

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
February 15th, 2022, 6 PM at the Balkan Garage

In attendance: Chairman – Brad Strgar
Supervisor – Jennifer Tarnowski
Supervisor – Dirk VerSteeg
Clerk – Misty Hendrickson
Treasurer – Kent Fredeen

Purpose: To hold the Annual Budget meeting and finalize preparations for the Annual Meeting

The annual budget meeting began at 6:12 PM. The petty cash reconciliation was explained by the treasurer.

The treasurer, Kent Fredeen, went through the fund accounts for 2021 amounts compared to 2022 amounts, for the same time period, and gave his opinion on where Balkan is in comparison to last year's money. He was confident, barring any large outlays, that Balkan is currently in a good place financially. The treasurer is expecting Mining Effects Tax (MET) in 2022. However, he cautions the board to not depend on this money to come every year. The MET funds are primarily used for intercommunity and infrastructure activities such as for the Fire Protection for Balkan.

The Balkan Financial Summary of expenses for 2021 was used for updating the budget for 2023. This summary breaks down the different departments in Balkan's financials and gives a better view of past and current expenses compared to the budget.

Inflation is hard to predict. However, it will affect everything the township buys in 2022 and beyond. In order to maintain the township services, the board feels an increase in the levy will be necessary to keep up with rising costs. The board is recommending a 4% increase. According to the cost-of-living increase by the Social Security administration in 2022, the cost-of-living adjustment is equal to 5.9%. If passed by the people, the levy would reach \$344,760.00.

A list of handouts for the annual meeting was discussed and will be prepared to support this recommended increase in the levy.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Misty Hendrickson, Clerk

(Clerk) Misty Hendrickson

(Board Chair) Brad Strgar