

## UNAPPROVED Annual Meeting Minutes of Windemere Township - March 12, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by Clerk, Cindy Woltjer. Others present were Treasurer, Ron Mossberg. There were 133 eligible voting residents of Windemere Township in attendance and 13 non-voting residents and approximately 16 participants on Zoom.

The clerk called for nominations for moderator. Jude Stephens nominated Scott Danelski as moderator of the 2024 Windemere Township Annual Meeting. A second nomination for Scott Danelski was made by Rhonda Young. A third nomination was made by Tony Bahktiari for Alan Overland. No other nominations were made. A vote was taken. Scott Danelski was elected as the moderator by a majority vote.

### AGENDA :

A motion was made by Paula Engstrom, seconded by Alan Overland to move the Road Report and the Zoning Report to after the Treasurer & Clerk's Joint Report. Vote taken. Motion Passed.

A motion was made by Paula Engstrom, seconded by Phil White to accept the agenda with those changes. A vote was taken. Motion passed.

### ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES :

The Clerk read the 2023 Windemere Township Annual Meeting minutes. Motion was made by Alan Overland and seconded by Clair Strandlie to accept the 2023 Windemere Township Annual Meeting minutes as presented. A vote was taken. Motion passed.

### JOINT TREASURER & CLERK'S REPORT :

Treasurer Ron Mossberg presented the 2023 joint Treasurer & Clerk's Report to the electorate. Motion was made by Phil White and seconded by Clarissa Ellis-Prudhomme to approve the 2023 Joint Treasurer & Clerk's Report as presented. A vote was taken. Motion passed.

### ROAD REPORT :

Assistant to the Road Supervisor, Vern Anderson II gave the 2023 Windemere Township Road Report stating that many projects had been completed during 2023. The year began with continued clean-up of the ROW's from the 2022 December snowstorm. The snowstorm led to spring flooding that washed out a number of roads that were then repaired. Other projects included culvert replacements, crack sealing, pothole repairs and repaving Warbler Lane to also include an ATV lane. Other maintenance projects done included application of calcium chloride to approximately 13.63 miles of gravel roads, gravel applications, grading, ditch cleaning & mowing and road sweeping. Also completed were repairs to the

township pole building after the township equipment was sold at auction. The building is now rented to Kiminski Paving to house their equipment used for grading and snow plowing.

Several residents asked about the process in which quotes for the projects were received and contracts were written. A motion was made by Phil White, seconded by Amy Perrine to accept the Road Report. Vote taken. Motion passed.

#### ZONING REPORT :

Zoning Administrator, Dennis Genereau started by stating he would be done as zoning administrator by mid-May of this year. The township is in the process of finding a person to take over the zoning along with other administrative duties.

Mr. Genereau gave the number of permits issued in the past four years for New Dwellings – 2020 had 18, 2021 had 16, 2022 had 16 and 2023 had 16. Permits for Structures – 2020 had 48, 2021 had 60, 2022 had 50 and 2023 had 45. Other permits issued – 2020 had 110, 2021 had 102, 2022 had 62, and 2023 had 53.

He explained that the Short Term Rental Ordinance (STR) should be completed soon and will then be posted in the newspaper and also on the website.

The Nuisance Ordinance, which is a Board Ordinance, not a Zoning Ordinance which means that it is not grandfathered in so any property that is covered under this ordinance will have to be cleaned up. This has been published in the newspaper and will also be on the website.

Manufactured homes, like a mobile home, that is on a chassis, are regulated by the Dept. of Labor & Industry and have to be inspected by a licensed State of MN Housing Inspector and must be tagged before it can be moved.

He then explained that the camper ordinance requires that they be hooked up to septic systems and that is hard to monitor and is time consuming with an excess of 300 campers in the township during the summer months. It is also hard to monitor campers that are only in the township for a short time.

Mr. Genereau then explained that the current Shoreland Ordinance is being worked on and the public needs to be aware of changes that will be coming in this Ordinance.

Motion made by Tom Albright, seconded by Mark Prachar to accept the Zoning Report as given. Vote taken. Motion passed.

#### 2025 WINDEMERE TOWNSHIP LEVY :

Supervisor Alan Overland presented to the electorate the Windemere Township Board of Supervisors recommendation to raise the 2025 township levy by 5% to \$420,000. Motion made by Phil White, seconded by Vern Anderson II to raise the levy by 5% to \$420,000. After discussion from the electorate, a vote was taken. Motion was defeated.

A motion was then made by Vern Anderson II, seconded by Phil Perrine to increase the levy by 10% to \$440,000 citing future road projects. After more discussion from the electorate Mr. Anderson amended his motion, seconded by Tom Albrecht to keep the levy at \$400,000 for 2025. Vote taken. Motion passed.

#### 2025 ANNUAL MEETING :

The 2025 Windemere Township Annual Meeting was discussed. Motion made by Tom Albrecht, seconded by Tim Flor to hold the 2025 Windemere Township Annual Meeting on Township Day, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, starting at 6:30 PM at Holy Angels Catholic Church at 60 Hartman Drive, Moose Lake, MN 55767. Vote taken. Motion passed.

#### SET LEGAL PUBLICATIONS :

A motion was made by John Menke, seconded by Alan Overland to keep the Moose Lake Star Gazette as the legal newspaper for Windemere Township publications. Publications will also be placed in the Evergreen paper. Vote taken. Motion passed.

#### FIRE DISTRICT REPORT :

There was no report.

#### MLWSSD REPORT :

Paula Engstrom reported that the sewer district voted unanimously not to levy the townships in 2024 due mainly to the ponds being at near capacity with no plans to expand at this time.

In 2023 Sand Lake Resort asked the MLWSSD for additional connections. The District cannot grant these until the City of Moose Lake approves additional capacity for the District.

The District ran tests last year to determine if there were any leaks in the lines. A few issues were found and repaired. There was also a calibration test on the lift stations and all are fine. Other maintenance improvements were done to several lift station controllers and signal lights. Overall the system has been running very well with no major issues.

#### OTHER PERTINENT TOWNSHIP BUSINESS :

##### Public Input:

Ron Buetow felt the roads were in the worst shape in years and they were not being fixed. He asked who was in charge of sending the grader out to grade the roads and he had heard that the grader operator was told not to grade certain roads and wondered if that was true. He also asked why the township needed a road assistant to do, what he feels is the road supervisor's job. He then commented

on some culverts that were replaced after the flood and then were replaced 7 months later, asking why they weren't put in properly the first time.

Jude Stephens stated that Supervisor Bahktiari obtained a quote for approximately \$6000 in October to remediate the mold in the township hall. He said to possibly save more money he was going to get more quotes but has not yet done so. She then said there were negative comments being made to Mr. Buetow while he was speaking and thought that was totally uncalled for.

ADJOURN :

With no further township business to discuss, a motion was made by Claire Strandlie, seconded by Tim Flor to adjourn the 2024 Windemere Township Annual Meeting at 8:57 PM. A vote was taken. Motion Passed.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED :

Moderator :

Windemere Township Clerk, Cindy Woltjer

Scott Danelski