

**ELLSBURG TOWNSHIP  
P. O. BOX 308  
1767 MELRUDE ROAD  
MELRUDE, MN 55766  
PHONE 218-482-3407 FAX 218-482-3412**

**Annual Township Meeting**

**March 10, 2020**

The Meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m. by Clerk McKenzie Clinton in the Ellsburg Town Hall. Residents and Guests present were: Arrlette Krog, Beth Caple, Lee Voigt, Loren Mesedah, Heidi Yokel, Joe Caple, Gerri Caple, Cindy Brown, Elaine Wick, Dale Wick, and Brandon Cavanaugh. The pledge of Allegiance was said.

Clerk McKenzie Clinton asked for nominations for moderator, Dale Wick nominated Arrlette Krog, Heidi Yokel second. There were no other nominees and Arrlette Krog was selected as moderator. The clerk read the Township Meeting minutes from the 2019 Annual Meeting. Brandon Cavanaugh made a motion to accept the minutes, Heidi Yokel second, motion passed.

The year-end financial report, as prepared by Treasurer Elaine Wick, was read by Clerk McKenzie Clinton.

**2019 year-end financial report:**

Beginning Balance:	\$ 103,560.52
Receipts:	\$142,846.39
Disbursements:	\$138,515.15
Investment Interest	\$656.64
Fund Transfer	\$5,000.00
<b>Total Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$113,548.40</b>

**General Fund:**

Beginning Balance:	\$64,490.25
Receipts:	\$66,254.48
Disbursements:	\$55,179.00
Investment Interest	\$656.64
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$74,909.09</b>

**Road & Bridge:**

Beginning Balance:	\$31,558.27
Receipts:	\$21,612.36
Disbursements:	\$27,760.00
<b>Total Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$25,410.63</b>

**Cemetery:**

Beginning Balance:	\$7,512.00
--------------------	------------

**ELLSBURG TOWNSHIP  
P. O. BOX 308  
1767 MELRUDE ROAD  
MELRUDE, MN 55766  
PHONE 218-482-3407 FAX 218-482-3412**

Receipts:	\$3,100.00
Disbursements:	\$2,383.19
<b>Total Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$8,228.68</b>

**Fire:**

Beginning Balance:	\$0.00
Receipts:	\$52,536.19
Disbursements:	\$52,536.19
<b>Total Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Capital Improvements**

Beginning Balance:	\$0.00
Receipts:	\$5,000.00
Disbursements:	\$0.00
<b>Total Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>

Beth Caple made motion to accept treasurers report, Brandon Cavanaugh second, motion carried.

**Community Buildings and Playground:** Chairman Beth Caple reported that windows had been replaced at the Bass Lake Fire Hall and that a new fridge was purchased for the Town Hall. She also spoke about the new door that was installed to replace the old one at the Melrude Fire Hall. Chairman Beth Caple then spoke about the break-in that occurred at the Melrude Town Hall. The office door was repaired and all of the doors were keyed. Deadbolts were also added on the doors that did not have them. She also spoke about the capital improvements fund that was set up stating that \$5,000.00 was transferred into and that the fund was available if there is a need in the future.

**Cemetery:** Supervisor Arrlette Krog spoke about landscaping that was done at the cemetery and stated that brushing and stump removal will be done this spring.

**Road and Bridge:** Supervisor Brandon Cavanaugh spoke about the roads and reported that they are in good shape and are being repaired as needed. He stated that the preventative maintenance that the township has been investing in has worked well and that the roads are set for a while with minimum maintenance.

**Website:** Supervisor Arrlette Krog reported that the website was being updated as needed and that Stan Johnston has been maintaining the domain and adding info as it gets sent to him.

**ELLSBURG TOWNSHIP  
P. O. BOX 308  
1767 MELRUDE ROAD  
MELRUDE, MN 55766  
PHONE 218-482-3407 FAX 218-482-3412**

**Fire Department:** Chief Loren Mesedahl gave a report on the Ellsburg Volunteer Fire Department stating that there were 28 calls in 2019 and the fire Department responded to all of them. He also stated that they responded to mutual aide calls 10 times. He then spoke about the various training the EVFD attended including HAZ-MAT training, SCBA training, radio training, AED training, helicopter training, and pipeline training. Chief Mesedahl also spoke about the FEMA grant they received. The grant is for \$80,000.00 and will be used to purchase SCBAs. He also spoke about the various vehicles the EVFD has and the different uses for them.

A discussion took place about the 2021 Levy. Beth Caple made a motion to raise the 2021 Levy to \$120,000.00, Dale Wick second, after a short discussion, motion was approved.

The 2021 Levy was set at:

<b>General Fund:</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>
<b>Road Fund:</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>
<b>Fire Fund:</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$120,000.00</b>

Arrlette Krog spoke about setting a limit of \$2,000.00 for donations to various organizations, because that was the limit that was set in previous years and it has been adequate. Beth Caple made a motion to authorize the town board to contract for health, social, and recreational services from nonprofit organizations at a limit of \$2,000.00, Heidi Yokel second, motion carried.

The Board of Canvass met and the Township election results were read:

<b>Supervisor-3 year term</b>	<b>Votes</b>
<b>Beth Caple</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Write Ins-</b>	
<b>Jeff Dulinski</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Clerk -2 year term</b>	<b>Votes</b>
<b>Cindy Brown</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Write In-</b>	
<b>Lee Voigt</b>	<b>1</b>

**ELLSBURG TOWNSHIP  
P. O. BOX 308  
1767 MELRUDE ROAD  
MELRUDE, MN 55766  
PHONE 218-482-3407 FAX 218-482-3412**

It was announced that Beth Caple will assume Town Supervisor position, and Cindy Brown will assume the Clerk position.

A discussion took place about the need to pass a resolution allowing the Ellsburg Township official polling place to open later than 8:00 a.m. for elections, Heidi Yokel made the motion to allow polling places to open late, Gerri Caple second.

A donation to the Cotton Chronicle was discussed. Arrlette Krog made a motion to purchase a sponsor production from the Cotton Chronicle for a cost of \$250.00, Beth Caple second, motion passed.

Beth Caple made a motion to set the 2021 Annual Town Meeting for March 9, 2021, at 8:30 P.M., Joe Caple second, motion carried.

As there was no further business, Geri Caple made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Beth Caple second, Meeting was adjourned at 9:11P.M.