

**Credit River Township
Annual Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2003**

Call to Order

Clerk Jerry Maas called the meeting to order at 8:17

Order of Business:

Election of a Moderator:

Clerk Maas called for nominations for a moderator. Robert Masters made a motion to elect Bryan Reichel as moderator. Joe Schluzacek seconded the motion. There were no other nominations presented. All in favor, motion carried by a voice vote.

Bryan Reichel assumed the role as moderator.

Minutes of previous meeting:

Clerk Maas read the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on March 12, 2002. A call was made for additions and/or corrections. There being none, a motion was made by Dan Casey to accept the minutes as read. Joe Skluzacek seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Report on Financial Records:

Clerk Maas reported that the Town Board held the annual public Board of Audit meeting on February 18, 2003 at which time the records of the clerk and treasurer were reviewed and found to be in order. Proper checks and balances were found to be in place and the Board approved the report. (See attached Financial Report)

A motion was made by Joe Skluzacek to accept the Clerk and Treasurers Financial Report. Alden Starkey seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Dave Bernello asked about park maintenance and how it related to investment from developers. It was pointed out that the maintenance of all Credit River parks was paid for out of the general fund.

A call for a vote on accepting the financial report was made, all in favor, motion carried by a voice vote.

Road Report

Town Board Chairman John Kane reported that we have instituted a new road "Crack Sealing Process" that appears to be working quite well. The Township spent \$10,000 to improve the Turn Lane into Cleary Park. We have been trying to build a relationship with the 3 Rivers Park District and will be working on that for this year.

We held Public Hearings this past year on Pebble Brook Court and West Side Drive and are working on trying to accommodate some residents on 170th Street.

We've had to look at mowing more often now to keep the visibility such that safety is first

Mr. Kane discussed the snow-plowing task in the township. He reiterated that this is a difficult job. He pointed out that the Township has adopted a Snow and Ice Removal Policy and encouraged everyone to review it. It is available on the website.

Site for next Year meeting

A motion was made Jay Saterbak to hold the annual meeting on March 9, 2004 at 8:30 pm with the site to be determined at that time. Gail Robin seconded the motion, all in

favor motion carried by a voice vote

Selection of Repository for Town Funds:

John Kane made a motion to continue our relationship with Prior Lake State Bank. John Mahoney seconded the motion all in favor, motion carried by a voice vote.

Publications.

John Mahoney made motion to designate the Prior Lake American as the legal publishing vehicle for the township, and the Lakeville Life and Times as the secondary publishing vehicle. Ginny Dahl seconded this motion.

Discussion:

Brent Lawrence suggested negotiations take place on rates. Clerk Jerry Maas so noted and will investigate.

A number of residents asked if the minutes from the meetings could be published. The Board agreed to try this for 3 months and re-evaluate at that time considering the cost implications.

Election Report for 2003:

There were a total of 402 votes cast. The results were as follows:

For Supervisor

Allan H Aspengren	129 votes
Greg Brown	101 votes
Leroy Schommer	171 votes

For Treasurer

Holly Batton	332 votes
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Regarding the Town Question # 1

Should Credit River Township authorize the issuance of licenses to qualified restaurants and similar establishments slowing the sale of intoxicating liquor on Sundays?

Yes	326 Votes
No	74 Votes

A motion was made by John Kane to accept the election report. A second was offered by Dan Casey. All in favor, motion carried by voice vote

Establish Levies for 2004:

Clerk Jerry Maas pointed out that the Township is under no obligation to submit the levy amounts until September of 2003 and it was his recommendation that the Township simply review the various funds this evening with a view to giving the staff some direction as to establishing more formal recommendatiuoins to be acted upon in either August or September at which time the Annual Meeting be re-convened.

John Mahoney made a motion to delay submittal of the levy amounts until later in the year as required. Dan Casey offered a second. All in favor, motion carried by a voice vote.

Discussion of the Township Funds:

Road and Bridge Levy Amount – Currently at \$150,000

Clerk Maas reported that the Township spent \$ 78,609.35 on Roads and Bridges in 2002.

We did spend an additional \$45,000 on the Blue 911 Signs in 2002 and paid for in January of 2003. Thus the total expenditure for Road and Bridges was approximately, \$123,000.

The taxable market value of Credit River Township at the end of 2002 is \$307,844,200. The minimum amount that the Township must levy is \$175,455.00 in order to qualify for approximately \$20,000 in gas tax rebates.

Clerk Maas indicated that future funds such as State Gas Tax and Market Value Credits received in 2002 might be in jeopardy in the years to come. He pointed out that we will need to take that into consideration in future budgets. He further noted that in conversations with the County Taxation Department, it was their recommendation that we hold open our final levy amounts until they actually must be submitted in September. This will give us time to assess the impact of the loss of state aid.

General Fund/Fire Fund – Currently at \$185,000

Clerk Maas reported that the Township spent approximately \$ 197,000 in general expenses in 2002, including approximately \$75,000 in Fire Protection.

Clerk Maas noted that the formula used by Prior Lake in setting the Fire Charges was based on property valuation. Therefore with increased valuation, it was his estimate that the bill for this coming year would be approximately \$90,000.

Other Business

Greg Brown asked if we were an Urban Township and consequently be operating with a five person board rather than our current three-member town board. Doug Scheurenbrand pointed out that we used to have a five-person board. Joe Skluzacek pointed out that the residents voted it out in 1988 because it was not working very well at that time. In view of the fact that we have a petition before us, the Board would review the requirement of placing the question on the ballot for next years election.

Roger Roiger presented a resolution as follows:

Resolution

The electors resolve that due to the uncertainty of community wells and septic systems, no developments, within the Township of Credit River using OSD methods will be granted a bonus density of greater than 5%.

Bob Masters made a motion to accept this resolution. Becky Meehan seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Jay Saterbak asked if the Township would be willing to accept the legal ramifications of lawsuits that might result in that the current Comprehensive Plan already defines the bonus density amounts. Attorney John Roach indicated that cost could be excessive and in addition the Board has no formal mechanism to enforce the resolution.

Bob Masters pointed out that the Township could take on the planning and zoning and gain the fees to offset to cost of the planning and zoning. He also questioned the amenities as they are now defined in the OSD configurations as being non-public and therefore they shouldn't be entitled to the density they are getting.

Attorney John Roach indicated that the "public nature" of the amenities has not been defined yet.

A point was made that the OSD design with it's community well and septic concepts might ward off annexation. John Kane indicated that the board would look into the density calculations on future developments.

There being no further discussion, a call was made for a vote on the question. Motion failed by voice vote.

Bob Masters introduced a resolution as follows:

Resolution

Resolve to petition the Board to negotiate for a reduction in density on the Territory Project in exchange for reduction in amenities.

A call was made for a motion to accept this resolution. None being heard, a second call was made, none being heard, a third call was made. In the absence of a motion, the resolution failed.

Jay Saterbak emphasized the need for the Township to “preserve the borders” if possible and thought that the idea he had heard circulating about forming a residents group to provide input to both the county and the Town Board was a good idea.

Bruce Nielson made a motion that the residents form a task force to study development as well as environmental issues, lot sizes, transportation, alternate forms of government, etc. Jay Saterbak seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried by a voice vote.

John Phillips introduced a resolution as follows:

Resolution

The electors resolve that the township board will move to adopt conflict of interest standards in the next 60 days. Violation of these standards will result in dismissal from office.

Bob Masters offered a second to the resolution.

Discussion:

Attorney John Roach elaborated that this issue is already covered very thoroughly in the state statutes and that any action by the Town Board would be totally redundant and without purpose.

That being said, Mr. Phillips agreed to withdraw the resolution.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the Township, Clerk Maas thanked all of the residents present for their participation in the meeting. Chris Johnson called for a motion to adjourn. Dan Casey made a motion to adjourn, John Mahoney offered a second, motion carried by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.

Submitted By: _____

Jerald R. Maas
Township Clerk
Credit River Township

Approved By: _____

John T. Kane
Chairman – Board of Supervisors
Credit River Township