a 17% increase in next year's 2015 levy. The Board has looked at ways to cut costs and increase efficiency. The Board will put out for bid the upcoming expiring recycling/clean up day contract. The Board also intends to partner with neighboring communities to get better pricing for road projects. Since the Township does not own equipment or facilities(town hall) and employs a part time staff with all other duties contracted out, there are very few other ways to cut costs.

Mr. Kylo then directed the audience to the chart where it compared West Lakeland Township's taxes to other surrounding communities; such as, Lake Elmo, Stillwater Township, Lakeland, Newport. West Lakeland still has some of the lowest taxes in the metropolitan area.

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Treasurer's Report

Ms. Olson presented the Treasurer's Report. At the end of 2013, the receipts were \$679,523.32. Expenditures for the year were \$650,780.77. The ending balance of West Lakeland assets at the end of 2013 was \$1,241,009.47.

Banks

The Treasurer indicated that the Township is banking at: Lake Elmo Bank, First State Bank of Bayport, Central Bank, Lake Area Bank and US Bank. Ms. Carol Swanson made a motion to continue using the five banks as mentioned. Seconded by Mr. Gerald Agrimson. The motion carried.

Election Results

The election for Township Supervisor had 36 ballots cast. All 36 votes were for Mr. Steve Ebner.

Election Judge Compensation

After review and discussion of the election judge compensation of other surrounding communities in relation to what West Lakeland has been paying, Loren Kalal moved to increase the election judge compensation from \$7.50 an hour to \$8.50 and the Head Judge from \$9.50 an hour to \$10.50. Seconded by Ms. Harriet McPherson. The motion carried.

2015 Tax Levy

Mr. Loren Kalal moved to approve the levy for 2015 to be \$529,000 (General Fund \$182,950 & \$346,050). Seconded by Ms. Carol Swanson. The motion carried.

Next Annual Town Board Election and Annual Meeting

Mr. Loren Kalal moved to conduct the next Annual meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 8:00 p.m. at the Oak-Land Jr. High School with the Township election to be held March 10, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Carol Swanson. The motion carried.

Clean Up Day 2014

The Board announced that the next clean up day for West Lakeland will be Saturday, May 17, 2014 at the Bryan Gravel Pit from 8 a.m. to Noon.

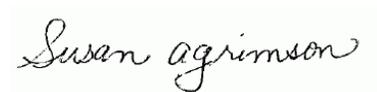
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Adjourn

Having no further business to discuss, Ms. Carol Swanson moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded Mr. Loren Kalal. The motion carried. Mr. John McPherson adjourned the meeting at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Agrimson". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Susan Agrimson
Town Clerk