



*Draft*

## 2025 FOREST TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time of Meeting: March 11, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Tim Holzkamm, Barb Christiansen, Lynn Lindow, Donna Waliczek

Absent:

Visitors: John LaFond, Rolf Christiansen, Karen Hefner, Al Hefner, Monette Lundquist, Bill Jackson, Lisa Jackson, Don Wattenhofer, Ruth Wattenhofer

| Agenda Item  | Discussion Points/Notes  | Actions/Follow-up Needed   |
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| Pledge of Allegiance<br>Visitor Sign in  |  |  |
| <b>AGENDA:</b><br>Nomination of Moderator<br><br><b>MEETING AGENDA:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approval of March 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes</li> <li>Audit Report</li> <li>Treasurer's Report</li> </ul> | <p>Clerk call for nominations for Moderator<br/>Tim nominated John LaFond, no other nominations heard.<br/>Introduced Karen Hefner as the township clerk. She will be assuming her responsibilities this spring.<br/>Review of 2024 Forest Township Annual Meeting Minutes</p> <p>Forest Township Board conducted an audit of Treasurer's and Clerk books at the February Meeting. Financial data determined as accurate and signed by supervisors. The 2024 Financial Report was submitted to MN State Auditor.</p> <p>Donna gave the Treasurer's report as of March 2025.</p>  | <p>Tim Holzkamm called for nominations-John LaFond was elected moderator unanimously.<br/>Motion by Barb Christiansen to approve minutes. Second by Lynn Lindow-motion carried unanimously.<br/>Motion to accept the Audit Report by Bill Jackson, Second by Lisa Jackson</p> <p>Motion to accept the Treasurer's report by Tim Holzkamm, second by Karen Hefner</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Comment</li> </ul>   |  |  |
| <b>BOARD MEMBER REPORTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Hall</li> <li>Trash/Recycle</li> <li>Roads</li> <li>Planning Commission</li> <li>Weed Report</li> <li>Website</li> </ul>                                     | <p>-Experiencing plumbing issues in the Town Hall and plumbing may need to be replaced.<br/>Looking for replacement bulbs for the fluorescent lights</p> <p>-Thank you to Rolf for his work on crafting bear proof lids on the dumpster. There is need for some repairs before bear season.<br/>-Please double wrap/bag fish guts when disposing of them. Reminder of the benefits of recycling-revenue and lowers garbage costs. Remind neighbors to recycle.</p> <p>-In effect this year for a \$1500 minimum payment for plowing during the winter months-December, January, February and March.<br/>Handout on 2024 Road Costs. Road maintenance included gravel and calcium chloride as well as regular maintenance</p> | <p>Recommendation to put motion lights over the door for better lighting. Also, a light for the gate. Tim will look into that.</p> <p>Recommend a sign close to dumpster to remind people to latch the lids.</p>   |



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|              | <p>for \$38,541. Cost for durablend-\$14000, county calcium chloride will be cheaper.</p> <p>Annual Road Tour will be the second Tuesday of May at 4:30 to address road issues and determine maintenance needs.</p> <p>-Addressed the disruption in county permits last spring which is now resolved. A reminder was given about the need for a Township permit beyond 267 feet from OHWL. Contact Lynn. She will do a site visit, foundation visit, final building visit. She then brings the permit to the board for final approval.</p> <p>-The website will be required to change from a .net to .gov by 2028. We are currently in the process of making those changes.</p> <p>All meeting dates listed on website.</p>   | <p>Don Wattenhofer stressed the need for additional gravel on Basswood Road as dirt is exposed.</p> <p>Recommend a thorough review of the website to insure it is up to date and appropriate name changes have been made.</p> |
| Old Business | <p>AIS-Monette shared a handout on the costs for AIS inspections. The cost for 2024 was \$6750 paid by BMLAA and the Township and is expected to be the same this year. The county pays for 500 hours- \$7500.</p>  | <p>The BMLAA recommends that the township pays half the costs for AIS inspections for 2025.</p>   |
| New Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2026 Budget and Levy Proposal</li> <li><b>Budget proposal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General-\$30,000</li> <li>Garbage-\$12,000</li> <li>Solid Waste-\$5,000</li> <li>AIS-\$3,500</li> <li>Roads-\$39,000</li> <li>Fire-\$20,000</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Total proposed budget-\$109,500</b></li> <li><b>Levy Proposal for 2026-\$85,000</b></li> <li><b>Budget:</b> Summary of 2024 Revenue, expenses and Balance. The objective is to maintain a balance of 150% of the budget. Projected balances given for 2025 and 2026. This levy would bring the township below the 150%.</li> <li>Set Amnesty Dates for 2025 – Proposed dates: May 24, 2025 and August 23, 2025</li> <li>Set Annual Meeting Dates for 2026 – Proposed dates: March 10, 2026, Alternative in case of weather March 17, 2026</li> <li>Question about any news regarding the White Earth Land Transfer. Tim is tracking the legislation and, at this point, nothing has been introduced.</li> </ul> | <p>Motion to approve the budget and Levy by Don Wattenhofer, second by Al Hefner. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Barb presented these dates for amnesty dates and next year's meeting</p>                                 |
| Adjourn      |   | <p>Motion by Barb Christiansen to adjourn the meeting. Second by Monette Lundquist. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Meeting end time: 7:40</p>  |
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