

February 9, 2010 Town Board Meeting minutes

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 four concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2010 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to accept the following two Treasurer's reports dated December 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010.

December 31, 2009

**Checking** 12183-12216

Beginning Balance	\$120,266.75	
Receipts	\$135,114.80	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$36,206.44	
Ending Balance	\$219,175.11	\$219,175.11

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 \$332,735.59

January 31, 2010

**Checking** 12217 - 12266

Beginning Balance	\$219,175.11	
Receipts	\$21,320.23	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$29,036.06	
Ending Balance	\$211,459.28	\$211,459.28

Savings

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

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 113,560.48	
Interest/Deposits	\$38.58	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$113,599.06	\$113,599.06

Total Accounts \$325,058.34

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

**1/12/10 MN Dept of Health** - Sanitary Survey Report for the town hall. The board feels that no immediate action needs to be taken.

**1/12/10 St. Louis County Planning Department.** - Information regarding recovery zone facility bonds. No board action.

**1/13/10 St Louis County Association of Townships** - Lobby Day and Annual Banquet reservations. The Clerk needs to know which Town Board members are attending these two functions in order to make reservations.

**1/20/10 South St. Louis County Fair Board** - Request for a contribution. This will be addressed at the 2010 Annual Meeting March 9, 2010.

**1/21/10 University of Minnesota Extension Service** - Notice of wood ash product to be used as a liming agent and nutrient source at 3590 Stone Lake Rd. No board action.

**1/29/10 Minnesota Association of Townships Agency** – Letter to Township explaining that the agency has consolidated the general liability and errors and omissions into a comprehensive liability consolidated coverage. There is no increase in premiums. No board action.

**2/1/10 Qwest** - 2010 construction season information. No board action.

**2/9/10 St. Louis County Planning Water Plan** – St. Louis County, in conjunction with the North and South Soil and Water conservation Districts, is in the process of updating the St. Louis County Water Plan. A draft plan is available for public comment and is posted on the St. Louis County website. The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on the plan and provide a recommendation to the County Board. The County will approve the final version of the plan to be submitted to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for final approval. No board action.

**2/9/10 Minnesota Association of Townships** - Spring Short Course training information. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to allow town board members to attend the short course April 1, 2010 in Grand Rapids, MN at township expense.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:** The Treasurer has four additional bills. One to Regena Merritt in the amount of \$105.05 for mileage and reimbursement; the second to John Childers in the amount of \$117.09 for reimbursement; third to the Solway Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$32, 200.00 for their yearly contract for services with the township; the fourth to Melanson's Service in the amount of \$237.06 for a wheel alignment for truck #5. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to pay all outstanding bills as presented by the Treasurer.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:** a) A township resident has called the town office to ask if they could use the town hall for church services on Sunday mornings. The board feels if the resident wants to rent the hall in the event of an emergency where the church building could not be used would be fine, but not to allow weekly ongoing church services at the town hall. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to not allow ongoing Sunday morning church services at the hall.

**ROAD:** a) Chairperson Gajewski reported that St. Louis County is not allowing any overtime for Public Works. The township roads might not get plowed as soon after snowfall as in the past.

February 9, 2010 Town Board Meeting minutes

**b)** Chairperson Gajewski reported that he received a complaint from St. Louis County Public works regarding tree branches on the east end of the Jerry Road hitting the snow plow as it goes by. The county requested that the township have the tree trimmed. Chairperson Gajewski and Leon Forstrom trimmed the tree back to allow the snowplow and grader to pass.

**FIRE: a)** There are no fire department members present.

**b)** Supervisor Gajewski gave an update on the FEMA grants. The Fire Department has received a grant in the amount of \$190,000.00 for a new tanker with pump. The department is working out the details and developing specifications for the truck so the department can begin to take bids for the truck. The department also received a \$38,000 grant for fire fighting equipment.

**c)** Chairperson Gajewski reported that Randall Brothers replaced the control module in the boiler system at the fire hall. The boiler had been making noise and leaking. While they were at the fire hall, Randall Brothers looked at the overhead heater and found the control module in it was blown. They instructed Chairperson Gajewski to turn the circuit breaker to the heater off in the summer, as a power surge during a summer storm will burn out the module again.

**d)** The fire hall lease and the township's contract with the department for fire protection services is due to be signed. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to sign the contract for fire protection and first responder service and also the lease of the fire hall.

**RECYCLING: a)** Recycling building attendant Jim Miller reported the outside light above the overhead door on the recycling shed is out. Leon Forstrom will replace the light bulb.

**b)** Chairperson Gajewski noted that Leon Forstrom will be taking the garbage out of the recycling shed on a monthly basis.

**c)** The township has about 75 - 100 fluorescent bulbs that need to be disposed of. Leon Forstrom knows of a place to take them at the cost of 69 cents each.

**HALL: a)** The Clerk has purchased a television and VCR stand from Sam's Club for the township.

**PARK: a)** Chairperson Gajewski reported Rick Flesvig has repaired the heater in the warming shed.

**b)** Chairperson Gajewski mentioned that the service from Portable John has been excellent.

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

**COMMITTEES: a)** Chairperson Gajewski reported the Winter Fun Day was a success. The Special Events Committee would like to thank Larry Shelton for snowplowing and the Solway Fire Department for flooding the ice skating rink and running the Bingo.

**OLD BUSINESS: a)** The Clerk reported that the tax forfeited property on the corner of Rose and Caribou Lake Roads has gone up for auction.

February 9, 2010 Town Board Meeting minutes

The window of time to apply to the county to have the sale postponed passed before the Town Board meeting. The Town Board was considering purchasing this one-acre site to develop a park at a later date.

**NEW BUSINESS:** a) Chairperson Gajewski reported there is nothing new regarding the City of Duluth taking over ambulance service.

b) The total Aggregate Tax collected for 2009 is \$58,932.83.

c) & d) The Lobby Day bus and St. Louis County Association of Township Annual Banquet were addressed under Correspondence.

e) MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to appoint Amy Johnson, Clare Stromlund, Bonnie Siiro and Leon Forstrom Election Judges for the Township Election to be held March 9, 2010 noon to 8:00 p.m. The Head Judge will be Bonnie Siiro and the alternate will be Leon Forstrom.

f) The Township Comprehensive Land Use Plan was last updated 2001. The plan should be updated every ten years. MOTION by Gajewski seconded by Welsh and carried to have Chairperson Gajewski contact ARDC to get information and pricing to update the plan.

g) The Town Clerk will be attending the Legislative and Research Committee Meeting in St. Paul at the expense of the St. Louis County Association of Townships.

h) The Board of Audit met and found the books of the Town Clerk and Treasurer to be in order.

Motion by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.