

2024 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

March 12th, 2024

Officers in attendance: Larry Bumgardner (chair/supervisor), Lance Barnum (supervisor), Clark Smith (supervisor), Kristin Hoff (treasurer), Megan Auzenne (clerk)

Meeting called to order at 7pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Larry Bumgardner was voted in to moderate by the residents.

Eric Ramlo opposed the 2024 Agenda → Larry called a vote to proceed with the current agenda, the residents voted for the current agenda, Eric opposed. The meeting proceeded with the original template printed.

2023 Annual Meeting Minutes → Megan Auzenne read the 2023 Minutes and Larry accepted them.

2023 Treasurer's Report → Kristin Hoff read through the report and made mention of the money market/CD are all within Citizen's now due to Northview not matching the 3% rate that Citizen's offered the township. Larry made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Eric seconded. Report accepted.

2023 Road Report → Hummingbird Drive was brought up with the current amount set for the road levies.

Levies for 2025 → Charlene brought up the planned road project and raising the levies to support the \$883,000 Hummingbird Drive project. After the project, it leaves more than half a million in the township fund. Resident made a motion to maintain the 2025 levy amounts, Eric seconded, and Larry third.

General	\$70,000
Fire	\$30,000
Roads	\$255,000

2024 Fire Contract cost at \$27,070 which is a decrease of \$2,842.64 from 2023. See attached for the breakdown in cost.

Donations

→ Terry Long presented on behalf of Hubbard Co 1st Responders. Eric brought up a point on Minnesota being behind on pay and mental health for firefighters/first responders. A resident brought up the county cutting two emergency hubs out and how those affect ambulances on call. Terry brought up the mutual aid being helicopters for first response.

- Molly London came on behalf of Kinship of Park Rapids to talk about the 19 youth Arago is supporting with the yearly donations.
- Vicky Deshane came on behalf of Hubbard Co Food shelf to talk about outgrowing the location they are at now in downtown Park Rapids.
- Joe came on behalf of Living at Home Park Rapids that assists the elderly still living in their own homes.
- Clark Smith spoke on behalf of Let's Go Fishing that assists the elderly and youth with local.
- Clark also spoke on behalf of Northwood's Wildlife in Menahga.
- Larry made the motion to relocate the \$1,000 normally donated to the Park Rapids Library. Charlene seconded the motion, crowd third.
- Lance Barnum wants the option for representatives to show up in prior months to the Annual meeting so the officers can hear everyone out if they can't attend the Annual.
- Robert made the motion to put \$100 to everyone who spoke on behalf of the donations. Charlene seconded the motion.
- Larry made the motion to accept the list of donations with the changed amounts.

AIS Funding → Still lacking a representative on behalf of the educational purposes and findings for this donation made to fund public lake access points. The state DNR is still the only way to navigate any of the findings from the previous years. Charlene brought up the list that states the lakes in our regions and townships contributing. \$260,000 is received from the state each year to supplement the inspections and education. Potato Lake is receiving the most of Arago township's contributions that is split with Eagle Lake and Potato Lake association.

- 2024 was \$2,860 donated towards the hours for inspections. A motion was made by a resident to pay the hours as billed and paid accordingly before the January 31st due date. Eric seconded the motion, Larry third.

ARPA Funding/ SLFRF Reporting → Water heater broke during the 2022 general elections and a contractor was found to replace the broken unit. For the sake of cost of monthly electricity x how much hot water needed to be stored, we opted for a smaller unit. That project was completed in 2023.

Hummingbird Drive → Notices and mailers sent out for the property assessments.

*Notice is hereby given that Arago Township will meet in the Townhall at 7:30 p.m. on **March 19, 2024**, to consider improvements to Hummingbird Drive, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 429.011 to 429.111. The area proposed to be assessed for such improvement is the properties abutting Hummingbird Drive. The estimated cost of the improvement is \$883,000. A reasonable estimate of the impact of the assessment will be available at the hearing. Such persons as desire to be heard with reference to the proposed improvement will be heard at this meeting.*

2025 Annual Meeting set for March 11th, 2025 at 7pm at the Arago Town Hall.

Eric Ramlo made the motion to post the Annual Meeting on the website, the Park Rapids Enterprise, and website. Larry seconded the motion.

Larry made the motion to adjourn the meeting 8:21pm