

San Francisco Township

March 12, 2024, Annual Meeting Minutes

The Deputy Clerk called the meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m.

25 residents were in attendance (including supervisors and the deputy clerk).

Clerk Aufderheide appointed resident Toni Dauwalter as Moderator

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2023 annual meeting notes were reviewed.

- **Resident made a motion to approve 2023 annual meeting notes. Resident 2 seconded. All approved. Motion carried.**
- NO additions to the current agenda were noted.

The Financial Report for 2023 was reviewed.

- A question by a resident was asked about where the money allotted for dust coating is represented since it was not done in 2023. Supervisor responded that it is in the “road and bridge” category.
- **Resident made a motion to approve the financial report. Resident 2 seconded. All approved. Motion carried.**

Road Report / Dust Coating report was given by Andy Olson.

- Andy reiterated that the township did not do dust control last year. Subsequently, discussion about the feasibility of doing it again will be discussed at the March meeting.
- There has been a new contractor for plowing and grading. Multiple residents commented during the meeting that there is a noticeable improvement with the grading.
- Road mix was done on Market Avenue but since there was no snow it is hard to accurately assess effectiveness. The board will still consider using it in the future although Andy thinks there’s little or no improvement from doing the roads with red rock and will suggest going back to that.
- Resident (Bobby Olson) asked if someone took over organizing the dust coating would the township supplement the costs. The supervisors did not believe this would be feasible. Bobby asked the board to keep an open mind. Supervisor Scott Selken said he would be happy to work with Bobby on the possibility and bring a proposal with him to a future meeting.

The Fire Department report for Belle Plaine and Carver was given by Supervisor Larry Schmidt.

Levy's for Fire departments are "holding their own".

- Belle Plaine purchased a used ladder truck at an approximate cost of 555K so no big expenses coming up in the near future. The is Levy staying the same.
- City of Carver – TWP costs will be coming down due to expansion within the city and costs being absorbed by such.
- Comment by Larry regarding burning:
 - Belle Plaine permit must be acquired, or a 500 dollar fine could be assessed if caught burning without one.
- During the fire report discussion, a resident asked if a sheriff could join meetings to review what's happening with Larry said TWP doesn't pay for policing so it would likely not be feasible to pursue.

Papers to Publish Township Announcements - Choose & Approve

Chaska Herald & Township Website were used for 2023, should they be as well in 2024?

- **Resident (Claudine Solseng) made a motion to approve continuing to use the Chaska Herald and Township website for announcements. Resident 2 (Sue Palmquist) seconded. All approved. Motion carried.**

INFO ONLY:

- Web Site www.sanfranciscotownship.com
- [Note meeting times and date changing in April.](#)
- Burning Permits applied for at: www.dnr.mn.us/burning-permits
- Monthly Board meetings are currently held on the 3rd Monday excepting Jan & Feb will be the 2nd Monday in 2024.
 - This was decided at the reorganizational board meeting in January.

Set 2025 Annual Meeting time as March 11th, 2025 @ 7 PM is 2nd Tuesday of March

- **Resident made a motion to approve the 2025 annual meeting time and date. Resident 2 seconded. All approved. Motion carried.**

OLD Business:

- Citizen Committee report on completed stabilization of Town Hall
 - Phil Solseng gave an update. Phase 1 is winding down, which included stabilization of the building, improving the stairway, crawl space, roof flashing repair windows and roof. The CAC is just closing out the grant, in a month or so once ramp is in place.
 - The grant was 275K.
 - "A big thank you to all volunteers for securing a grant and volunteer work on the town hall as well."
 - The phase 2 to be proposed would include a well and bathroom and also provisions for audio/visual equipment. Additional indoor improvements would also be included in the second phase.
 - CAC met last month and discussed Phase 2 work needed.
 - Question about funding was brought up by a resident:
 - 88K is available in ARPA funding.
 - Approximately 25K is coming for interest on CDs this year so could be applied to Phase 2 without tax increases to residents.
- Discussion on renovations continued.
 - The board originally voted to defer a decision and have phase 2 on the

November ballot so citizens could determine but recently learned that it is not legally feasible.

- **Phil Solseng made a motion to have a survey for a township vote to understand if citizens want to move forward with Phase 2 for board awareness. Resident (Ken Turnquist) seconded. Some residents are in favor, some residents not in favor. A show of hands was taken with 13 in favor and 6 opposed. Motion carried.**
 - Timing of survey to be determined at a later date.

NEW Business:

2025 Levy - Board's recommendation review (See separate Levy sheet)

- **Resident (Phil Solseng) made a motion to increase the Hall Expense category from 10K to 30K to include the estimated CD interest income for 2024 and have it designated towards the interior town hall repairs. Resident 2 seconded. Majority in favor, motion carried.**
 - Andy clarified that the additional 20K coming from CD interest is reflected in the overall General Fund and there would be no increase in taxes.
 - Andy also clarified that the vote and motion is not a guarantee that the 30K will necessarily be spent on building improvements. The funds ultimately roll up to the General Fund.
- **Resident (Phil Solseng) made a motion to increase supervisors pay by 5% (\$1.50 /hr.) to equal Treasurer and Clerk current pay. Resident 2 (Sue Palmquist) seconded. Majority in favor. One nay. Motion carried.**
- **Resident (Bobby Olson) made a motion to approve the levy of \$392,800 for 2025. Resident 2 seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Moderator Toni Dauwalter made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Resident seconded. All approved. Motion carried.