

San Francisco Township 2022 Annual Meeting Notes

7:00 p.m. Deputy Clerk call to Order

12 SFT residents attended the meeting, Board Members Larry Schmidt and Andy Olson; Dept. Clerk Jeanne Aufderheide

Elected Moderator:

- Phil Solsang
- Read & Approved last year's minutes
 - 2021 minutes were reviewed.
 - Motion to approve. Motion seconded. Motion carried

Financial Report for 2021:

- Reviewed
- Question on clarification of office supply cost was provided by Larry.
 - Motion to approve was made. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Road Report / Dust Coating (Larry Schmidt)

- Dust coating discussion.
- Cost was offset with less grading.
- Dust coating is at residents' own risk.
- Question was asked on amount of the chip rock used. 2021 required more due to weather. Resident disagreed with cutting back on the reimbursement.
 - 2022 – speculation that there will need to be more due to deep frost and bad weather.
- Question on why not disked wider on the roads as to not leave "lips" on the edge which holds water.
 - Larry said this can be brought up at the next town meeting.
- Question about corners of Halsey Road, obstructed by corn.
 - Larry said this will be addressed at the next board meeting.

2023 Levy - Board's recommendation Review (See separate Levy sheet)

- Grading and snow removal – concerns that the cost will go up due to current high fuel costs. Approval is for 2023 so it is hard to project that far in advance.
- \$362,500 proposed Levy for 2023. Up from \$356,900 in 2022.
- Motion to approve. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Fire Department Information (Larry Schmidt)

- Not much changing. Re-signed the contract with Carver. Negotiation on the Carver building add on concluded with Carver absorbing the additional cost.
- Belle Plaine – in the future looking at putting in a ladder rig, possibly in 2026. Currently the fireboard felt price for coverage can stay the same.
 - Belle Plain is comprised of 7 township which were paying 52% of the cost. Now this is the opposite with BP covering most of the cost.
 - Reminder, if any burning call city of BP and get a permit as they are very stringent with rules and have high fines.
 - BP no longer has an ambulance. It was taken over by Ridgeview.

Collection of fees to be passed to town board

- BP fire billing – charge hourly. BP has requested that if resident doesn't pay the township is asked to collect. If resident still doesn't pay fee is attached to that resident's taxes.
- SFT is handling on a case-by-case basis
- Request was made to post a map of fire district on SFT website.

Papers to Publish Township Announcements

- Chaska Herald is the only paper available.
- Township Website
 - Comment by resident that it will need to be updated more regularly.
- Comment was made that the email distribution is very helpful. Emails upon request also.
- Motion made to approve. Motion seconded. Motion carried.
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INFO ONLY:

Web Site www.sanfranciscotownship.com

Burning Permits applied for at: www.dnr.mn.us/burning-permits

Set Dates & times for monthly meetings

- Currently 3rd Monday of every month except for Jan and Feb with holidays, week early. 7:00 pm.
 - Motion made to approve. Motion seconded Motion passed.

Review Rate of pay for Board \$25/hr. & \$100/meeting

- Discussion on raising the pay rate.
- Motion made to increase hourly rate to \$30/hour. Leave meeting rate at 100.00. Motion made to approve. Motion Seconded. Motion carried.

Set 2023 Annual Meeting time

March 14th, 2023 @ 7 PM – second Tuesday in March.

- Motion made to approve. Seconded. Motion passed.

NEW Business:

- Citizen Committee report on Restoring Town Hall
 - Grant received by MN historical society to stabilize the building.
 - Grant money is completely segregated. A new checking account has been created.
 - 178K grant, bid in for 138K to do work w/Change orders likely.
 - Bid to be signed within a week. The contractor is "Equity Builders".
 - Architect is also preparing specs for adding bathrooms, water, sewer which are not included in the current grant. Improvements to Historic building is not included, focus is restoration.
 - Funding will be provided at various milestones.
- Cutoff for agenda items prior each meeting was requested by resident.
 - **Recommendation to add to the next meeting to discuss and possibly approve (i.e., suggested cutoff Monday before monthly meetings)**
- Suggestion to add from 3 to 5 supervisors.
 - **Recommendation to add to Monthly supervisors meeting.**
- Mining ordinance. Disagreements whether or not EIS needed. Residents believe it should be based on how the ordinance was written.
 - MN River and tributaries are sensitive areas. The understanding is that the previous study was the basis for needing an EIS for mining in sensitive areas like SFT. The township attorney disagreed. Request by the township residents was to get a second opinion as to the ordinance and the interpretation that an EIS would be needed.
 - **Larry will add agenda item to the next board meeting.**

Questions from floor?

2021 maintenance cost, did it include the Culvert on Joyce Road? Yes, it did per Larry.

Reviewed County Updates provided by Board of Commissioner John Fahey.

Adjourn 8:40