

**Annual Meeting Eastern Township
March 12, 2024
Eastern Township Hall**

The annual meeting for Eastern Township was called to order by clerk, Sue Ellwanger at 8:15 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The first order of business was to select a moderator for the meeting. Connie Tarasek made a motion to have Sue Ellwanger, clerk, to moderate the annual meeting. Mike Lage seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved

A motion was made by Mike Lage to approve the agenda with flexibility. Bob Lahman seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

The Minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting were given to all in attendance prior to the meeting and attendees were encouraged to read the minutes. As Annual Meeting Minutes are official with the signing of them three days following the annual meeting, the minutes will stand as printed.

Treasurer, Dana Guse presented the financial report for 2023.

Treasurer's Report for 2023				
<i>Eastern Township of Otter Tail County, Minnesota</i>				
For Fiscal Year January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023				
	Checking	CD 12 mo 5042	CD 54 Mo 652	Township Total in the Bank
1/1/2023 Account Balances	\$228,805.43	\$78,725.29	\$67,341.86	\$ 374,872.58
12/31/2023 Account Balances	\$217,756.81	\$81,128.17	\$69,702.30	\$ 368,587.28
<u>Receipt and Expense Summary</u>				
Total Receipts	\$197,472.07			
Total Expenses	\$203,757.37			
Difference	\$ (6,285.30)			
<u>Account Balance Change</u>				
Balance in bank as of January 1, 2023	\$374,872.58			
Balance in bank as of December 31, 2023	\$368,587.28			
Decrease in bank balance	\$ (6,285.30)			
<u>Receipts by Fund</u>				
Emer Services	\$ 16,042.64			
General	\$ 55,652.58			
Road & Bridge	\$121,013.53			
CD Interest	\$ 4,763.32			
Total Receipts	\$197,472.07			
<u>Expenses by Fund</u>				
Emer Services	\$ 14,133.05			
General	\$ 81,864.31			
Road & Bridge	\$107,760.01			
Total Receipts	\$203,757.37			

A motion was made by Mike Lage to accept the financial report as presented. Bob Lahman seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

The 2025 proposed tax levy (payable in 2026) was presented.

- Road and Bridge: 100,000.00
- Ordinary: 46,000.00.
- Fire/Ambulance: 18,000.00
- **Total Levy** of \$164,000.00.

Mike Lage made a motion to approve the 2025 levy as presented. Don Sjobeck seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

The township's 2024 fire coverage contract with the Parkers Prairie Fire Department is \$ 6,679.78.

The 2024 Parkers Prairie Community Ambulance Assessment is \$8,800.00. Both the fire coverage and ambulance assessment were paid in February 2024

Ambulance Report

Mike Lage gave the ambulance report. In 2023 there were 249 calls and 26 no loads, for a total of 223 paying calls, 0 transferred care and 0 dead on the scene. There were:

- 13 calls in Eastern Township
- 68 calls to St. William's Living Center
- 66 calls in the City of Parkers Prairie
- 11 calls in Effington Twp.
- 1 call in Urbank
- 10 calls in Elmo Twp.
- 3 calls in Leaf Mountain Twp.
- 1 call in Woodside Twp.
- 7 calls in Leaf Valley Twp.
- 11 calls Parkers Prairie Twp.
- 33 in Miliona Township/City of Miliona
- 9 in Spruce Hill Township
- 3 calls to Sanford Medical in Parkers Prairie
- 15 calls – mutual aid in Alexandria
- 1 call Millerville Twp.
- 3 Mutual Aid call -Henning
- 26 no loads and 30 ALS Intercepts
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There was income of \$278,980.37 and expenses of \$214,552.77 with a balance of \$64,427.60 for 2023.

Mike Lage mentioned the community ambulance loses money on all ALS intercepts. It was mentioned that ambulance services throughout the state are struggling. The reimbursement from Medicare is at 1/3 of the cost that each run costs. At this time the community ambulance is doing

ok because of the assessments to the townships and cities in the Joint Powers. The Community Ambulance depends on fund raisers to help balance their budget. They are increasing standby wages to try and maintain staff.

Weed Report

Mike Lage gave the Township Weed Report

There were 2 weed inspections and 2 follow up inspections done in 2023.

21 landowners were contacted about voluntary compliance of the noxious weed program.

Noxious Weeds that are a concern in Eastern township:

- Wild Parsnip
- Canada Thistle
- Plumeless Thistle

Additionally, we will notify landowners if Cow Parsnip is identified on their property.

\$2,627.50 was spent on spraying 37 miles. Road Ditches were mowed 3 times during 2023. The cost was \$3,282.70.

Mike Lage read the road maintenance report.

Road Maintenance Report:

- 16 rounds of plowing snow
- 6 rounds of pushing back drifts
- 1 round of sanding intersections
- 9 rounds blading of roads
- 1 round shoulder retrieval
- 2,889 yards of Class 5 Gravel were applied to town roads
- 9,603 feet of calcium chloride was applied to township roads
- Cleaned out culvert on 595th Ave. and 120th St.
- Shoulder repair on 595th Ave.
- Install or reinstall road signs

Mike Lage passed out a 2023 Road and Bridge Report.

Bob Lahman mentioned that during Road Inspections, if they notice signs down or missing to contact the County Garage.

Charitable donations were discussed. Mike Lage made a motion to give \$500.00 each to:

- Ottertail County Historical Society,
- East Ottertail Historical Society,
- Some Place Safe,
- East Ottertail Agricultural Society
- Parkers Prairie Food Shelf.

Bob Lahman seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

Set Gopher and Beaver Bounty

Mike Lage made a motion that the rate for pocket gophers at \$4.00 per pocket gopher, \$.1.00 per striped gopher. The bounty for beavers will be \$50.00. Don Sjobeck seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

Ottertail County also has reimbursement for pocket gophers. It amounts to \$.50 per gopher. Eastern Township has applied for and received reimbursement for 2023 gophers.

Set Voting Hours and start time for 2025 Annual Meeting

A motion was made by Mike Lage to have the voting hours for the 2025 annual meeting from 5 pm-8 pm. The annual meeting to start at 8:15 pm. The meeting will be held at the Eastern Township Hall. Bob Lahman seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The motion was approved.

It was mentioned that the treasurer should bring pastries to the 2025 annual meeting.

There being no other business brought before this meeting, Mike Lage made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The 2024 Eastern Township Annual meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ellwanger, Clerk and Moderator
Eastern Township

Michael Lage, Chairman Eastern Township