BALDWIN TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 11, 2008

Baldwin Township Clerk/Treasure Cathy Stevens called the 2008 Annual Meeting for the Town of Baldwin to order at 8:03 p.m. All citizens present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The clerk accepted nominations for moderator. A motion was made by Sue Hix and seconded by Tim Jenson to approve Betsy Wergin moderator for the 2008 Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Approve 2007 Annual Meeting Minutes
A motion was made by Sue Hix and seconded by Michelle Ashe to dispense with the reading of the 2007 Annual Meeting minutes. Motion carried. A motion was made by Dave Patten and seconded by Jim Pagel to approve the 2007 Annual Meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

2006 Audit Overview
Rick Pietrick and Brittany Roloff, Office of the State Auditor, were present to give an overview of the 2006 audit performed by their office. Mr. Pietrick stated that this was basically an abbreviated version of the presentation made at the town board meeting in January. Ms. Roloff reviewed the audit, which is based on a modified accrual basis, with the audience. Previous town audits were based on cash basis. There is an adverse opinion because the town does not maintain capital asset and depreciation records. Mr. Pietrick reviewed the management compliance section that listed two findings and recommendations. The first, internal control/segregation of duties would be of significant cost to the township if the board remedied the situation. The second, lack of complete capital asset records, would be a judgment call for the town board to follow up. The internal control issues that were raised earlier on the dive team issues have been complied with by the town. The 2006 audit of the town by the state was chosen at random. The proper reporting for the town is full accrual, not cash. Paul Vollkommer questioned the 2006 cash balance statement which showed an ending balance in the road and bridge fund of $156,000. Mr. Pietrick compared a cash balance statement to a checkbook. However, the 2006 audit was done on an accrual basis. Paul Vollkommer stated that the state said they were going to audit 2005. Mr. Pietrick stated that the appointment letter said 2006. Bryan Lawrence stated that the board was asked which method was preferred; cash or accrual, and the board had made an official request to move to the accrual basis. Elaine Philippi stated that the auditors report suggested that the dive team equipment be sold, what happened to that? Mr. Pietrick replied that those decisions are matters for the town board to decide. Mr. Pietrick stated that difference between cash and accrual accounting is like thinking about your checkbook. The balance in your checkbook is what you have available to spend. Accrual accounting recognizes expenditure in the year it took place regardless of when you cut the check to pay for it. Mr. Pietrick stated that unspent monies in a fund can be carried over into the next year. Sean Weldon questioned, on a cash basis, if it was okay to end the year with a negative balance. Mr. Pietrick replied that if one fund has exhausted its cash then the board mush borrow from another fund. Betsy Wergin

suggested that anyone in the audience with additional questions meet with the auditors themselves.

2007 Treasurer's Report
A motion was made by Brian Torborg and seconded by Jim Buell to dispense with the reading of the 2007 Board of Audit minutes as it was printed and available to the residents in the audience. Motion carried. A motion was made by Lisa Fobbe and seconded by Charles Grambart to accept the 2007 Board of Audit minutes as presented. Motion carried. The Clerk/Treasurer reported the unaudited results for 2007. The beginning balance was $444,528.41; receipts of $1,105,726.74; disbursements of $1,073,530.06 leaving an ending balance of $476,725.09. A motion was made by Dave Patten and seconded by Sue Hix to approve the 2007 Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

2009 Budget Proposal
Bryan Lawrence stated that Baldwin resident Herb Murphy had written on book on Baldwin Township and the surrounding community and is available for purchase at the town hall.

Bryan Lawrence reviewed, by fund, the proposed budget for 2009. The following is the proposed 2009 budget that had been determined by the town board prior to the Annual Meeting:

	PROPOSED FOR 2009	CERTIFIED FOR 2008
GENERAL FUND	$200,000	$131,900
ROAD & BRIDGE	$400,000	$400,000
CAPITAL FUND	$ 80,000	$105,000
FIRE FUND	$151,000	$146,000
CEMETERY FUND	$ 4,000	$ 1,000
PARK FUND	$ 4,000	$ 10,000
FIRE RELIEF FUND	$ 25,000	$ 25,000
TOTAL	$864,000	$818,900

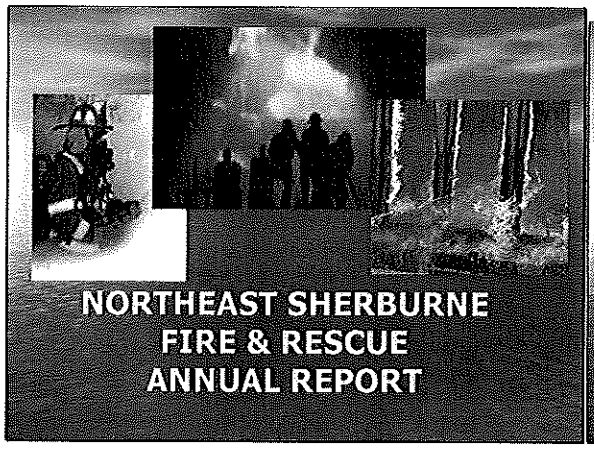
(Approximately 5.50% increase)

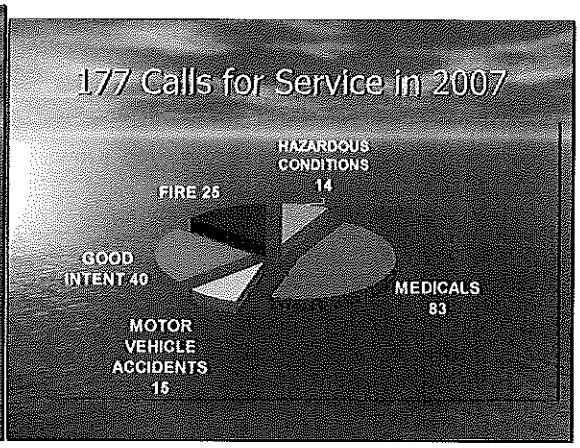
A motion was made by Bryan Lawrence and seconded by Sue Hix to approve the 2009 levy in the amount of $864,000.

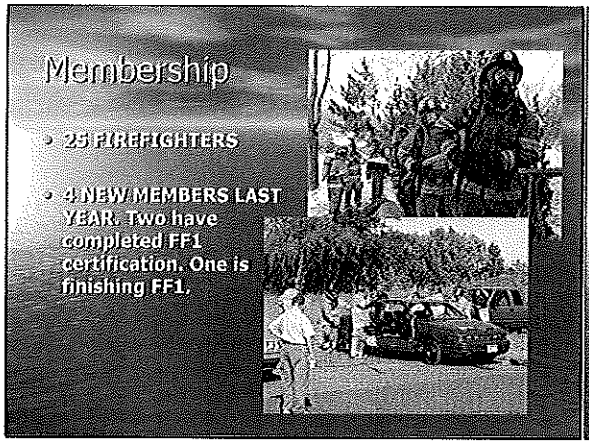
Elaine Philippi questioned if the fire fund could be reduced as the building payment has been put into a different fund. Bryan Lawrence responded that the equipment payment is still being charged to the fire fund. Paul Vollkommer stated that the expenditures for the fire department should have been kept in that fund. Betsy Wergin stated that the truck payments have been kept in the fire fund. Bryan Lawrence stated that the shift for the cost of the buildings was a town board decision.

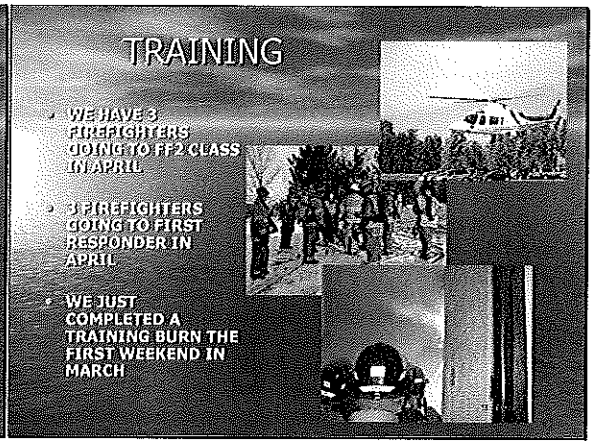
Sean Weldon stated that the township does not have to give the $25,000 meant for the fire relief fund. He feels it is a gift. Bryan Lawrence responded that the township is liable if not managed properly. Discussion was held on state payments for fire relief and township disbursement for the same. The residents were informed to contact the clerk if they required additional detailed information. Jerry Heffron questioned the increase in the general fund. Does that fund include normal charges that the township has every year? Bryan Lawrence responded yes, and that there has been increases for those services. There has been a decrease in the township portion of property taxes. Mike Seurer moved that the fire department report be heard next and everything else on the agenda up to the approval of the levy.

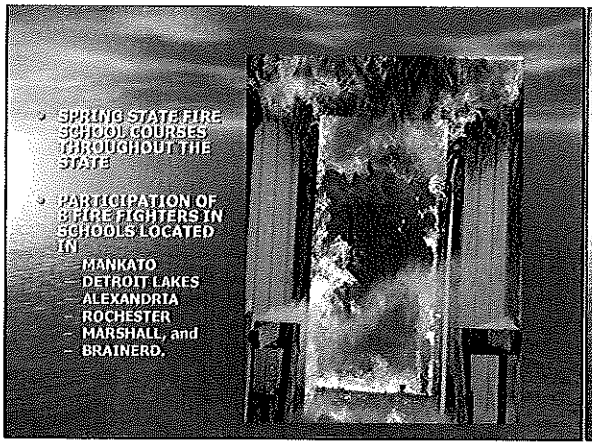
Fire Department Report
Chief Brian Torborg presented the report for 2007.

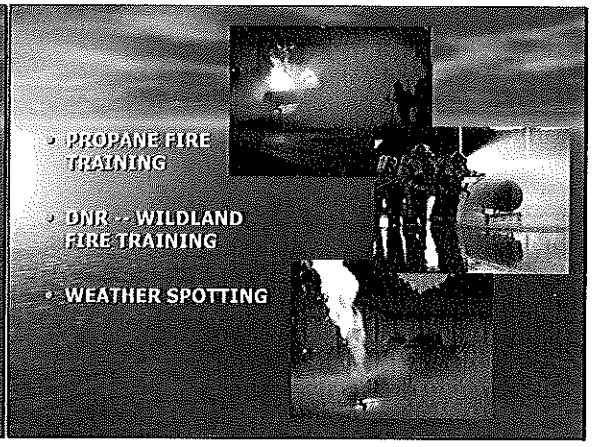


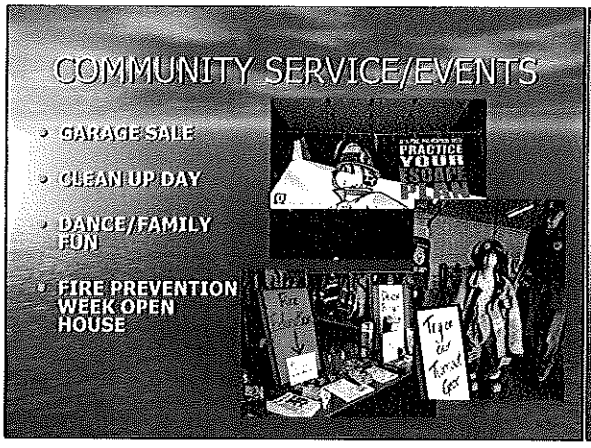


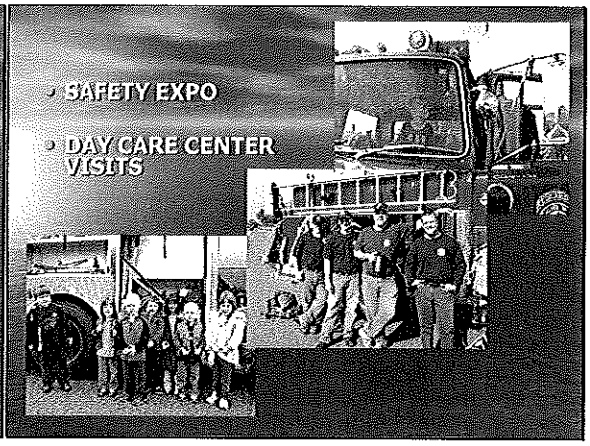


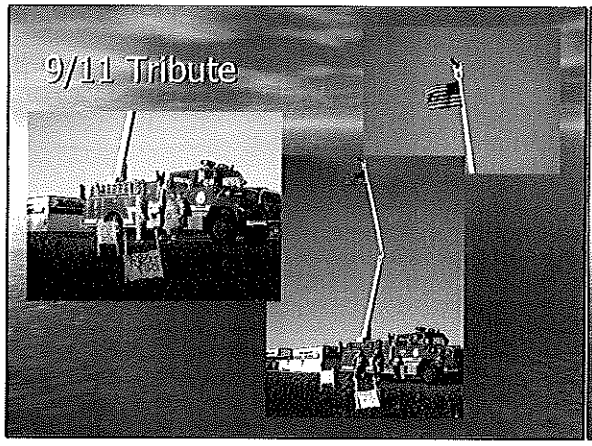



• SPRING STATE FIRE SCHOOL COURSES THROUGHOUT THE STATE
• PARTICIPATION OF 8 FIRE FIGHTERS IN SCHOOLS LOCATED IN
– MANKATO
– DETROIT LAKES
– ALEXANDRIA
– ROCHESTER
– MARSHALL, and
– BRAINERD.

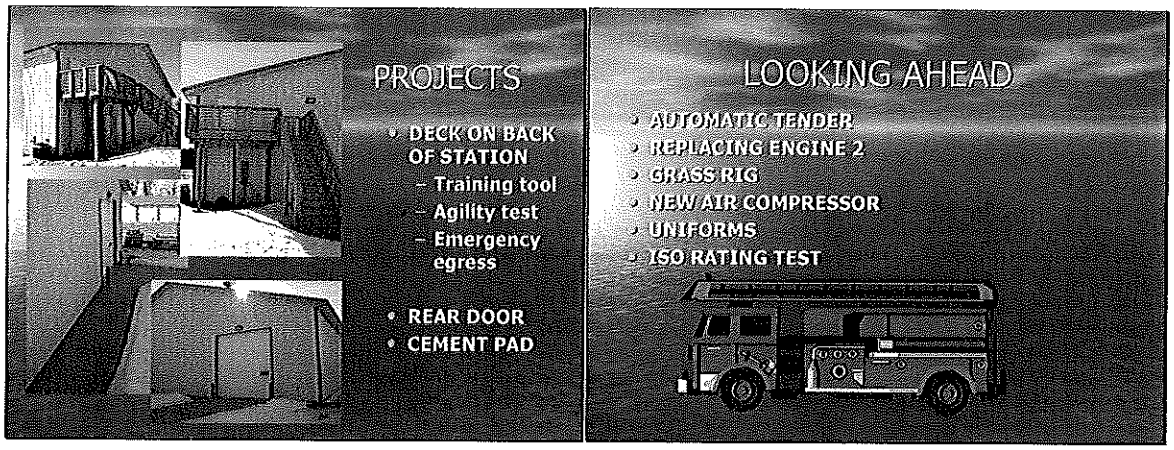

• PROPANE FIRE TRAINING
• DNR -- WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING
• WEATHER SPOTTING

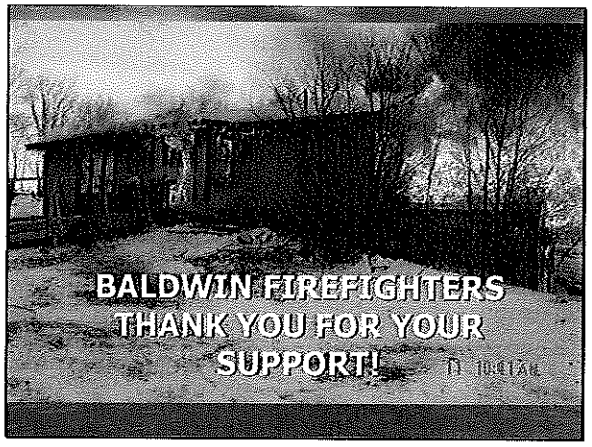

COMMUNITY SERVICE/EVENTS
• GARAGE SALE
• CLEAN UP DAY
• DANCE/FAMILY FUN
• FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE


• SAFETY EXPO
• DAY CARE CENTER VISITS


9/11 Tribute

Thank you for joining us at our Community Events!





Chief Torborg reported that the ISO rating test will be done this summer. Warren Jorgensen from the state is working with the department. Tim Jensen questioned the $6,000 increase for the department. Chief Torborg responded that it is actually a $5,000 increase and it will be used for fuel, maintenance on the trucks and SCBA replacement parts. Mr. Jensen questioned the number of firefighters showing up on medical calls and stated that he feels that money could be saved if they only went on medicals they were called on. Chief Torborg stated that it was something that the community wanted. The department is capable of putting parameters on the types of call that they go out on. Jeff Dotseth stated that he has experienced first hand the department coming to a medical and he was greatly impressed and feels that we need individuals like this serving the township. Elaine Philippi questioned if the ISO rating has reduced insurance costs. Chief Torborg responded that the department was in service 5 years December 31, 2007. Once the department passes, then it will be brought to the board. Elaine Philippi questioned if there was any money spent for diving. Chief Torborg responded no, the department trains in water rescue. Elaine Philippi questioned if the automatic mutual aid was in place. Chief Torborg responded that the department's work is complete and they are just waiting for the county to complete what they need to do. Elaine Philippi stated that there was a motion made at the last Annual Meeting to change the name of the department. Bryan Lawrence stated that the minutes would need to be looked at to determine if it was discussed. Larry

Boeke stated that all the trucks say Baldwin Township on them. Sean Weldon stated that he has heard that there is a dive team again and the department is looking at doing mutual aid with Isanti County. Is there a dive team and is the department covering that up with water rescue? Are the residents paying for equipment? Is there going to be a mutual aid agreement with Isanti? Chief Torborg stated that the department does water rescue and there is nothing in place with Isanti County. There is no upkeep expenses taken from township funds. Sean Weldon questioned why the dive equipment was not sold. Chief Torborg stated that it was a town board decision. Paul Vollkommer stated that he would like to address the issue of mutual aid with Isanti County and he would like to read a letter from their sheriff's department. Betsy Wergin asked Mr. Vollkommer to ask questions in a non-confrontational manner and stated that she felt that he was going way beyond and he was at risk at making everyone mad. Paul Vollkommer stated that he had received a letter from Isanti County today and he would like to read it. Betsy Wergin asked the deputy sheriff in attendance to remove Paul Vollkommer if he kept it up. Betsy Wergin then told Paul Vollkommer to read the letter quickly and then sit down. Paul Vollkommer then read the letter which stated: "March 10, 2008, To The Baldwin Township Board" I have been told that there is a request by the Chief of the Northeast Sherburne Fire and Rescue for a mutual aid agreement between Northeast Sherburne Fire and Rescue and Isanti County. I was unaware of this and did not request one for the Isanti County Sheriff's Office. I do not know if there is another entity in Isanti County that may have asked for one. On December 7, 2007 I did not meet with a member of the Northeast Sherburne Fire and Rescue. If I recall correctly his name is Jeremy Evans but I am not positive. We were looking for a dive team to assist our agency from time to time as needed. He brought along a trailer with some dive equipment in it to show me. In our conversation he said he has other mutual aid agreements with other entities and could enter the Isanti County Sheriff's Office in it and send me a copy. I did not receive one as of this date. Also in our conversation he mentioned some issues with the Sherburne County Sheriff's Office taking over the dive team and some problems associated with that. He also asked that we work together in obtaining funding for more equipment that would be stored there and not at this office. After talking to our divers and with the sheriff as well as the Sherburne County Sheriff's Office and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office Dive Team we decided to use Anoka County Sheriff's Office Dive Team for mutual aid if needed. We will not beneeding mutual aid from Northeast Sherburne Fire and Rescue for calls where a dive tem is needed. Sincerely, /s/ Russell Monson, Chief Deputy".

Baldwin Park Committee Progress Report

Dave Patten presented the Park Committee report for 2007:

Baldwin Township Park Committee

Annual Report
March 11, 2008

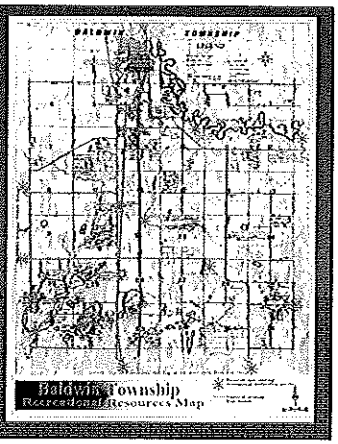
Who is the Park Committee?

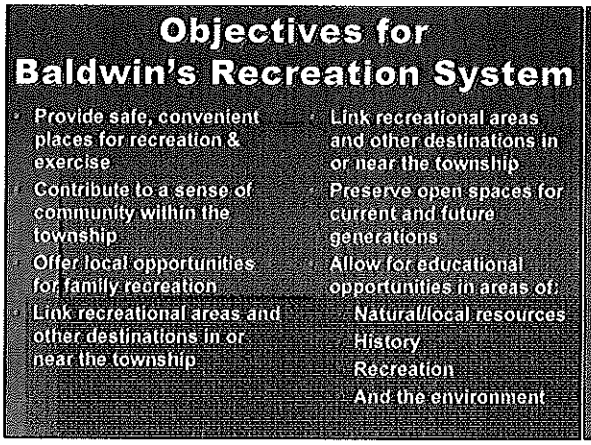
- David Patten, Chair
- Mike Seurer, Vice-Chair
- Kim Good
- Jeff Holm
- Mark Fredrickson
- Lester Kriesel, Town Board Representative

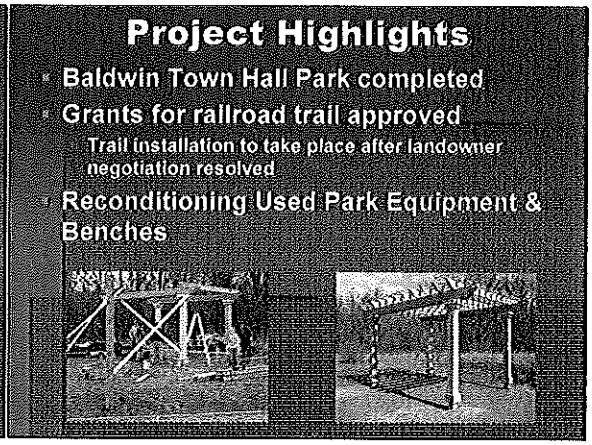
History of the Committee

- The Baldwin Park Committee was formed in November 1999.
- The Committee surveyed residents in December 2000 regarding types of parks, trails, and recreation facilities they would like in the township.
- During 2001 the Committee drafted a Comprehensive park and trails plan for the township, which was approved by the Town Board in 2002.
- Two Parks (Town Hall & Young Property) Under Development.
- Trails approved and installed within developments and along roadway corridors.

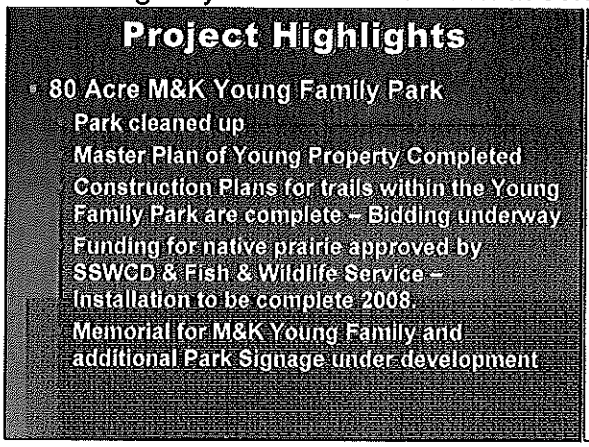
Baldwin Township's Comprehensive Park and Trail Plan Map

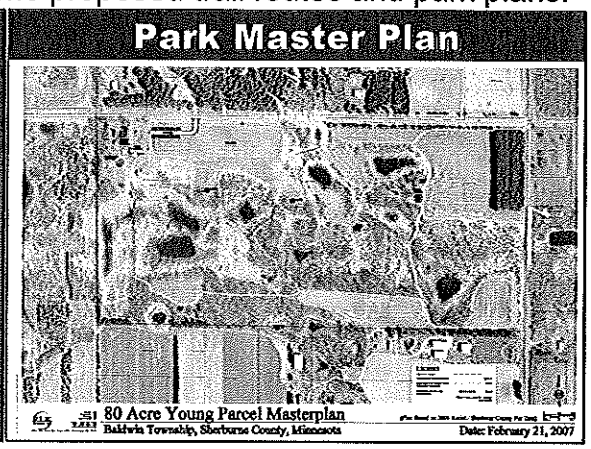


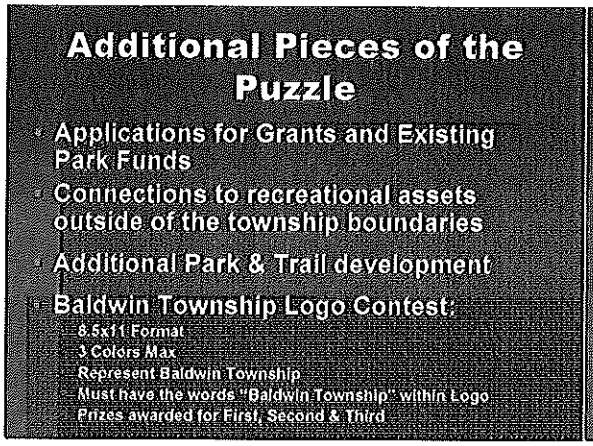




The major focus of the Park Committee during the past year has been to complete and begin implementing a Comprehensive Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan for Baldwin Township. Of course we have reviewed plats with developers, made recommendations to the Town Board that support parks and trails, and even met with other groups willing to support parks and trails. In addition, Park Committee members represent our township's interests on the County Park Commission, the Railroad Task Force, and the Princeton Area Partnership as well as other area organizations. But our overall emphasis has been on refining and implementing the plan. We will review several slides and also give you a chance to look at some proposed trail routes and park plans.

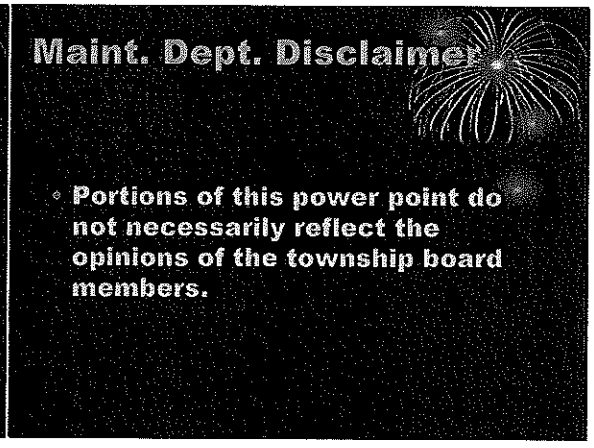




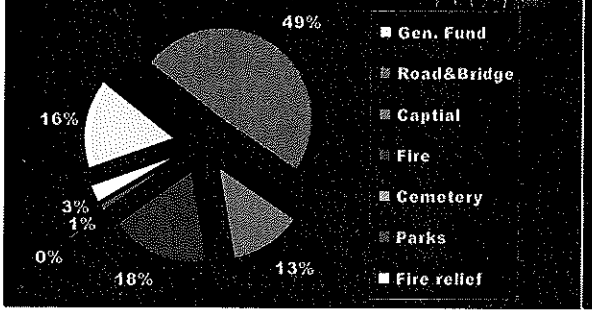


Road Report

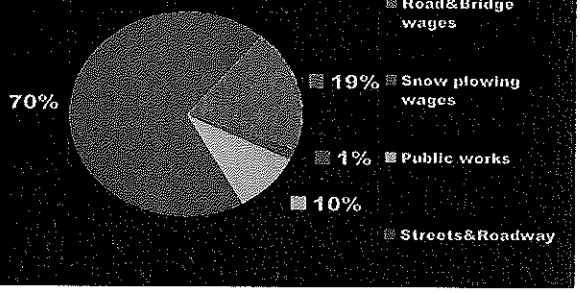
Terry Carlile, Maintenance Department, gave the following report:



2008 Budget overview



2008 Road & Bridge Budget



Baldwin Township Maint. Dept. would like to introduce for your consideration.

8 YEAR ROAD PLAN

Road Report& proposal

8 year road plan to bring 17.5 miles to Township standards

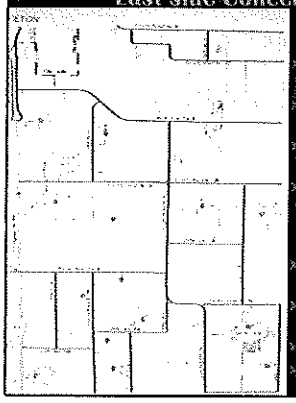
West Side

- >136th St 2 ½ Miles (Co.9 to Co.42)
- >305th Ave 2 Miles + 200 Feet (Co.45 to Co.1)
- >301st Ave 1 Mile (136th St to Co.1)
- >303rd Ave ¼ Miles (Co.45 to Hwy169)
- >East Elk Lake RD 1 ¼ Miles (Co.9 to Co.87)
- >To be determined 136th 1 ½ Miles (Co.42 to Co.3)
- OVER ALL - TOP PRIORITY
- #1 (2008) 283rd 1 Mile (Hwy 169 to Co.39)
- #2 136th St 2 ½ Miles (Co.9 to Co.42)
- #3 120th St 1 ¼ Miles (Co.9 to 283rd)

East Side

- >283rd Ave 1 Mile (Hwy169 to Co.39)
- >100th St 2 Miles (Co.28 to Co.38)
- >120th St 1 ¼ Miles (Co.9 to 283rd Ave)
- >96th St 1 ½ Miles (1/2 Cost with Spencer Brook)
- >285th Ave 1 ½ Miles (Co.39 to 108th St then north to Co.19 including 300 feet of 289th Ave)
- >112th St 1 ¼ Miles (285th Ave to TWP line)
- >297th Ave 1 Mile (Co.19 to 100th St)
- >116th St 1 Mile (Co.38 to Co.2)
- >104th St 1 Mile (Co.18 to Co.37)

East side Collector roads



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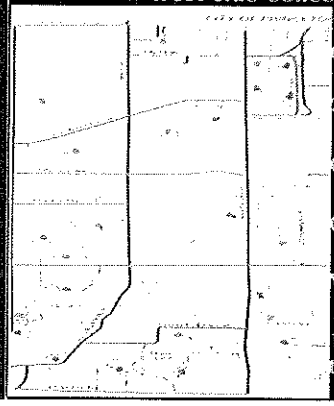
West side Collector roads



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- >To be determined 136th 1 ½ Miles (Co.42 to Co.3)

Projected 8 year Levy Road & Bridge

1. 2009	$600,000
2. 2010	$750,000
3. 2011	$750,000
4. 2012	$750,000
5. 2013	$750,000
6. 2014	$750,000
7. 2015	$800,000
8. 2016	$800,000

Budget Needed for major Repairs in 8 years

- 2009 @ $391,631 OPR. EXP. $208,369
- 2010 @ $385,380 OPR. EXP. $214,620
- 2011 @ $378,552 OPR. EXP. $221,448
- 2012 @ $371,909 OPR. EXP. $228,091
- 2013 @ $365,067 OPR. EXP. $234,933
- 2014 @ $358,019 OPR. EXP. $241,981
- 2015 @ $350,760 OPR. EXP. $249,240
- 2016 @ $343,283 OPR.EXP. $256,717

Average costs to tax payers to operate and maintain road and bridge department is approximately $103.80 per tax payer per total township miles per year.

- Baldwin Township has 2218 Residential parcel owners
- 102 commercial parcel owners
- Estimated Increase

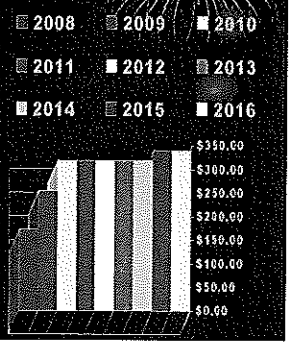
Tax in 2008 $173 per year.

Tax in 2009 $258 per year.

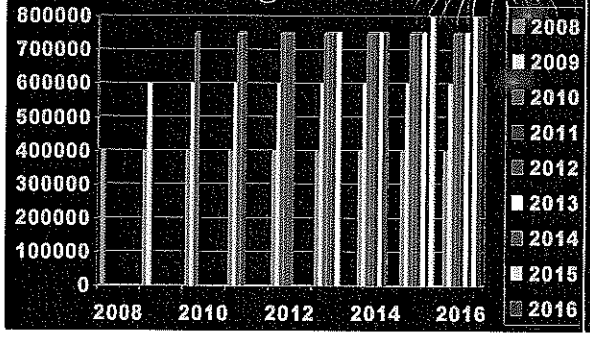
Tax in 2010 thru 2014 $319 per year.

Tax in 2015 & 2016 $340 per year.

Estimated Increase



Future Road & Bridge Budget



10 years of Baldwin Growth

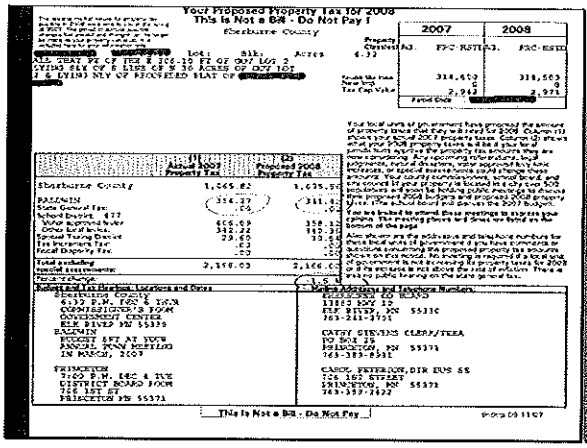
Maintained roadways

1999 Baldwin had 59 miles of roadway to maintain.

- 2007 Baldwin had 85 miles of roadway to maintain , with a couple developments yet to be accepted.
- This is an increase of 26 miles.

Population Growth

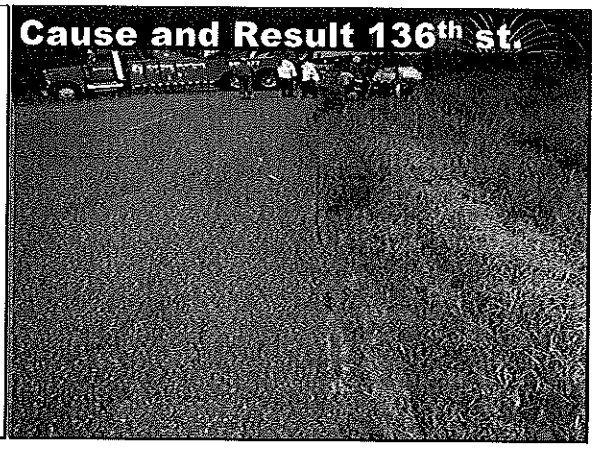
- 1999 Baldwin had 4645 residents.
- 2007 Baldwin had 6595 residents.
- This is an increase of 1950 residents.

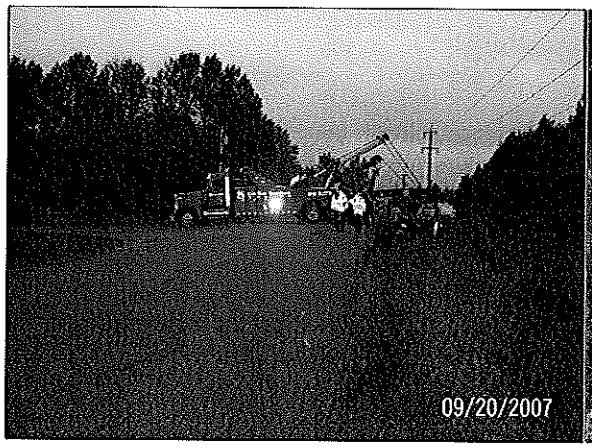

Your Proposed Property Tax for 2008
This is Not a Bill - Do Not Pay !
Sherburne County

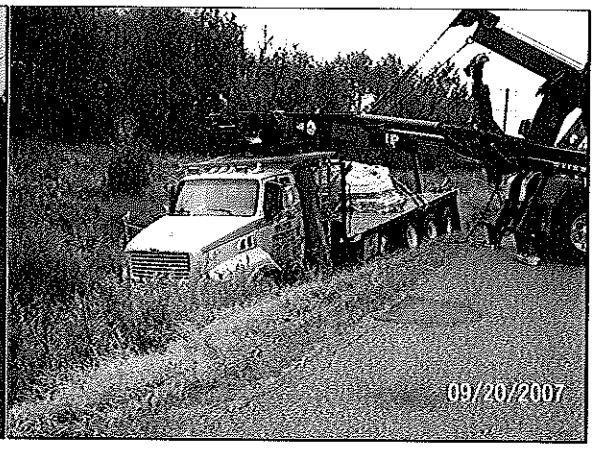
	2007	2008
Property Classification		
Est. Market Value		
Taxable Market Value		
Tax Capacity Value		
Tax Capacity Rate		
Property Tax		

	(1) Actual 2007 Property Tax	(2) Proposed 2008 Property Tax
Sherburne County	1,565.82	1,635.50
Township	314.27	331.82
State Deed Tax	.00	.00
School District 477		
Voter Approved Levy	656.69	358.32
Other Local Levies	342.24	340.32
Special Taxing Districts	29.60	33.64
Tax Increment Tax	.00	.00
Fiscal Disparity Tax	.00	.00
Total excluding special assessments	2,308.60	2,309.60
Special Assessments	1.50	1.50

This is Not a Bill - Do Not Pay







Elaine Philippi questioned how many miles of road were repaired in 2007. Terry Carlile replied none. Bryan Lawrence stated part of the problem was the large payment to a contractor in January 2007. Therefore, no major mile of road was redone. Sue Hix stated that the bottom line is that the township needs to levy an additional $200,000 for 2009.

A motion was made by Kim Good and seconded by James Berglund to increase the road and bridge fund to $600,000 and the township come up with a concrete long-range road plan.

A motion was made by a resident and seconded by Quintin Reece to call the question. Motion carried.

Upon hand vote on the motion to change the Road and Bridge fund from $400,000 to $600,000, the motion failed with a count of 26 in favor of the motion and 29 opposed.

Princeton Area Library, Update of Services and Request for Funding
A motion was made by Sue Hix and seconded by Craig Hilburn to donate $1.00 per person, or $6,300, to the Princeton Area Library. Jesse Ewert stated that there was a board motion made to not donate. Robin Suhsen stated that she was never informed of zero donations. A resident question why some townships donate and others do not.

Troy Gilchrist, township attorney, stated that certain things that residents vote on bind the board, such as the levy. The middle category is electorate authorization and board authorization to give money. The board chose not to follow through with it. Robin Suhsen stated that the board cannot make a policy that applies every year. Betsy Wergin stated that a board member should be heard about why the contract with the library was not signed. Bryan Lawrence stated that the township attorney advised the board not to sign. Upon hand vote on the motion to donate $6,300 to the Princeton Area Library, the motion failed with a count of 20 in favor of the motion and 30 opposed.

Approve 2009 Levy

A motion was made by Bryan Lawrence and seconded by Sue Hix to call the question. The motion carried. Upon voice vote to approve as presented at $864,000, the motion carried.

GENERAL FUND	$200,000
ROAD & BRIDGE	$400,000
CAPITAL FUND	$ 80,000
FIRE FUND	$151,000
CEMETERY FUND	$ 4,000
PARK FUND	$ 4,000
FIRE RELIEF FUND	$ 25,000
TOTAL	$864,000

Legal Publisher/Depository/Public Postings

The Clerk/Treasurer stated that the current legal publisher is the Princeton Union-Eagle, the depositories are Bremer Bank (safe deposit box only) and U.S. Bank and the public postings are the town hall and Marv's True Value. A motion was made by Jess Hall and seconded by Dave Patten to approve the same. A friendly amendment was made by Jeff Dotseth and seconded by Dave Patten to add Sherburne State Bank. Troy Gilchrist stated that the board makes the final decision. A friendly amendment was made by Mike Seurer and seconded by Dave Patten to take out the names and the banks and use whatever bank the board wants by putting it out to bid. A motion was made by a resident and seconded by Bryan Lawrence to call the question. Motion carried. Upon voice vote, those in favor of the amended motion. Motion carried.

Any Other Business

A motion was made by Mike Seurer to add $100,000 to the Road and Bridge fund. Betsy Wergin told Mr. Seurer he was not in order.

Betsy Wergin thanked Jeff Dotseth for his service to the township.

Election Results

The Clerk/Treasurer, Cathy Stevens, read the election results for Supervisor "C": Jeff Holm: 212 votes; Quintin Reece: 77 votes. The Board of Canvass will meet March 13, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. to officially certify the election results.

Adjourn
A motion was made by Robin Suhsen and seconded by Dennis Lindberg to adjourn at 11:59 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Stevens

Cathy Stevens
Clerk/Treasurer

Attendees: Dennis D. Lindberg, David Patten, Jerome DeLong, June DeLong, Sue Hix, Phil Fadden, Corrine Murphy, Herb Murphy, Mari Owens, Robin Suhsen, Buck Owens, James Berglund, Douglas Lepinski, Laura Bauer, Ray Bauer, Troy Gilchrist, Mark Nutt, Julius Dorweiler, Terry Carlile, Zachary Good, Kimberly Good, David Good, Lester Kriesel, Jim Oliver, Jeff Dotseth, Betsy Wergin, Jerry Heffron, Marlys Heffron, Larry Boeke, Justin Suckett, Robin Fischer, Andy Schreder, Jim Buell, Jesse Ewert, Mary Beth Torborg, Brian Torborg, Michelle Ashe, Guy Ashe, Carol Vollkommer, Elaine Philippi, Craig Hilburn, Jolene Rademacher, Mike Rademacher, Brian Bumgarner, Jess Hall, Quintin Reece, Gene Nitz, JoAnn Nitz, Deb Ulm, Kristina Carlson, Bryan Lawrence, Marytina Lawrence, Quintin Reece, Lisa Fobbe, Jeff Holm, Rick Pietrick, Brittney Roloff, Paul Vollkommer, Sean Weldon, Mike Seurer, Tim Jensen, Eleanor Rittenour, Roland Thompson, Steve Weissenfluh