

New Market Township

Annual Meeting

March 11, 2003

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 8:45 p.m.

Asked for nominations for moderator.

Motion by Joel Helmberger to nominate Doug Quast, seconded by Harry Anderson.

Motion by Bruce Friedges to nominate Leander Wagner, seconded by Bill Boysen.

The Clerk called for more nominations 3 times and there were none.

The people then voted by paper ballot. When the votes were counted the results were,

Quast 17, and Wagner 16. Doug Quast was declared the Moderator.

* The minutes of the March 12, 2002 Annual Meeting were read.

Motion by Joel Helmberger to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Milton Miller,
motion was called, motion carried.

* The Moderator read the election results -- 265 people voted.

For Supervisor LeRoy Clausen 132, Doug Quast 97, John Macho 35, 1 blank.

For Treasurer Cynthia Helmberger 80, Leander Wagner 79, David Frame 5/Lloyd Elvestad 4,
all others 16 and 81 blanks.

The Sunday liquor vote was 161 Yes and 99 No, and 5 blanks.

* Old Business --

Robert Seykora asked a question about the law suit. Attorney Eric Braaten explained
that between the City and the Township it is all done.

Question about the Park, what is being done and what the Board intends to do with it?

The answer was "nothing" until after the lots are sold. Then they will send out a
survey to find out what the people will expect to have in the Park.

* New Business -- The Levies

Road & Bridge -- suggested \$250,000.00. Question was asked as to what is left in the
fund, about \$205,000.00. It was explained that if they repair the roads that are bad
and seal coat the ones that are in need, that will cost more then we have on hand and
we still will have to service the other roads.

Motion by Bruce Friedges to levy \$250,000.00 for Road & Bridge, seconded by Cindy
Helmberger, motion called, motion carried.

There was no motion made for chlorine.

* Fire Fund -- the Board asked for \$80,000.00.

Discussion was-- is that enough if the fire contract is about \$78,000.00 and the rescue truck payment is over \$32,000.00?

Motion by Milton Miller to levy \$100,000.00 for the Fire Fund, seconded by David Frame, motion called, motion carried with 1 No.

There was no money levied for pension.

* General Fund -- the amount suggested \$105,000.00.

Question asked, what is left in the fund, over \$300,000.00. It was then explained that there are different moneys put in this fund, like the balance of Logan Ave. and Ottawa Ave. for blacktopping these roads, also escrow money and driveway permit money.

Motion by LeRoy Clausen to levy \$105,000.00 for the General Fund, seconded by Gary Christensen, motion called, motion carried.

* Ambulance Fund -- The balance was discussed and they didn't think that more money was needed. Motion by Joel Helmberger to levy -0- dollars for the Ambulance Fund, seconded by John Macho, motion called, motion carried.

* Next, the W.M.O. Fund -- The Board said to levy -0- dollars for this.

There was discussion about being assessed for some watershed and if we would have enough money. Motion by John Macho to levy \$4,000.00 for the W.M.O. Fund, seconded by LeRoy Clausen, motion called, motion carried.

* Land Fund -- proposed \$20,000.00

There was a lot of discussion about the Land Fund. Question asked, what we need the money for? engineer costs, survey costs etc. We had money in the Land Fund that went to the General Fund to pay Busse Const. for the road into the land and for rock and mulch. The County got \$39,999.00. The actual land expense for 2002 was \$157,918.95. The year before we had no money so we borrowed from the General Fund to pay engineer fees survey costs etc. The County income from the 2001 levy was \$190,146.98. We overspent the Land Fund and so are borrowing. The plan is that when we sell the lots the money will be put back into the General Fund from the Land Fund.

Question about the Park? What is the long term forecast as to what we expect to get from the lots and what goes for the park? The long term forecast is to sell the lots for approximately \$2.2 million. The land cost was \$1 million and our expenses around 500 thousand leaving approximately \$500 thousand for the park and there is 65 acres left.

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Expense could go up some but we should come out about \$500,000.00 for proposed park budget. We sell the lots first and then talk about the park.

Moderator asked "how much do we levy".? Motion by John Macho to levy -0- dollars for Land Fund, seconded by Kim Popp,

Another question - how much will the taxes be when we sell all this land? Answer-nothing, because we are a government body and they are tax exempt. Another question about survey costs when the lots are already approved? We need to survey for the exact road lines, the ones now are temporary, and need the engineer to do 230th St. for blacktopping.

Question - doesn't the developer pay for this? We are the developer, the Township is selling the lots and so must pay to do the road.

Moderator called the motion to levy -0- dollars for the Land Fund, motion failed.

* Motion by Joel Helmberger to levy \$20,000.00 for the Land Fund, seconded by Harry Anderson, motion called, motion carried -- 2 Nay.

* Next, discussion to publish legals. Motion by Milton Miller to publish the legal notices in the Lakeville Life & Times and the New Prague Times, seconded by David Frame, motion called, motion carried. Atty Braaten said that they only need to be posted in the Hall.

Here a question was asked as to why the legal notices aren't bigger in print and size? The papers take care of this and the cost would be much much more.

* David Frame expressed his appreciation and said we should all thank Milton Miller for the great job he has done in serving the Township as Treasurer for the past 30 * years. The people all applauded.

* Motion by Gary Christensen to propose a motion that we not allow the voters to spend over \$100,000.00 without a special advertised meeting.

Motion as follows -- "I propose that at an Annual New Market Township meeting that the voters may not vote in any items that costs the Township over \$100,000.00 other than normal Township levies. A special advertised meeting would need to take place 30-90 days after the Annual Meeting to discuss any items over \$100,000.00. After discussion the voters of New Market Township would then vote on the expenditure. This above proposed motion can not be revoked at an Annual Meeting. An advertised special meeting must take place where New Market Township voters may vote this motion in or out."

Amended motion - motion by Gary Christensen to bring the motion to the Town Board for approval, seconded by David Frame, motion called, 20 Nay and 3 Yes, motion failed.

Motion by Leander Wagner to table the main motion until we have advice from legal counsel, seconded by Rick Mattox, motion called, motion carried.

* It was brought up about starting a Township Fire department. The Board agreed that they did discuss this and it was talked about for a few years even when there were other Board members on the Board. Our fire contract is based on market valuation and were recently informed that this valuation could go up \$600.00 per acre. The Rural area has always funded the fire departments. Todd Friedges, the fire Chief, said that the fire contract is based on structural value only but the papers the Township has does not show structure. The Board had met with Credit River & Eureka Townships and they are very much interested, looking ahead 3 or 4 years down the road. The County had said that with our valuation it could be done. A person spoke up and said that we do not have enough valuation as it would take around 2 million dollars to start one.

* Mr. Fuller a non-Township resident was making a suggestion and the Moderator called him out-of-order.

* Gary Christensen mentioned that the new rescue truck was in.

* Mrs. Clausen asked "what initiated the reason to start our own Township fire department.?"

The Moderator explained that there were 3 reasons.

#1-We paid for most of the Area Hall and own no part or have anything to say about it plus we pay rent.

#2-For how many years now its been the lack of negotiating a fire contract on time.

#3-With the other areas valuation going up we are still paying around 73% of the bill.

A person mentioned that with our own department we would be paying the whole 100%. No comments were made on this. Todd then explained the calls and the per-home cost.

* Motion by Albert Zweber to adjourn the Annual Meeting, seconded by Helmberger, motion denied.

* Motion by Bill Boysen to have the Fire Chief or representation at the meetings when there is discussion of a Township Fire department, seconded by Bob Seykora, motion called, motion carried.

* Todd brought up about billing the people for fire calls. He was told that the new Sheriff started this and he wants it done.

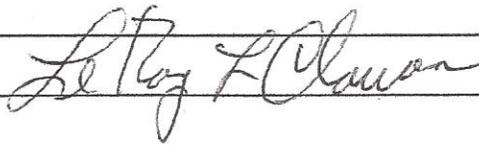
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* Next, there was a lot of discussion about the road grading and the condition of the gravel roads. It was said that we could own our own or rent a grader and we would get by a lot cheaper than we are now. The insurance is not that high nor the labor to run it.

* Motion by John Macho to adjourn the Annual Meeting of March 11, 2003, seconded by Pam Kubes, motion called, motion carried.

Moderator



Albert Zweber

Township Clerk

