

January 12, 2010

Chairperson Ron Gajewski called the Regular Solway Town Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Solway Town Hall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Supervisors Scott Welsh and Clare R. Stromlund, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and three concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2009 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to accept the following Tentative Treasurer's report dated December 31, 2009.

Checking 12183 - 12216

Beginning Balance	\$120,266.75	
Receipts	\$101,674.02	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$30,976.99	
Ending Balance	\$190,963.78	\$190,963.78

Savings

Beginning Balance	\$0.00	
Interest	0.00	
Deposits	0.00	
Withdrawals	0.00	
Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 113,521.92	
Interest/Deposits	\$38.56	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$113,560.48	\$113,560.48

Total Accounts

\$304,524.26

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

12/10/09 PERA - Annual Exclusion Report – The Clerk will complete and return to PERA.

12/15/09 Admin Minnesota - Cooperative purchasing agreement information. No board action.

12/15/09 MN Dept of Agriculture - Survey regarding community needs for managing invasive tree pests. No board action.

12/15/09 MN Revenue - Application for 2010 state fire aid. The Clerk has forwarded this form to the Fire Chief to fill out and return to MN Revenue.

12/22/09 Midwest Bus Parts, Inc. – Request for a W-9 from the township. The Town Board does not recall doing any business with this company and will not send them a W-9.

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12/23/09 St. Louis County Auditor's office - List of properties that have forfeited to the state on 12/14/09 for non-payment of real estate taxes.

12/30/09 SLC Land Department - Proposed sale of state tax forfeited land.

12/30/09 Menards - Authorized purchasing agent form. The Town Clerk will complete the form and send back to Menards.

12/31/09 University of MN extension service - application accepted to apply wood ash as a liming agent to 291 Erkkila Road. No board action.

12/31/09 From St. Louis County website -Summary of Planning Commission Meeting regarding Apostolic Lutheran Church.

1/5/10 St. Louis Cnty Public Works - Crushing, crack sealing and striping maintenance programs.

1/5/10 MN Dept of Commerce - MN Power rate increase information. No board action.

1/7/10 St. Louis County Auditor's office - March Election Information. No board action.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: The Treasurer has two additional bills. One to Regena Merritt in the amount of \$46.44 for mileage and reimbursement; the second to Duluth News Tribune in the amount of \$91.00 for publishing. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to pay all outstanding bills as presented by the Treasurer.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) Township resident Stacie Oakland called township office and asked to use the hall for a fundraiser for the non-profit group "Let's go fishing" to purchase handicapped accessible fishing equipment for use by nursing homes and any disabled persons in the area. The group would like to hold a bingo. The town board is concerned with liability issues if someone where to slip and fall. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to allow the "Let's go fishing" non-profit group to hold a bingo at the town hall provided they have a certificate of liability insurance. The Clerk will call Ms. Oakland to inform her of the board's decision.

ROAD: Nothing to report.

FIRE: There are no fire department members present.

RECYCLING: a) Chairperson Ron Gajewski reported that Rick Flesvig has been working on the heater at the warming shed, but each time he does he needs to get a key from someone. At times Mr. Flesvig also needs access to the recycling shed which houses the electrical controls for the town sign and parking lights. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to give Rick Flesvig a key for the warming shed, soccer shed, and the recycling shed.

HALL: a) The broken storm window above the stairway has been repaired.
b) The television/VCR used at the town hall presently is sitting on a table that is hard to store or move onto the stage to use. The Clerk has found a wheeled cart at Sam's Club online for \$148.24.

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MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to purchase a wheeled cart from Sam's Club online to use to store the television and VCR.

PARK: a) The "Pavilion" sign is down from the upper parking lot trail entrance to the pavilion. This will get re-installed when the weather permits.

b) There is a new handicapped assessable biffie by the skating rink. The other one needs repairs as the roof caved in from the snow load, but was frozen to the ground so that it could not be removed. The broken one should be removed this week.

c) Chairperson Gajewski reported from his inspection that there are no safety hazards at the park.

d) The heater in the warming shed is in need of repairs. Rick Flesvig will be doing these repairs. This is an older heater and might need to be replaced.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried that if Rick Flesvig recommends a new heater the board will spend up to \$500.

CEMETERY: a) One burial: Beulah Myers - January 9, 2010.

b) Chairperson Gajewski completed a cemetery inspection along with the monthly playground inspection. No safety hazards were found.

COMMITTEES: a) Special Events Winter Fun Day is scheduled for January 30, 2010, and there will be hayrides either with horses or a tractor depending on the weather. Our thanks to the Wargin Farms for the hayrides.

OLD BUSINESS: a) Newsletter went out as scheduled.

b) Country Trucking and Excavating has paid their Aggregate Tax for the fourth quarter of 2009 along with the legal fees incurred by the township trying to collect the tax from them for the third quarter of 2009.

NEW BUSINESS: a) Chairperson Gajewski mentioned inviting a representative from the Sheriff's office to the annual meeting for a report of services and to answer questions or address any concerns from the electorate.

b) Chairperson Gajewski along with the Town Clerk and Treasurer attended the Duluth Chamber of Commerce Forum regarding Gold Cross Ambulance service. Chairperson Gajewski reported that the city of Duluth has discussed the Duluth Fire Department taking over the ambulance service. If this does happen the City would charge the outlying townships a yearly fee to use the service. This idea is in the very beginning stages and will not happen this year if at all. The Town Board will attend these meetings to keep informed as to how this issue is progressing

c) The Aggregate Tax collected year to date is \$58,932.83.

d) Ron Gajewski has filed for Township Supervisor. There were no other filings.

e) The board needs to schedule a Township Budget Meeting. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to hold the Township Budget Meeting Thursday February 18th at 5:30 p.m. The Clerk will post this meeting.

f) The annual board of audit will be held as an agenda item at the February town board meeting.

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Motion by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.