

MINUTES - unapproved

Present:

Mike Klingelhutz, Township Board Chair
Cathy Nielsen, Township Board Vice-chair
Pete Parris, Township Board Supervisor
Leanne Kunze, Township Clerk/Treasurer
Jean Moore, Township Administrative Assistant
Township Residents/Property Owners (*sign-in list attached for the record*)

Call to Order

Clerk/Treasurer Leanne Kunze called the meeting to Order at 7:00pm and invited the residents to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Select Moderator

Clerk/Treasurer Leanne Kunze called for nominations for the role of Moderator.

Chuck Held nominated Bryan Pawela. No other nominations.

Motion by Jeff Mallow to approve Bryan Pawela to serve as Moderator.

Second by Paula Held

Discussion (none)

Motion carried (none opposed)

Moderator welcomed residents and requested they loudly state their name each time

Introduction of New Clerk/Treasurer

Mike Klingelhutz introduced Leanne Kunze as the new Clerk/Treasurer for Laketown Township.

Approve Order of Business (*white cover page of meeting packet*)

Moderator presented the agenda and asked if there were any additions.

Motion by Trudy Vogel to approve the agenda as presented.

Second by Chuck Held

Discussion (none)

Motion carried (none opposed)

MS4 Public Hearing (SWPPP) – report provided by Board Chair Mike Klingelhutz

Klingelhutz informed attendees there is a state-mandated requirement to hold a public meeting about Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPPP) as the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) requires public entities to comply with environmental laws and regulations related to water quality. We are required to have a public meeting to keep in good standing for our Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (MS4) permit. This portion of the township meeting helps fulfil the state requirement.

The goal of the MS4 program is to monitor and maintain storm water conveyances such as ditches, drains, outfalls, stockpiles at construction sites throughout the township to protect water and wetlands. We have to document what we've done - tangible things. Mike reviewed a list of tangible things the township has done:

- litter patrol to collect garbage in ditches (*such as chairs, tires, couches, mattresses*);
- completed and documented quarterly facility inspections on township property;
- hosted a Spring and Fall composting event where we recycle leaves, brush, and yard waste (*a record amount received in 2022 thanks to residents and staff – and we will offer 2 more this year, so look for postcards in the mail as they are sent in advance with date and time*);
- purchased a used dump truck from the City of Waconia with sand and salt calibration (*both trucks now calibrated to make sure we are not over salting roads as salt is very detrimental to water quality*);
- completed Spring and Fall street sweeping of all paved roads (*the dates are hit and miss because we do not have this equipment and have to hire out for sweeping*);
- let residents know what they can do to help such as proper recycling of unwanted chemicals (*the Carver County Recycling Center has a great website with their hours on it and it is a great resource and very efficient - the only problem is they don't take stuff like couches and mattress - DemCon takes them and charges the township when they show up in ditches, so I hope that Carver County will allow Carver County Recycling Center to accept these items to preclude people from burning or throwing them in the township ditches*); some other things like don't overfill trash cans, try to bag the trash so trash stays contained and doesn't blow around; be aware when doing construction projects - must be protected from oil and silt runoff for erosion control measures, and if you see something out of place or suspect illegal dumping please call the township;
- provide links to resources such as the SWPPP and MS4 permit on the township website;
- we have some residents who walk their ditches and bring the trash bags to the shop. If you're willing to do this, please bring the bags to the township so they can be weighed and documented for MS4 reporting purposes.

Mike reminded attendees that everything that goes into our ditches ultimately ends up in our creeks, rivers and lakes and your help is essential in the township's ability to maintain our MS4 compliance and preserve our water bodies. We have a map of the outfalls available for viewing. Mike provided residents an opportunity to ask questions or share comments relating to this topic, none were provided.

Township Update

- **Roads** - report provided by Board Supervisor Pete Parris
Airport Road was supposed to be chip-sealed last year. An agreement with the County fell through so we had to push it to this year. We budgeted \$65,000.00 last year and that included chip-sealing. Since we only spent \$18,000.00 we are carrying some over to this year. If we do not reach agreement with the County this year, we expect it to cost about 20-30% more. The cost to chip-seal Airport Road is approximately \$52,000.00 and the County has a machine that can lay the gravel and pack it down for about \$16,000.00 each side. This will be our biggest expense for our paved roads.

Gravel

Our 2022 gravel budget was \$60,000.00 – we spent roughly \$56,000.00 for gravel and used ARPA funds around for a total of \$105,000.00 for building up some of our gravel roads. We were able to use red rock – plan to do that again this year – especially on hills – as that helps with runoff.

Cracks and Potholes

Pete shared we are not alone in the harsh impacts of the extreme freeze/thaw cycles experienced this winter. Pete went on to explain how the moisture gets in the cracks and expands when it freezes, making the cracks and potholes deeper and bigger. This is happening all around the area. There is not a lot we can do until things thaw out a bit and staff can get out there and blade.

Annual Road Tour

We have a road engineer coming on April 25th to tour the roads. Our plan is to re-pave a bunch of the roads in 2025, and depending on what the road engineer says we might have to move that up a year. Pete reported driving some of the asphalt roads today and some are truly falling apart. We would like to be able to do several of the asphalt roads at once.

Augusta Road is a town-line road with Laketown on one side and Dahlgren on the other side. We met with Dahlgren quite a bit in 2022. They've been willing to talk with us – other years they have said to leave it as is. The condition of the road requires rebuilding – either asphalt or gravel – but it is no longer feasible to keep patching. There has been a lot of talk this last year and thought we had arrived at a plan to rebuild with asphalt surface. Property owners would have been assessed approximately \$10k. The residents on the Laketown side were about 50/50 in support, and the Dahlgren side was close to 100% opposed. For safety reasons, the road engineer said you either rebuild it and pave it or return it to gravel. The County declined to assist and the Commissioners Pete talked to all said to turn it back to gravel.

For safety concerns, we are done patching it after this year and Dahlgren agrees to the plan to turn it back to gravel in 2024. This could change if a majority of property owners on each side of the road (both townships) demonstrate support for the asphalt plan with assessments.

Resident questions/comments/concerns:

Trudy Vogel shared concern about using the terminology of turning it back to gravel when no one who lives there remembers when it was gravel. Pete Parris acknowledged her point and restated the decision is to turn the road to gravel versus back to gravel. Trudy asked why patching was no longer an option. Pete Parris responded that the road engineer said it's not economical or practical to keep patching – that it needs to be rebuilt. Cathy Nielsen ensured there was understanding that this year (2023) will be status quo patching and Dahlgren Township has agreed to pitch in some funds towards the cost.

Randee Smith inquired whether the decision to turn the road to gravel was a done decision and asked when it would start. Pete Parris responded it would start some time in 2024. Pete also reminded them that could change if a majority of residents on both sides (both townships) demonstrate support for the assessment for asphalt improvements. Randee requested clarification whether the gravel plan was for the entire road or just the dogleg portion. Pete clarified it would be all, not just the property along the dogleg.

Randee mentioned the Dahlgren residents keep saying no and Laketown is not going to pay for it for them. Pete confirmed that is the current status with Dahlgren.

Paul Gerold inquired if turning to gravel in 2024 would change the cost to pave it if that were to be done in 5-10-20 years. Pete Parris responded that we would have to talk about it, sharing Laketown's anticipated cost for turning it over to gravel in 2024 is about \$70,000.00 and Dahlgren's portion would be about \$22,000.00 explaining the difference due to our coverage of the dogleg.

Paul Gerold asked if residents will be assessed for the gravel to which Pete Parris reassured them that they would not be assessed for gravel. Paul shared his sentiments that this situation doesn't have a lot of choices and wondered aloud if moving gravel right in front of those opposed [to an assessment for asphalt] may decide they want to revisit this, and applauded moving forward to see what happens. Pete Parris reminded attendees there is time to change the boards' minds if residents on both sides say so.

• **Equipment** - report provided by Board Vice-chair Cathy Nielsen
Dump/Plow Truck

As mentioned, we got a good deal on a dump truck from the City of Waconia that they were trading in. It was taken care of very well. It's a good dump truck and ours was failing. Like Mike said, it has the ability to do the salt calibration and plowing.

Sewer/Pump Truck

After years of looking, we found a sewer pumping truck for our 201 system. It's a 4000-gallon tank to cover most of our pumping needs. We are now able to pump our own tanks and anticipate cost-savings. The only time we may need additional help is in case of an emergency such as flooding in the spring.

Ford Ranger

Transmission was replaced.

Front End Loader

This past month, the front-end loader needed some work as it was losing power and had some hydraulic problems. CAT representatives were able to fix it on site and now it is running great.

Grader

We are getting new teeth and blades in time for Spring grading.

Resident questions/comments/concerns:

Paul Gerold mentioned St. Louis Park has an attachment on their plows that closes the end of the blade when it goes across the front of a driveway and wondered if there was any chance we could look into doing that to avoid snow ridges. Cathy Nielsen said she would look into it. Paul further explained it isn't pulling the plow up, rather it has a gate that slides over the plow so nothing can be pushed out and carries the snow across the driveway opening. Cathy Nielsen acknowledged the snow ridges create a real challenge.

- **201 Wastewater Sewer System** – report provided by Board Chair Mike Klingelhutz
Klingelhutz stated this is kind of a good news/bad news report.

Sewer Pumper Truck

Good news: We found a sewer pumper truck.

Bad news: A major lift station went out on Christmas Eve with temperatures below zero and 25mph wind.

Good news: We were able to take care of it internally due to the new pumper truck rather than incurring 30 hours at around \$600.00/hr for an emergency pump truck.

Bad news: Staff was out there from 3:00p on Christmas Eve until after midnight.

Force Main Release Valves

Bad news: Last year failure was discovered in force main release valves, so we determined that all 11 need to be replaced.

Good news: We have already replaced 6 of them. The pumper truck also came in handy for this project as we probably saved 30 hours at \$300/hr to have a truck on standby.

Good news: Last year, we reported that we were pursuing a bonding bill for \$86,000.00 to study how to hook the 201 system up to sanitary sewer, seeing as how its so old and things are failing on it. The study is to figure out how to connect to the Chaska, Victoria, and Waconia sewer. The bonding request was sailing along. Carver County and the 3 cities passed resolutions of support.

Bad news: The entire bonding bill fell apart at the state legislature last year.

Good news: After significant discussion, the board decided to go ahead with commissioning the study anyway because it is so important to get done. Cathy Nielsen has been very instrumental in pursuing grant funds to offset costs of this study through the Carver County Community Development Program and the MN Pollution Control Agency. The study should be done in May or June and we will have to reconvene the sewer committee to look at the results of the study.

Bad news: The anticipated costs to achieve the goal of the study will pose a financial challenge so we will likely need to apply for additional grant money.

201 Sewer Budget & Rates

This is a separate fund and there is a spreadsheet available in the office.

The board has recommended to keep the 201 sewer rates the same.

Cathy Nielsen asked for a show of hands who is on the 201 sewer system – approximately 50% of attendees raised their hands.

Resident questions/comments/concerns:

Bob Stevermer inquired if the bonding bill was dead. Pete Parris clarified that last year's bonding bill died, we did not pursue this year as it is not a traditional bonding year, and confirmed we will be pursuing funding in next year's bonding bill. Mike Klingelhutz commented we have a good story to tell the legislature as a little township with an outdated system that we are keeping alive. Cathy Nielsen added that our representatives in the legislature understand and supportive.

Chuck Held asked if all 201 sewer costs are being billed to the 201 sewer fund versus the General Fund. Pete Parris confirmed we very conscientious in billing the appropriate accounts.

Chad Sebold asked where the sewage is pumped. Mike Klingelhutz provided information how waste moves from the property to the lift station and eventually connects to the Metro line. When asked a specific question relating to future annexation of the Bavaria neighborhood, Pete Parris explained that the City of Chaska does not have the infrastructure to connect them to City Sewer and referenced the Bolten & Menk Sewer Feasibility Study underway that we all hope may address and plan accordingly.

American Rescue Plan Act Funding (ARPA) Update – *report provided by Board Vice-chair Cathy Nielsen*

Cathy Nielsen reported the original amount received in ARPA funds was \$242,623.00

Of that, the following expenses were covered using ARPA funds in 2022:

Roads: \$50,000 to purchase additional gravel/red rock above and beyond annual amount

201 Sewer: \$58,000 to replace air-release valves and sealing of lift stations

Operations: \$5,000 to purchase office copier/scanner/printer (rather than lease)

The remaining balance of ARPA funds is \$86,000 and must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026.

Annexations Update – *report provided by Board Supervisor Pete Parris*

The only annexation this past year was the Kelzer property that was annexed into the City of Chaska. Last year, there was a project involving the City of Victoria that had supporting legislation introduced for a large shooting complex on Laketown Township property. Laketown Township board members alerted legislators that the property was in Laketown Township and not City of Victoria, resulting in the project being pulled from legislative consideration.

This year, we expect to finalize the annexation of Carver Park/Three Rivers Park District to the City of Victoria. It was also noted that Fire calls to the park have increased since the bike park was added, and due to the location of the bike park, first responders have encountered significant challenges to reach and extract injured riders. These calls are billed back to the Township.

There has been soil-boring activity along County Road 10 (formerly Falk property) that could accelerate annexation to the City of Waconia, and Carver County has completed a land swap involving the Kirsch property to allow for future extension of County Road 92 (across Hwy 5 with a roundabout where it would intersect with Airport Road, continuing through the greenspace between Waconia's Interlocken neighborhood and Laketown Township's lower-Schmittville neighborhood) to connect to County Road 10.

As previously mentioned, the 201 Sewer Feasibility Study is underway with Bolten & Menk. This involves all 3 cities involved in the orderly annexation. It is anticipated that we will need to secure significant funding assistance for project recommendations. Next year is a traditional bonding bill year and we will be back to seek funding from the legislature.

Resident questions/comments/concerns:

Ras Neumann asked if he heard correctly that fire calls to the bike park are billed back to the township. Pete Parris confirmed he heard correctly.

Lynne John raised concerns about the number of injuries and wondered if it is a design fail. Pete Parris acknowledged her concern and shared his hope that upcoming additions come with improvements to the bike park that results in improvements to safety and a reduction in injuries.

Carver County Commissioner Tim Lynch

Moderator Bryan Pawela recognized Carver County Commissioner Tim Lynch, and invited him to address the residents.

Commissioner Lynch provided a handout of a letter dated March 14, 2023, addressed to Township Residents (received by Clerk and attached for the record). Copies of the letter were distributed to attendees. Commissioner Lynch shared a map and reviewed major projects throughout the County (e.g., transportation, parks, and broadband).

Resident questions/comments/concerns:

Lynne John asked for more information about broadband and recalled a survey asking residents if they were interested or not. Cathy Nielsen explained the survey that the Board sent to residents was in collaboration with ConnectCarver. Commissioner Lynch explained the fiberoptic ring and increased broadband activity to increase access to internet as it is becoming more and more like a public utility with distance learning and remote work. Lynne John shared she had declined interest in broadband on the survey, but has changed her mind now that she has a better understanding. Information was shared for residents with questions about internet to call the area service provider, MetroNet.

Cheryl Street asked Commissioner Lynch about any changes to Co Rd 10 to which the Commissioner indicated none at this time. Scott Smith followed up with a question on a project outside of Laketown Township answered by the Commissioner.

Mike Klingelhutz asked if the Lakeside Ballroom will be coming down or if there have been interested parties to reclaim it. Commissioner Lynch said there have been interested parties that have all fallen through and yes, the ballroom is anticipated to come down.

Steve Yetzer asked about Hwy 92 continuing through Kirsch property & connecting to 10 near Interlaken & Klein – specifically asking where on Airport Road the roundabout would be in relation to the hill. Commissioner Lynch stated he hasn't gone out to the site to be able to answer in relation to the hill. Bryan Pawela followed with a question about the roundabout and where access to Co Rd 10 would connect, and Leanne Kunze asked if there was a timeline since chip-sealing of Airport Rd is planned for this year.

Steve Yetzer asked if development of the Falk property would speed up construction of a roundabout on 10, to which Commissioner Lynch stated it may create circumstances that warrant a closer look.

Commissioner Lynch acknowledged the traffic volume and the number of thru-traffic using Co Rd 10 instead of the intended use for highway 5. Commissioner Lynch said that if it is a safety issue, that he would agree that may need to be fronted sooner. Leanne Kunze suggested the need for roundabout on Co Rd 10 may need to be considered sooner for safety purposes as residents in Hidden Bay, upper and lower Schmittville, and residents along Klein Drive getting on to Co Rd 10 has become increasingly difficult due to increased traffic, further noting these residents have no other way to get out. The location was clarified after Dan Messinger asked what part of Co Rd 10 we were discussing.

Approve Minutes of March 8, 2022 Annual Meeting (green handout in meeting packet)

Moderator directed attendees to the unapproved minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting.

There were no additions or corrections.

Motion by Paul Gerold to approve the Minutes as presented.

Second by Chuck Held

Discussion (none)

Motion carried (none opposed)

2022 Financials – report provided by Clerk/Treasurer Leanne Kunze

• Results of 2022 Clifton Larson Financial Audit

Kunze explained that - in accordance with MN statutes - the township is required to hire an external audit firm to conduct a yearly audit of the Township's financials. The audit for year ending December 31, 2022, was conducted by Clifton Larson Allen on February 8, 2023. The financial statements, including cash receipts, disbursements, fund transfers, fund balances, and bond balances presented fairly and with no findings of fraud or misappropriation. Kunze referenced final copies of the audit available in the back of the room and available to residents upon request.

• 12/31/2022 Schedule 1 Treasurer Report (pink handout in meeting packet)

Kunze referred attendees to the pink handout in the meeting packet and reviewed the Schedule 1 Treasurer Report for the year ending 12-31-2023. The General Fund beginning balance was \$398,126.05; minus total receipts in the amount of \$659,007.61; plus total disbursements in the amount of \$581,000.53; less \$1556.65 from interest and reinvesting; resulted in an ending balance of \$474,576.48; plus the current investments balance of \$141,680.13; for a total balance of \$616,256.61. Kunze referred to the remaining funds doing very well and paused for questions.

Resident questions/comments/concerns:

Troy Williams asked if investments are included in the beginning balance. Kunze explained that the investment balance is separate from the beginning balance, but included in the total balance. Steve Yetzer asked if investments are zeroed out or included in the General Fund balance when carried over to the next year. Leanne responded they are carried over in the Investment Balance column when carried over – not included in the Beginning Balance – but part of the Total Balance.

Kunze requested acceptance of the Schedule 1 Treasurer Report for year ending 12-31-2022.

Moderator called for a Motion.

Motion by Andrew Freeman to accept the Schedule 1 Treasurer Report as presented.

Second by Paul Gerold

Discussion (none)

Motion carried (none opposed)

- **Review 2022 Actuals Budget Report** (yellow handout in meeting packet)

Kunze referred attendees to the yellow handout in the meeting packet and explained how the levy for use in the 2022 General Fund budget was approved by the residents at the 2021 Annual Meeting; the levy for use in the current 2023 General Fund budget was approved by the residents at last year's 2022 Annual Meeting; and residents will be asked to set the 2024 levy for use in the 2024 General Fund budget later in the agenda.

Kunze directed attendees' attention to the columns showing the 2022 approved budget in comparison to the 2022 actuals. Kunze highlighted a few areas (e.g., fire contracts, adding Scandia Rd to dust-coating, 2022 being an election year, new clerk training costs in 2022 and again this year) and offered attendees an opportunity to ask questions.

Resident questions/comments/concerns:

Troy Williams asked if we anticipate increases in fire contracts due to the new Waconia fire station. And Steve Yetzer – now serving on City of Waconia Council – said there would probably be increase due to the new tanker that gets used on 90% of the fire calls involving the Township.

Troy Williams referenced the lack of disbursements for Animal Control in 2022, and asked if the previous policy change was worth it. Pete Parris answered in the affirmative. Paul Gerold asked what residents are supposed to do when dogs are dumped off in the township. Mike Klingelutz shared the importance of checking with neighbors first and not to assume they are lost or abandoned.

- **Waive reading of the checks**

Kunze stated she was prepared to begin reading each check disbursed in 2022, followed by the Moderator asking if there was a motion to waive the reading of checks.

Motion by Troy Williams to waive reading of checks.

Second by Dave Stuessi

Discussion (none)

Motion carried (none opposed)

- **2024 Proposed Budget** (yellow handout in meeting packet)

Pete Parris went through the proposed budget for 2024, reflecting an increase of 3% over current year. The proposed increase amounts to \$16,068.00 over the current year's levy amount and justified due to rising costs of maintenance materials and inflation, noting how fortunate we were to have received ARPA funds during the worst of it. The board recommends setting the levy at \$551,668.00 and notes these minimal increase actually project an ending deficit of \$1490.32 for 2024.

Set 2024 Levy

Moderator Bryan Pawela entertained a motion regarding setting the levy.

Motion by Paul Gerold to adopt 2024 Levy in the amount of \$551,668.00 as presented.

Second by Michelle Sandeen

Discussion:

Troy Williams asked where money from annexation goes. Pete Parris referred to the Schedule 1 and pointed out the Long Range fund, explaining that is where annexation fees are credited. Pete Parris also noted that the Long Range fund is also used to set aside funds to cover the costs for the Township portion of future road improvements.

Chuck Held inquired if the board believes 3% is enough of an increase, to which Pete Parris answered in the affirmative. Chuck added that he hopes there will be some relief for maintenance staff workload and wage increases, to which Pete indicated the summer help is anticipated again this year and the budget reflects wage increases for staff. Mike Klingelhutz added that the Board recently increased the health stipend benefit for maintenance staff.

Motion carried (none opposed)

Open Forum

Marcus Street

Andrew Freeman's question whether the township would consider paving Marcus Street if resident(s) willing to pay for a portion of material (unpaved portion is about 150') would be most likely when there is another project in the area. And if there were any new development in that area, that could be a good time to raise it with contractor(s). Pete Parris offered and Mr. Freeman answered in the affirmative to have our town engineer to take a look at it when we are out on the annual road tour in April.

Website

Mike Klingelhutz asked residents to check out the updated website [www.LaketownTownship.info] and follow links to comment or make suggestions for what you want to see on the website.

Augusta Road

Trudy Vogel inquired if the assessment amount would increase if they were able to get a majority of residents - on both sides/both townships - on board with the asphalt improvement instead of gravel. Pete Parris indicated it would remain close to what was already provided to the residents.

Trudy asked if it goes to gravel, how will dust-coating be handled. Pete Parris reported it is the expectation of both townships to provide dust-coating service twice per year. The townships currently apply differently and bill back with different formulas, so that will be worked out between the townships to ensure parity with neighbors sharing the town-line road.

Troy Williams inquired who governs the Conditional Use Permits (CUP). Mike Klingelhutz responded that residents may bring it to the attention of the township or to Carver County. Mike noted that compliance checks are based more on a complaint basis than regular enforcement.

Troy Williams acknowledged the challenges of this year's snow and road conditions and wanted to praise the maintenance crew for an excellent job and done in a timely fashion. All members of the Board agreed and committed to sharing this compliment with the staff.

Cathy Nielsen reminded attendees to feel free to stop in, call, and/or email and contact information is on the website.

Moderator called for additional comments – there were none.

Set Time for Next Annual Meeting March 12, 2024 7pm

Moderator Bryan Pawela called for a Motion to set the 2024 Annual Meeting.

Motion by Chuck Held to set the next Annual Meeting on March 12, 2024, at 7:00pm.

Second by Andrew Freeman

Discussion (none)

Motion carried (none opposed)

Recess/Adjournment

Moderator Bryan Pawela called for a Motion to adjourn.

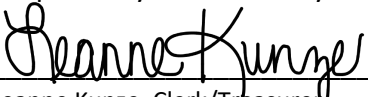
Motion by Andrew Freeman to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Lynne John

Motion carried (none opposed)

The **meeting adjourned at 8:46pm**

Respectfully submitted by:



Leanne Kunze, Clerk/Treasurer

03.17.2023
Date

Reviewed by:

Bryan Pawela, Moderator

Date



Office of County Commissioner Tim Lynch

Carver County Government Center
Human Services Building
602 East Fourth Street
Chaska, Minnesota 55318-2102
Phone (952) 361-1510

March 14, 2023

Dear Township Residents,

We celebrated last fall the completion of the **Highway 212 corridor between the Cities of Carver and Cologne**. This two-year project expanded Highway 212 from a two-lane to a four-lane highway. Highway 212 provides connections for regional agricultural markets, southwest Minnesota, and the Twin Cities. It supports local economies, agriculture, and the movement of goods across the region. The safety enhancements and additional capacity along this stretch of Highway 212 will reduce the potential for fatal and serious injury crashes, while also reducing traffic and freight congestion during peak travel times to provide a more reliable trip for commuters in the southwest metro area.

Additionally, Carver County was selected to receive a \$10 million USDOT discretionary grant under the INFRA program for **Highway 212 expansion between the Cities of Cologne and Norwood Young America**. This is a great win for the County given the ultra-competitive nature of this program for freight infrastructure projects. We are anticipating a 2024 and 2025 construction for this next phase of Highway 212.

Another notable 2024 project will be the **Highway 40 Project** – Belle Plaine Area. This project extends 4 miles from Highway 25 to Highway 52. This segment is currently in the final design phase, with construction scheduled to begin in 2024. A few objectives of this project will include the widening of the shoulders, flattening of slopes, correction of drainage issues, safety improvements and rehabilitating of the pavement surface.

The 2023 road construction season will see several improvements as well. One of which will be the **Highway 20/25 Intersection Project**, which is located at the intersection of Highway 20 and Highway 25 west of Watertown-Mayer High School in Watertown. Improvements associated with this project include the correction of user sight lines, improved available reaction times, and increased traffic flow. Completion of this project is anticipated for August of this year.

Another 2023 project will be **the Highway 41 Bridge Project**. Construction is anticipated for June of this year and the reopening of the bridge will occur sometime in the fall. This project will improve the safety of the road and bridge over Silver Creek by raising the road approximately six feet near Silver Creek Bridge, replacement of the deficient, load

restricted, three span timber bridge over Silver Creek, the addition of guardrails and improved ditch drainage.

Carver County Parks is also in the middle of an exciting construction project. The Carver County Board of Commissioners held a groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the start of the construction of the **Lake Waconia Regional Park Waterfront Service Center** project in October 2022. This tremendous addition to the County is located at Lake Waconia Regional Park. This new waterfront service center building will provide event and classroom space, modern restrooms, rental concessions, as well as enhanced lakeshore access to service the beach and picnic areas, trails, and other site amenities. It will also provide a stronger connection for users to Coney Island of the West. The park will remain open throughout construction and the entrance and exit of the park will remain easily accessible. Work will continue through the winter, with an overall schedule goal of substantial completion sometime in late summer 2023.

In August, we held a groundbreaking at Zion Lutheran School for the County's "**Connect Up Carver**" initiative. The project leverages the County's fiber optic network to bring high-speed internet access to more than 2,000 locations, both residents and businesses, primarily in rural areas of western Carver County. The project utilizes funds received by the County through the Federal stimulus program along with funds from a private telecommunication company, Metronet. Earlier this month, the first customers started to receive service and we are anticipating completion by December of 2024.

If you have any questions about these projects or Carver County in general, please feel free to call me at (952)303-9458.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Lynch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tim" being more prominent than the last name "Lynch".

Tim Lynch
Carver County Board of Commissioners

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & SWPPP PUBLIC MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023 7:00pm
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

Email Address:

Jim Kheui

Dan Messinger

Randee Smith - Gerold

Doug Elliott

Lynne John

JOHN PIERSON

David Pierson

Cheryl Street

Calby & Doug Dircks

Debra Ryan

Nancy Ament

Mike Hough

Alex Young

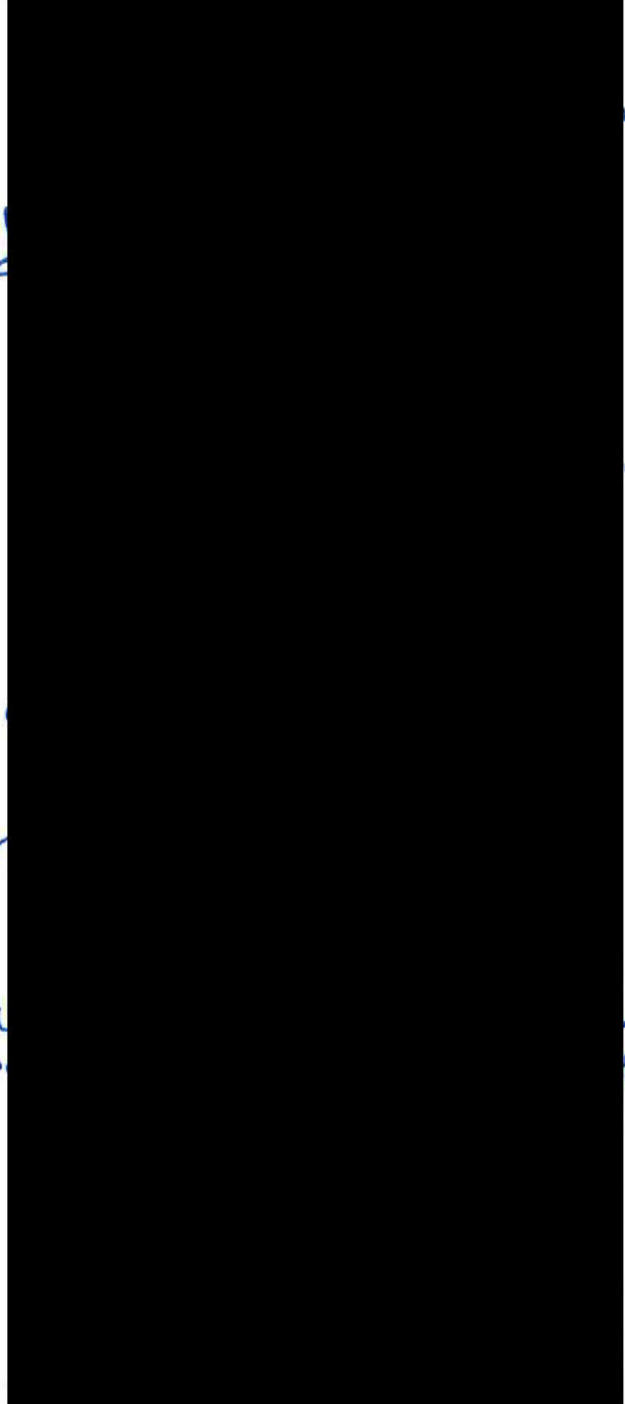
JEFF MALLOW

Troy Williams

Loran Jacobs

Dave Stressi

Steve Vogel



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & SWPPP PUBLIC MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023 7:00pm
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP

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- 2. Kevin R. Trahms
- Paula & Charles Held
- SCOTT SAVITT
- Scott Smith
- Gary & Schmitt
- Bryan Pawelq
- Jon Anderson
- Robert Easthouse
- Donald & Phyllis Schwichtenberg
- Jeff Hayes
- Austin Patton
- Lee Bystrom
- Mary & Bob Stevermer
- Chad Sebold
- Ras Neumann
- Shannon Ylitalo
- Mitch Dimberger
- Steve Teizer
- Andy Freeman
- Trudy Vogel

