

**Re-Convened Annual Town Meeting
Minutes
August 27, 2008**

On Wednesday, August 27, 2008, the Annual Town Meeting was re-convened at the Big Lake Town Hall, located in Lions Park Community Center, 21960 County Road 5, Big Lake Township, County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota.

Moderator John Norgren called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. There were 7 people in attendance when the meeting commenced. The meeting was tape recorded for transcribing purposes only.

Approval of the Agenda – A motion was made by Ewald Petersen to approve the agenda as presented. Larry Alford seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the agenda as presented.

Unfinished Business

a. **Finalize 2009 Tax Levy** – Treasurer Warneke presented the proposed levy information as follows:

Treasurer Warneke recommended the 2009 levy total, presented at the March 11, 2008 Annual Meeting, remain at \$1,180,000. He noted this is a 14% drop from the 2008 levy of \$1,385,000. Treasurer Warneke stated he anticipates a tax rate decrease of close to 17%. He stated numerous changes have occurred since the March 11, 2008 Annual meeting, but he is confident that any needed adjustments can be made internally with budget adjustments and using reserves. Treasurer Warneke reported some speculation of a tax capacity increase from several commercial buildings coming on line in January. A Commercial tax base increase could result in a tax rate decrease depending on County Assessor determination after January 1, 2009. He discussed the \$6,000. levy to the Cemetery fund to cover improvements and unexpected expenses in 2008. There were donations that covered the expenses in previous years. The Fire Building and Equipment Fund Levy increased to \$129,000 in anticipation of purchase of the new pumper truck. Big Lake Township will pay for the Township half of the truck purchase price up front and the City will finance their portion of the expense. The CIP Bond Fund was decreased to \$36,000 from \$58,000. due to a reserve in that fund from 2008. The General Capital Expenditures Fund was raised to \$115,000 from \$100,000 due to unexpected expenses in 2008.

Treasurer Warneke stated the Finance Committee has taken the position of not wanting to increase tax rates and to use reserves as necessary to cover unforeseen expenses.

Rita Petersen motioned to approve the total tax levy for 2009 in the amount of \$1,180,000. Rick Stearns seconded the motion. All voted in favor, no one voted against. The motion passed. The annual levy for 2008 was set at \$1,180,000.

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General Fund	\$200,000
Road Fund	\$668,000
B.L. Fire Fund	\$0
Cemetery Fund	\$ 6,000
Fire District #1	\$ 26,000
Fire Building & Equipment Fund	\$129,000
Economic Development Fund	\$0
General Capital Expenditures Fund	\$115,000
CIP 2006B Bond Redemption Fund	\$36,000
Total	\$1,180,000

New Business

There was no new business presented.

Adjournment

A motion was made by James Sanford to adjourn the re-convened annual meeting and set the next annual meeting date for March 10, 2009. Rick Stearns seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristie Woolard, Deputy Clerk
Town of Big Lake