



Town of Superior

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Chair: Ronald Pete
Supervisor: William Conner
Supervisor: Robert "Zimm" Zimmerman
Clerk: Carolyn Jones
Treasurer: Cindy Theien

TOWN OF SUPERIOR – ANNUAL MEETING Tuesday, April 20, 2021

The annual meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Ronald Pete.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Compliance with the Open Meeting Law was met, with notices posted at the Town Hall, Superior Meats, 4 Corners Store, Vine Body Shop, and published on the website and twice in the Superior Telegram as a service to residents.

In addition to Chairman Pete, Supervisor Conner, Supervisor Zimmerman, Clerk Jones, 6 residents were in attendance. Treasurer Theien was excused absent.

Introduction of re-elected Chairman Ron Pete, Supervisor Zimmerman, Supervisor Bill Conner and Clerk Carolyn Jones.

After review, motion was made by Bill Conner and seconded by Bill Britton to accept the minutes for the August 12, 2020 annual meeting with typo corrections. Motion carried unanimously.

Annual Financial Report Prepared by Treasurer Cindy Theien and presented by Clerk Jones. The balance sheet as of December 31, 2020 shows total assets of \$971,990.27.

Since the Town works on a cash basis, payroll is included in total liabilities. The town currently has 5 outstanding loans totaling \$1,897,340.09 that payments are due on March 15th every year. The 5 loans are for the tractor mower with a payment of \$11,544.30 with a remaining balance of \$11,208.02, tandem truck payment of \$11,150.34 with remaining balance of \$107,948.50, land next to the town hall with a payment of \$6150.91 and remaining balance of \$53,877.67, first draw of new fire hall loan with a payment of \$43,524.10 with remaining balance of \$550,870.67 and the remaining draw of the new fire hall loan with a payment of \$92,712.72 with remaining balance \$1,173,435.23. A copy of the report is on file with the clerk.

Town of Superior Fire Department Annual Report Fire Chief Darryl Fiegle reported the department had a very busy year with 100 in-service man hours for fire calls (average of 2.5 hrs per fire call) and 162 in-service man hours for EMS calls (average of .5 hrs per EMS call). The department responded to 199 calls; 122 were in the Town of Superior and 17 in Village of Oliver and 60 were mutual aid for surrounding town. The average response time for fire calls was 10.5 minutes and 8 minutes for EMS calls.

Goals for 2021 are to purchase a 2,200-2,500 gallon tanker to lower the ISO rating, increase participation in productive training and enhance mutual aid with Duluth FD. A copy of the report is on file with the clerk.

Chairman's Annual Report Chairman Pete started his report with that it just seems like we had an annual meeting and in a sense we did due to Covid with postponing last years meeting until August. There have been very few changes in the town in the past eight months. The new fire hall is fully functional and in use. One of the so-called "eyesore" residences was condemned and is now being refurbished by the owner as far as we know. Some of the bigger projects

accomplished or in progress are the purchase of an excavator without the need to borrow money, resurfacing of ¼ mile of Tuff Rd and adding another ¼ mile of black top, and the bridge on Hammond Avenue should be finished this year. Currently there is a bypass over Crawford Creek and we are in the process of letting bids for the installation of a prefabricated bridge and then the removal of bypass. Supervisor Conner took charge of that project and he made certain that the bypass culvers can be used on Leggate and Polish Roads after. Your Board of Supervisors as well as Clerk and Treasurer are very aware of the cost of things and try diligently to curb spending on anything that isn't necessary. Town money will be spent for road construction and the bridge on Hammond Ave. There is some sharing of expenses from the LRIP program (state sharing program for roads) and sharing for the bridge from the county. Town will pay expenses upfront and will receive partial reimbursement after. We are holding back on further spending until we have an accurate accounting of where we stand. When we approve the budget for the following year, one thing that doesn't show up is the amount of money that "flows through our books". Meaning when we pay our real estate taxes to the County Treasurer, that office forwards the collection to the Town. Then "we" have to write checks back to the school district, county, WITC, etc. Of the amount of taxes paid by the residents of the Town, we pay \$5,600,000 back to the schools, county and so on. The Town only keeps a small percentage of the actual taxes paid by our residents. People were worried about how much their taxes would increase with construction of the new fire hall, but by careful planning and not getting carried away with spending, it seems most property owners saw little to no increase in their taxes this year. Just know in a year when your taxes do increase, the first place to look on your statement is to see how much goes to the school district, county, etc. The Town has two full time employees on the road crew and recently hired a part time person to assist them. They do the best job they can and they are out there working each day. I want to publically thank them for all they do. I also thank our custodian, Darryl Fiegle, for the job he does with the interior of the town hall and with the snow in the winter and grass in the summer. Thank you to our town clerk, Carolyn Jones and treasurer, Cindy Theien. They do an excellent job and I have never once called or asked either a question they could not answer. Cindy is not here tonight but thank you to Carolyn for all you do. The elections in 2020 and tremendous number of absentee ballot requested were a major job and you performed it well. To the supervisors Bob Zimmerman and Bill Conner, thank you for your cooperation and willingness to take parting in gathering information and supervising certain projects or business. Thank you for keeping the Town operating smoothly. To the Plan Commission, thank you for your willingness to serve, I know you are doing your best to ensure that the residents of the Town are always considered in your recommendations. To the members that recently left the Plan Commission, thank you for your years of service. To the people who faithfully attend our monthly meetings, thank you sincerely for your interest and participation. The Board can't know what you're thinking if we don't hear from you. A copy of the report is on file with the clerk.

New Business

Resident Jan Dalbec motioned that all ballots will be by show of hands, Bill Conner seconded. Motion approved and carried by show of hands.

- a. Resident Bill Britton followed up on the floor tile that was brought up at the 2020 annual meeting. Wanted to know if it was in process of getting fixed. Darryl Fiegle stated he had reached out to the installer numerous times and did not hear back from them. Chairman Pete stated he would contact them.
- b. Resident Jan Dalbec inquired about signage for the new fire hall and a flag pole. Chairman Pete would have it put on the monthly agenda for May. Supervisor Conner added that there will not be any signs installed on the highway as the state deemed that is was visible enough and the state would also not move the signs from the old hall.
- c. Resident Jan Dalbec attended a Tom Tiffany meeting and the ethics on elections was brought up. Jan felt the Town did an excellent job complying.
- d. Supervisor Bill Conner suggested that the Town should sell the gravel pit on Darrow Road as it has not been used by the Town in 25 years. Resident Bletia Scott motioned and Resident Bill Britton seconded to advertise for bids for the sale of the rock quarry/gravel pit on Darrow Road. Motion carried.

- e. Supervisor Bill Conner would like to revisit the Town building permit fees with Brian Conley. Currently need a permit for a dog house, would like to change it to a 250 square foot minimum. Resident Bletia Scott stated that in a small town she lived in in the past, residents did not need permits to perform routine maintenance such as new windows, new doors, remodeling. People took pride in keeping their houses nice.
- f. Chief/Janitor Darryl Fiegle inquired on the window replacement for the Town Hall. Chairman Pete stated he did get an estimate last fall and it was extremely high.

Next Annual Meeting Resident Bletia Scott motioned and Supervisor Zimmerman seconded to set the next annual meeting for April 19, 2022 at 7pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Jones, Clerk

DRAFT MINUTES 4-22-21

MINUTES APPROVED ON 19 of April, 2022
CHAIR Ronald Pete
CLERK [Signature]