

DRAFT

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

March 11, 2008

Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Township Clerk Pat Bantli opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Clerk Kathy Schmoeckel was present to record minutes. Bob Clift (10110 Arcola Trail North) agreed to be the moderator for the meeting.

M/S/P Ray Hoyt/Richard Schultz (all ayes)

Moved to approve the March 13, 2007 Stillwater Township Annual Meeting minutes as written.

The annual statement of the Treasurer's year end fund balances was read by Treasurer Carol Collins.

The Stone Bridge – Barbara Medinger and Historian Donald Empson gave an interesting presentation on the history of the Stone Bridge. They also discussed restoration and preservation work that is being done.

Assessments – Kevin Corbid, Director Taxpayer Services, Washington County, reviewed assessments and valuations for Stillwater Township. Valuations have gone down slightly since last year.

Youth Services – Paul Weiler thanked the Township for their continued support and outlined the services they provide for "at risk" kids. They are requesting \$5,700 for 2009.

Lucy Winton Bell Soccer Fields – Director Colleen Danford was present to discuss the soccer fields. She thanked the Township for their past support and showed plans for the future. Rod Hunter also reported on the efforts made by them to provide a facility that will be available to the community. They are requesting \$5,000 for 2009.

City of Stillwater – City Administrator Larry Hansen reviewed financial figures for the library. He thanked the Township for their support and requested \$5,000 for 2009. He encouraged Township residents to visit the library.

Chief of Police – Steve Nelson commended the Town Board and gave a report on issues in the Township and answered questions. Items discussed included not leaving mail in mailboxes, vacation checks, bear and coyote sightings and burning restrictions.

Public Works – Mike Raleigh was not present, but questions were invited. There were none.

Park and Trails Committee – Rod Hunter explained that the Park Committee is an advisory committee to the Town Board. They try to integrate new developments, if possible, to the park and trail system. The Committee has been working on the updating of the Comprehensive Plan. There were questions about buckthorn around Little Carnelian Park and about land acquisition with the Washington County Legacy Program.

Building Inspector – Jack Kramer was not present, but questions were invited. There were none.

Planning Commission – Sheila Marie Untiedt, Town Board Liaison to the Planning Commission, reported on what the Planning Commission has been working on this past year. The largest item has been work on the Comprehensive Plan, which is now in draft form and will be sent to surrounding communities for their input after the special meeting on April 17.

Website Update – Robert Ranalla was not present, but questions were invited. A comment regarding the website was that “It could be better!”

Newsletter – Linda Countryman apologized for the newsletter arriving so late before the annual meeting. People remarked that they did see the signs that have been posted, but they should be larger. The newsletter is available on the website.

Park Reservations – Supervisor David Johnson introduced Rick Jacobson who is the new Otto Berg Park reservation/custodial person. Rick Jacobson encouraged people to take advantage of Otto Berg Park.

Joint Planning Board – David Johnson reported that the City has invited Stillwater Township to be a part of their Comprehensive Plan update. They have no new expansion plans.

Proposed 2009 Levy – David Johnson reviewed Township expenditures. The general fund includes fire protection which is a significant component. The road and bridge amount includes a capital improvement figure of \$175,000. The proposed levy is a 6.7% increase over last year.

There was discussion of the possibility of adding \$5,000 for work on the Stone Bridge. David Johnson explained that there may be problems with that since the Bridge is on private property.

There was discussion about the resolution from the 2007 annual meeting to look into allocating a percentage of the general fund for discretionary spending. The

idea was to put a cap on discretionary spending. The Town Board will look into this and report back.

M/S/P Lynne Murphy/Carl Bremer (all ayes)

moved that the Township should find some way to spend up to \$5,000 toward the preservation of the Stone Bridge.

M/S/P Bill McDonald/Sheila Marie Untiedt (48 ayes, 8 nay)

moved to approve all 3 discretionary items as proposed in the budget, i.e. \$5,500 for Youth Services, \$5,000 for Lucy Winton Bell Soccer Fields, and \$5,000 for the City of Stillwater Library.

M/S/P Richard Schultz/Lee Busse (51 ayes, 5 nay)

moved to approve the levy as proposed with an additional \$5,000 to be allocated toward the preservation of the Stone Bridge, if the Town Board finds it is able to do that.

There was discussion about having a committee set up to review and screen requests for discretionary funds.

The Board was commended for putting together the budget. There was discussion of having the actual budget available alongside the proposed budget.

There was discussion of having more copies of handouts available for the people present at the meeting.

M/S/P Barry Dayton/Richard Schultz (all ayes)

moved to hold the next Stillwater Township Annual Meeting on March 10, 2009 in the Stillwater Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Submitted by:

Kathy Schmoeckel
Deputy Clerk