

**Township of Breitung Annual Meeting 03/12/2024-8:30 PM**  
**In Person Meeting at the Breitung Community Center**  
**33 First Avenue, Soudan Minnesota**

**Residents Present:** Tom Gorsma, Stephanie Ukkola, Tim Tomsich, Lori Sundeen-Tomsich, Chuck Tekautz, Jorgine Gornick, Amber Zak, Jeanne Driscoll, Terry Driscoll, Erin Peitso, Rolf Anderson, Laurie Anderson, Anthony Sikora, Greg Dostert

**Non-Residents Present:** Daniel Reing

Call to Order @ 8:35pm by Tim Tomsich

Pledge of Allegiance

**Moderator:**

Motion by Stephanie Ukkola to name Tim Tomsich Moderator

2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck Tekautz

Motion passed unanimously

**Minutes:**

Motion by Rolf Anderson to dispense with reading of the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes 03/14/23 and approve with corrections to changing the date at the top to 2023 instead of 2022 as distributed

2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie Ukkola

Motion passed unanimously

**Reports:**

- Financial Report-read by Tim Tomsich  
Motion made by Greg Dostert to accept Financial Report as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Gorsma  
Motion passed unanimously
- Road and Bridge Report-Maintenance Supervisor went over highlights and upcoming projects for the coming year. Thanked Jorgine Gornick and Dianna Sundahl for support in 2023.  
Motion made Charles Tekautz to accept Road and Bridge Report as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rolf Anderson  
Motion passed unanimously
- Police Report-Chief Reing discussed several highlights including implementing GREAT Program in local schools, Annual Taco's with Cops events and ongoing work to upgrade the departments' systems and hardware. Gave thanks to the Township and for the support of the Board, Jorgine Gornick, Dianna Sundahl and Trudy Hendricks.  
Motion made by Stephanie Ukkola to accept Police Report as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Erin Peitso  
Motion passed unanimously
- Fire and Rescue Report-Report included in the packet  
Motion by Charles Tekautz to accept Fire and Rescue Report as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie Ukkola  
Motion passed unanimously
- McKinley Park Report-Report included in the packet  
Motion made by Laurie Anderson to accept McKinley Park Report as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie Ukkola  
Motion passed unanimously

- Chairman's Report-read by Tim Tomsich  
Motion made by Greg Doster to accept report as presented  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Gorsma  
Motion passed unanimously
- Tax Levy-Tim Tomsich reviewed the levy reports and findings for the 2024 Tax Levy year. Due to multiple outstanding possibilities, Tim Tomsich recommended holding off on setting the levy until July or August. Items that may affect the levy are:
  - Tower Area Ambulance-Subsidy not known at this time, should be approved in the next few months
  - Thompson Farm Road-Grant Applications for this project is still in the works, should be decided in the next few months. Anthony Sikora asked for further clarification of moving the Thompson Farm Road, noted it is on the agenda for later in the meeting.

Motion made by Tony Sikora to continue the meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 6:00pm at the Breitung Community Center for the purpose of setting the tax levy and conducting any business allowed at the Annual Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Gorsma

Motion passed unanimously

- Ambulance Replacement Fund-Charles Tekautz provided remarks on the replacement of an ambulance for the Tower Area Ambulance. Breitung doubled last years payments from \$15 per capita to \$30 per capita, funding still short due to non-participation from neighboring townships. Subsidy still outstanding and Anthony Sikora thanked Charles Tekautz for his time and efforts on the Ambulance Commission.
- TBWWB-Pond Capacity-Continued effort by Tower/Breitung to decrease stormwater runoff into the ponds. Droughts have been a positive thing, as less water going to the ponds. During a bad rain year, could run into an issue of being out of compliance with MPCA guidelines.
- Thompson Farm Road-Altering and Vacating Portions of-Tim Tomsich provided further information on the status of this project stating that everything is in place except the funding. Tomsich was hopeful that the funds would come through as the project was mutually beneficial to multiple parties; he further stated the township board would not proceed with the project if funds were not received. On advice from legal counsel as to the correct steps to take to continue the project, a motion was requested to further the project once funds were received. Tony Sikora indicated concern that by the time the funds were or were not received, a partially new board would be in place and that there was no assurance that the project would not proceed without funding.

Motion was made by Terry Driscoll to authorize the Town Board to alter the Thompson Farm Road by creating new access from Highway 169 directly in alignment with the existing north-south orientation of the road as depicted on the engineered drawing, further stating that the Town Board will vacate that portion of the existing Thompson Farm Road as shown in the drawing upon completion and opening of the new access to Highway 169 and to set a future hearing for formal action the establishment of the altered road on June 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the Breitung Community Center. This motion contingent on the receiving of funds from the Long-Range Improvement Plan.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Gorsma

Motion passed unanimously

- Tower Soudan Historical Society Requesting \$500.00 towards the Historic Fire Hall restoration  
Motion by Stephanie Ukkola to donate \$500.00 to the TSHS Historic Fire Hall Restoration Project

2<sup>nd</sup> by Rolf Anderson

Motion passed unanimously

- St Louis County Extension-Youth in Action

Motion by Stephanie Ukkola to deny the donation request due to this organization was not impactful to the Township of Breitung

2<sup>nd</sup> by Amber Zak

Motion passed unanimously

- Northwoods Partners-Caring Connections

Motion by Charles Tekautz to review Northwoods Partners funding request at the August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting after gathering more information on its role in Breitung Township

2<sup>nd</sup> by Rolf Anderson

Motion passed unanimously

- Funds to Support Events-funds listed below are for year 2023

- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Community Picnic-2k includes food and in-kind labor

- Big Truck Night-\$300 food

- Old Settlers-\$200 donation

- Cemetery Association-\$3000 for upkeep, \$273 for Computer Software-it was noted that the funds for the Computer Software may need to be adjusted, have not yet received actual costs

- Joint Recreation Board-\$300

Motion by Charles Tekautz to continue support above for all events as noted above

2<sup>nd</sup> by Anthony Sikora

Motion passed unanimously

**Date for Continuation of Annual Meeting:**

August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6:00pm @ the Breitung Community Center

Respectfully Submitted

Amber Zak

Breitung Township Resident

Timothy Tomsich

Moderator, Breitung Township