

366.01 TOWN BOARD POWERS LISTED; FORMAL NAME.**Resolution to Amend 366.01 subd. 3 – Association dues, meeting expense.**

Whereas Minnesota Townships are an integral layer of Minnesota local government that provides legitimate and direct services to the citizens since the territorial days of this state;

Whereas Minnesota Townships are a level of elected local government that maintains roadways and perform other duties as outlined in Minnesota Statute;

Whereas Minnesota Townships should be allowed to purchase equipment and goods, build roads, construct buildings, contract work, conduct township business and provide for their own training as the Minnesota Constitution allows and where statutes apply;

Whereas in the Minnesota Constitution under Article XII, Section 1 “Prohibition of special legislation; particular subject”, it is clearly stated that “The legislature shall pass no local or special law... creating private corporations, or amending, renewing, or extending the charters thereof; granting to any private corporation, association, or individual any special privilege, immunity or franchise whatever authorizing public taxation for private purpose;

Whereas Minnesota Statute 366.01 subd. 3 specifically lists the Minnesota Association of Townships as an exclusive beneficiary of public township tax monies;

Whereas Minnesota Townships should be protected under Minnesota Statute to purchase equipment and goods, build roads, construct buildings, contract work, conduct township business and provide for their own training in a manner that each township chooses best;

Whereas the Minnesota Association of Townships, without injury, can be removed as the exclusive recipient to township monies for membership in an association; and

Whereas Minnesota Townships should not be limited by statute to choose the best method of association or membership or training; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that MN Statute 366.01 Subd. 3:

1. be amended to remove “Minnesota Association of Townships” from the language of Subd. 3;
2. that language in Subd. 3 be clarified that Minnesota Townships can associate and can become members of organizations as each township sees is most beneficial.
3. that the language change will better comply with Minnesota Constitution Article XII and the long history of responsible local government in Minnesota.

See Page 2 for the current Statute and the proposed changes to Statute 366.01 Subd. 3

Amendment to 366.01 subd. 3 – Association dues, meeting expense.

MN Statute 366.01 Subd. 3 – as of February 9, 2023 and as seen at MN Revisor website

Subd. 3. Association dues, meeting expense. They may appropriate out of the general fund of the town and draw orders on the treasurer to disburse money to pay the annual dues in the Minnesota Association of Townships or a county unit that belongs to the association and to pay the actual and necessary expenses of town officers for meetings relating to town business including meetings of town associations.

Subd. 3 proposed changes

Subd. 3. Association dues, meeting expense. They may appropriate out of the general fund of the town and draw orders on the treasurer to disburse money to pay the annual dues in ~~the Minnesota Association of Townships~~ an association or organization or a township county unit ~~that belongs to the association~~ and to pay the actual and necessary expenses of town officers for meetings relating to town business including meetings of town associations.

Please AMEND Subd. 3 to read as follows:

Subd. 3. Association dues, meeting expense. They may appropriate out of the general fund of the town and draw orders on the treasurer to disburse money to pay the annual dues in an association or organization or a township county unit and to pay the actual and necessary expenses of town officers for meetings relating to town business including meetings of town associations.