

Thorpe Township  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
March 11, 2025

Janet Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present were Janet Dixon (Clerk/Treasurer), Lorie Harrington (Township Resident), Dan Demoret (Township Resident), Isaiah Mooney (Township Resident), Rollie Nevins, (Township Resident), Steve Keranen (Hubbard County Commissioner), Ray Niedzielski (Living At Home and Park Rapids Area Library), and David Bjorklund (Hubbard 1<sup>st</sup> Response and Rescue).

Lorie was unanimously elected as moderator, without pay. She announced the agenda and moved the order of business to accommodate speakers who were going to other annual meetings.

Steve Keranen spoke about and took questions on Hubbard County road construction, government center remodel, ambulance service, Garfield Lake Park in LaPorte, Deep Lake Park Project, solid waste collection expansion, and calcium chloride application.

- Road construction in and near Thorpe township includes finish paving Hwy 24 where the culvert was replaced, adding a center turn lane and other improvements at the intersection of Hwy 4 and 40, and adding a roundabout to the intersection of Hwy 7 and 40.

Ray Niedzielski spoke and took questions on Living At Home and The Park Rapids Area Library.

David Bjorklund described how Hubbard 1<sup>st</sup> Response and Rescue works in the county.

Janet reviewed the 2023 annual meeting minutes out loud. Isaiah made motion to accept annual meeting minutes as read, Dan seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Janet read the Board of Audit report that was posted prior to the meeting.

Janet reviewed the Financial Report and the Annual Treasurer's Report.

Isaiah gave the Road report and submitted a written copy of the report.

- Fill was put on the wet corner of Inner Forest Road; more will be needed.
- Class 1 was laid on the township hall parking lot using our stockpile at the gravel pit.
- Isaiah received one call concerning snow removal on township roads.

Discussion on donations for health, social and recreational services. Rollie Nevins spoke about the need for more AIS funding for Mantrap, Janet spoke about the increased usage and need for funding at the Hubbard County Foodshelf.

Isaiah made a motion to recommended to the board we continue to fund the donations that we did last year, to add a \$100 donation to YESS, to increase the AIS donation to \$500 and to increase the Foodshelf donation to \$500. Total of \$4,800 recommended to be allocated to donations:

Headwaters Animal Shelter (\$100),

Hubbard County Food Shelf, Inc. (\$500),

Hubbard County Sentencing to Serve (\$900),  
Hubbard First Response & Rescue (\$650),  
Kinship of the Park Rapids Area (\$500),  
Living at Home of the Park Rapids Area (\$500),  
City of Park Rapids - Park Rapids Area Library (\$200),  
Support Within Reach (\$200),  
Family Safety Network (\$300),  
Hubbard County Environmental Services (AIS Mantrap Lake) (\$500),  
Hubbard in Prevention Coalition (\$100),  
North Country Trail Association (\$250),  
YESS (\$100).

Rollie seconded the motion. All approved, motion carried.

Discussion on the expenses we know are going up this year and next: Fire Contract and road maintenance. Recommended increasing the levy for the General Fund by \$4000 (to \$31,000) and not increasing the Road & Bridge Fund (\$21,000) for 2026 for a total levy of \$52,000. Dan made a motion to table the proposed budget until the August meeting, when we'll have more information on any town aid funds. Isaiah seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Dan made a motion to set the location and time of the next annual meeting to Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 6:00 pm at the Thorpe Town Hall. If there is inclement weather on March 10, the annual meeting will be rescheduled to March 17, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Thorpe Town Hall. A third date would be April 24. Rollie seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Dan made a motion to continue this annual meeting until August 6, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Thorpe Town Hall. Rollie seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Meeting closed at 7:45 pm