

Royalton Township Reconvened Annual Meeting Minutes
6052 Royalton Road, Braham, MN 55006
Email: royalton@royaltontownship.com -- Website: www.royaltontownship.com
26 August 2025
Unapproved

At 7:50 p.m., 26 August 2025, Clerk Duane Swanson called the reconvened 2025 annual meeting to order. He explained that the announcement of this meeting had been duly published and posted. The assembly recited the pledge of allegiance. Clerk Swanson called for nominations for the position of moderator. Denise Weis was nominated; no other nominations were forthcoming, and Mrs. Weis assumed the chair. The annual meeting of 11 March 2025 had recessed until this date without finalizing a levy. About 25 residents and visitors were in the audience. Moderator Weis explained that the planning commission had earlier recommended a total levy of \$260,000 for 2026. Pete Belland noted that the levy had not been raised since 2010, that the fire fund expenses had increased dramatically to approximately \$45,000, that a minimum of one year's expenses should be in reserve, and that the costs of business had increased substantially. Residents questioned the need for a certificate of deposit and suggested that it be cashed in, that cutbacks on road maintenance were possible (increasing the current five-year graveling rotation to seven years), and suggested running the township more like a business. Clerk Swanson noted that the current balance appears large but that it includes a \$90,000 balance in the equipment replacement fund that should not be considered spendable on other things. Joe Zappa interposed meeting in the middle. Moderator Weis called for discussion on a figure of \$240,000, the amount that had been publicly listed for the hearing.

Pete Belland moved, Patrice DeGray seconded, to set the levy at \$240,000, broken down as follows: General fund, \$104,000; road and bridge, \$70,000; fire fund, \$46,000; equipment replacement fund, \$20,000. Greg Schneider moved, Randy Dallman seconded, to amend the motion to revert to the current \$219,000 levy. Moderator Weis called for a show of hands on the amendment; the amendment failed five (5) "yes" and seven (7) "nay". Moderator Weis then called for a show of hands on the original motion; the motion carried nine (9) "yes" and five (5) "nay." Moderator Weis declared the 2026 levy to be \$240,000.

At 8:10 p.m., Clerk Swanson moved, Jeff Schlaeger seconded, to adjourn. The motion carried without audible dissent.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk

ATTEST:

Denise Weis, Moderator