

New Market Township
Annual Meeting

March 10, 1998

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 9:25 p.m.

Clerk asked for a motion to nominate a Moderator. Motion by Bruce Friedges to nominate Leander Wagner, seconded by Jim Sprecher. Clerk called for more nominations, Karen Christensen nominated Lisa Quast, seconded by Cindy

Helmberger. There were no more nominations. Gary Erickson made a motion that nominations cease, seconded by Bill Boysen.

Voting was done by paper ballot showing Leander 36 votes and Lisa 42 votes.

Lisa Quast was elected to be Moderator for the 1998 Annual Meeting.

The Moderator read the minutes of the March 11, 1997 Annual Meeting and of the July 8, 1997 Continued Annual Meeting.

Motion was made by Joel Helmberger to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Scott Moorland. There was a lot of discussion, #1- why chairs were not purchased for the hall-- it was explained that there was no motion for this, only a suggestion, the motion had been to purchase furniture for the office.

#2- The \$50,000.00 motion, why that was not levied? here it was noted that this was not a motion to levy, it was a motion to raise the Capital fund contribution from \$28,000.00 to \$50,000.00 and only if the other three members of this fire district would also contribute their share. After more discussion the question was called to approve the minutes as read, motion carried.

It was asked what is the status of the Township audit, they were told that the audit is completed and that copies may be obtained by calling the State Auditor's Office.

It was said to publish all notices as before, in the three papers, The New Prague Times, Lonsdale Shopper, and the Lakeville Life & Times, motion made by Leander Wagner, seconded by Mrs. Sprecher, all in favor.

Next business was the Levies:

The Board has suggested the following:

Road & Bridge:	\$200,000.00
General Fund	\$ 30,000.00
Ambulance	\$ 6,024.00
W.M.O..	\$ 2,000.00
Fire Fund	\$ 60,000.00

First was Road & Bridge:

\$200,000.00--It was asked how much was spent on Road & Bridge last year?

\$244,000.00 was spent and the balance in the fund now is approximately \$100,000.00

There was a lot of discussion here. Mr. Frame explained that some levies are under the amount of expenditures, so we need two motions, one to accept the levy amount and another to spend more. Question was asked if it wasn't our

prerogative to spend levy monies and the balance in Road & Bridge? No, it is not our prerogative, according to the State Auditor you cannot overspend a levy, you need to then call a special meeting to levy more money. So here we now need a motion to approve the levy amount and a second motion if we intend to spend beyond the levy and draw out of savings. It was asked if the Board was satisfied with a \$200,000.00 levy and they said "yes". Leander Wagner made a motion to authorize the spending of \$250,000.00 for Road & Bridge with a \$200,000.00 levy and \$50,000.00 from savings, seconded by LeRoy Clausen, all in favor.

Next was the General Fund \$30,000.00

It was pointed out that last year we spent \$73,000.00 with a \$30,000.00 levy and still have a balance of \$66,000.00 plus.

Milton was asked to explain this. He says that money is in and out of this General Fund account because of fees such as driveway permits and engineering fees. There is also money from developer's escrow. About half of the money in this account is actually available to spend, the other half is basically returnables.

Question was asked, when does the Board balance the books, what time and when? and do you know exactly what the balance is? How often through the year do you reconcile the books? Mr. Frame answered, we do this once a year, go through the books, checks, Treasurer's ledger, Clerks ledger, we have a break down of funds so we know our financial state. The date of the Board of Audit was on January 20, 1998 at the home of the Treasurer, Milton Miller.

Another question here was "doesn't the Township audit of books have to be published like the other Townships around us do so that everybody knows about it and can be there? The answer to this was that over the years the books were always reconciled in this manner and everyone was satisfied, but maybe in the future this policy will have to change.

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Moved by Leander Wagner to approve the General Fund levy for \$30,000.00, seconded by Gary Christensen, motion denied.

Bob Finke then made a motion to suspend discussion on levies until a later date and not to levy any more money tonight until we get a detailed financial analysis, seconded by Deb Thomas, motion passed.

Motion by Nancy Friedges to amend the motion and have a total of all funds and a detailed financial statement and this to be done in 1 month, seconded by Margaret Erickson.

There was a lot of discussion here, some questions being, what level of detail do you want them to provide? how do you divide the money at the bank and the interest for this money? Do you want a group of people to help with this? We will have to get this cleared out before we can do levies.

The question was called and the amendment to the motion to have a detailed financial report on all funds, motion carried. Then the original motion was called as amended, motion carried.

Here Mr. Frame suggested that maybe we should have the Audit meeting prior to the levy meeting so that we could go over the details as suggested by the State Auditor.

Motion by Joel Helmberger to have a meeting to discuss the State Audit Report before the levy meeting, seconded by Jim White.

In the discussion here it was strongly mentioned that there would not be enough time to do all this in one month. Cindy Helmberger spoke that we do the audit meeting before levies so everyone can understand the money situation and what the Township has a right to levy for. Another advantage of reviewing the audit is that it exhibits information that hasn't been seen before. After more discussion the question was called, to have the Audit meeting before the levy meeting, motion carried.

It was brought up why there was no legal counsel present, Motion by Clausen to leave it to the Board when they should have an Attorney present at meetings, seconded by Frame.

Motion by Karen Christensen to move the levy meeting or the Continued Annual Meeting from one month to two months, seconded by Pam Kubes, motion carried.

These meetings will be published, audit meeting and levy meeting.

Motion by Joel Helmberger to have legal counsel present at the Audit meeting, seconded by Jean Kohls, all in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Sprecher to have an annual audit, whoever does it, On books, the City, the Fire Department, the Township. An outside audit, seconded by Gary Erickson.

Bob Finke made an amendment to this motion, stating that they follow State Auditors guidelines, seconded by Ken Chlan, motion carried.

Walbert Meinke made a motion to have the annual audit as amended and that this motion is only good for one year, seconded by Gary Christensen, motion carried.

Motion by Doug Quast to continue this meeting, seconded by David Frame, no discussion, motion carried.

Annual Election results-

For Supervisor 3 year term

LeRoy Clausen 220 votes

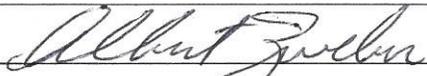
James Sprecher 117 votes

A.J. Kazlauskas 1 vote

For Clerk 2 year term

Albert Zweber 183 votes

Barbara Schultz 157 votes



Albert Zweber

Township Clerk

Moderator

