

**AGENDA, MILACA TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING
Tuesday, March 8, 2022**

The meeting will be called to order by the clerk at approximately 7:15 PM, after ballots are counted (Board of Canvass)

Call for a moderator

Call to allegiance

Approve minutes from March 9, 2021 Annual Meeting (Clerk to provide/read)

Approve Treasurer's report for 2021 (Clerk to provide)

Road report (Road manager to provide)

Vote to set 2023 levy at **\$150,000**
(\$25,000 for general, \$100,000 for road and bridge and \$25,000 for fire)
The levy has been \$150,000 for the past 6 years (2016-2022); from which it had been reduced from \$185,000 from 2007 to 2015

Designate bank, newspaper and posting place: First National Bank of Milaca, Union Times and the Milaca town hall, one motion.

Donation Requests

| | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---|
| Milaca Pantry | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | |
| Pease Fireworks | 500 | 505 | - | 505 | ** | * |
| Milaca Area Historical Society | 200 | 200 | 200 | 200 | ** | * |
| Seven County Senior Federation | - | - | - | - | ** | * |
| Milaca Youth Baseball/Softball Association | - | - | - | - | 500 | * |
| Milaca Veterans Memorial Project | - | - | - | 400 | - | |
| County Fair | - | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | |
| Family Pathways | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Chase Brook Cemetery | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | |
| Pearl Crisis Center | - | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | |
| Brookside Cemetery | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | |
| Totals | 1,900 | 2,555 | 2,050 | 2,955 | 2,350 | |
| Budget | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | |

* Written donation requests

** No specific dollar request

Comments from County Commissioner

Public comments

Election results

Set date for next township election: Tuesday, **March 14, 2023**
from 4 pm to 7 pm and Annual Meeting to follow.

Adjourn

Copies of Receipts and disbursements for 2021 are posted on the bulletin board.
Copies of the 2021 annual meeting minutes, Jan. 2022 State of the Township and 2022 & 2023 budget are on the back table.

STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP, JANUARY 2022, MILACA TOWNSHIP

The year of 2021 was good for Milaca Township with the following items accomplished:

- No significant equipment purchases were made during 2021 – however, recent equipment investments served the township’s needs well throughout the year
- Continued progress on the township roads was obtained – 5,630 cubic yards of gravel was placed in late June/beginning of July 2021
- Have secured gravel needs for 2022
- Received \$74,853.75 of ARPA funds – this represents the first distribution; the second half of this will be received in 2022.
- Maintenance of levy at \$150,000 for the 7th year in a row – with no increase recommended for 2023

The board welcomes the following businesses to the Milaca Township business community:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Patnode Trucking | Corrow’s Carpet & Vinyl |
| Stonehart Granite | Rockpile Driving Range |
| Knife River, Milaca | E-Z Disposal |
| Butch Hastings Auto | Clark Heating |
| Shortie’s Body shop | Andy’s towing |
| Latcham-Lind Lumber | Northland Auto Sales |
| G. L. Herges Inc. | Milaca Unclaimed Freight |
| Herbst Millwork | Freyholtz Salvage |
| Koch Hardware | Berezni Plumbing |
| Milaca General Rental | Frazer Trucking |
| Ziegler Woodwork & Specialty | J-B Custom Woodwork |
| Jindra’s Rental | SE Hemmerich Tax & Acct Svs CPA LLC |
| Johnson Trucking | Central Mn. Auto Sales |
| Farmers in the township | Creative Ink |
| Deb Sahlstrom Birthing Center | Granite Ledge Electrical |
| Hendy’s Repair | Thorsbakken Repair |
| The Flower Pot | Milaca Iron & Metal |
| Riverside Nursery | VanSickle Trucking |
| John’s Used Tire Disposal | Wool Ridge Home Improvements, LLC |
| Dave’s Excavating | Snap Fitness |
| Logan’s Excavating | Stoneyhill Masonry, LLC |

And Many Others (please let us know to add you, if you’re not listed!!)

The Township elections during March 2021 yielded the following elected officials: Rob Droogsma was elected as Supervisor to serve a 3-year term.

Dave Fransen continues to serve the township as the township’s main operator and is doing a fine job.

The Township’s financial health continues to prove strong. Despite a challenging year from many perspectives with COVID-19 running its course, the Township was able to maintain

its financial health. As noted above, the Board did not pursue any significant equipment purchases during 2021. Over the past couple of years, a tractor, a dump truck and a grader, within the last couple of years. These purchases, had been discussed over the past couple of years, and were expected to take place to ensure efficient, cost-effective, and reliable equipment be maintained for proper road maintenance. Despite the equipment investments the Township has made over the past four years, the township still maintains cash reserves of approximately \$263,000 of cash reserves, that it is carrying into 2022. Keep in mind, this does include approximately \$75,000 of received ARPA funds. It is common and recommended that the Township do maintain approximately one half of a year's operating expenses in reserve (which is be approximately ~\$100,000). The Board is working to establish a 1-year, 5-year and 10-year infrastructure/equipment/improvement plan to ensure such reserve dollars are properly managed and repairs & maintenance are handled appropriately.

Budgeted revenues for 2021 were approximately \$186,800 and actual revenues for 2021 were \$257,626 (this amount includes ARPA financial support of \$74,854; none of these funds were disseminated during 2021); regular revenues were \$182,772 for 2021. Budgeted expenditures for 2021 were approximately \$193,000 and actual expenditures for 2021 were \$163,401. These financial results yielded an addition to cash reserves of approximately \$19,000 (excluding ARPA funds).

The Township also received an allocation of Federal dollars as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act (passed in March 2021), of \$74,853.75. The state is administering this program and has only released one-half of the total funds. The Township is expecting to receive the second disbursement of \$74,853.75 in August/September 2022. The Treasury has recently (in January 2022) released some additional information and guidance as to how townships and other government entities can use these funds. Such funds are able to be allocated 100% as lost revenue funds, if received funds are less than \$10m (which is the case). This is being considered by the Board. Essentially this will allow the township to use these funds as needed within any fund.

In addition to the levy of \$150,000 for 2023, the estimated income from gas tax is \$23,000, gravel tax is estimated at \$8,000 and agricultural market credit & town aid are estimated to be \$4,200; and other misc. revenues of \$750. Providing for an estimated \$185,950 of revenues to be available for road projects, repairs and general township operations. The market value credit from the state is deducted from the levy so cannot be considered extra income. Budgeted expenditures for 2023 are estimated to be approximately \$214,920. The Board has continued to work diligently to ensure transparency of funds and expenditures and has worked to mitigate increases in assessed taxes.

A public road review will be held in either late April or early May 2022, to be determined at the special meeting, to be held on March 16, 2022 at 6:30pm, a notice will be posted.

The township website is: www.co.mille-lacs.mn.us/milaca_township

Please "like" us on Facebook!

Township Contacts:

Rob Droogsma (chairman and road manager) 320-224-7081

*Harold Bauer (supervisor) 320-496-5006

**Shane Marudas (supervisor) 320-224-7081

Sadie Ash (clerk) 320-310-7182

Tami James (treasurer) 320-282-7437

Dave Fransen (operator) 320-279-5164

*Terms are up in March 2022

*The third supervisor will be determined at the election (March 2022)

**Filling of a vacancy for a supervisor (for a one-year term) will also be determined at the March 2021 elections as well