

November 10, 2009

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 Supervisor Scott Welsh, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and seven citizens. Supervisor Clare R. Stromlund was on vacation.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2009 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to accept the following Treasurer's report dated October 31, 2009.

Checking 12096 - 12104

Beginning Balance	\$149,200.51	
Receipts	\$ 22,244.14	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$15,004.59	
Ending Balance	\$156,440.06	\$156,440.06

Savings

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

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 113,446.07	
Interest/Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$113,446.07	\$113,446.07

Total Accounts **\$269,886.13**

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

10/20/09 WLSSD - District-Wide WLSSD Allocation for 2010 for Solway Township is \$1,398.00. We have \$1,400.00 budgeted.

10/22/09 ARDC - Wind Energy Forum to be held November 12, 2009. The Town Board will not be attending. No board action.

10/22/09 U.S. Census Bureau - Boundary and Annexation Survey. The Clerk filled out the form indicating that there have been no boundary changes in Solway Township.

11/5/09 MN Assoc of Townships - Tentative Agenda and information for the Annual conference.

11/9/09 Wells Fargo Public Finance - Mailing address changes. No board action.

11/10/09 Pipeline Association for Public Awareness - Safety information for public officials. Clerk will keep information on file.

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OUTSTANDING BILLS: In addition to the prepared list of bills, the Treasurer has two additional bills as follows: Leon Forstrom in the amount of \$30.07 for reimbursement; James Lindquist in the amount of \$1,560.00 for grading township roads. MOTION by Welsh seconded by Gajewski and carried to pay all outstanding bills.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) Nicole and Jason Lenz appeared at this meeting to inform the Board that several dogs belonging to Benjamin and Rachel Gilbertson entered their property and killed two of their laying hens. When Mrs. Lenz intervened she was bitten by one of the dogs and while attempting to get away from them fell fracturing her wrist. Both the bite and fracture needed medical care. The Lenz's notified the St Louis County Sheriff's office and Health Department of this incident. The Lenz's went on to explain that the Gilbertson's were instructed to confine the dogs for observation to determine if the dogs were rabid, but the dogs have been allowed to run free.

Mr. & Mrs. Lenz understand that Solway Township does not have a dog ordinance spelling out how owners of dogs should provide for their animals or control them, but would like the Town Board to write a letter to the Gilbertson's on their behalf. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to write a letter to the Gilbertson's asking them to confine their dogs as the county instructed.

ROAD: a) Chairperson Gajewski was contacted by St. Louis County Public Works regarding some vehicles/machinery that were parked at the end of the Peterson Road leaving no room for the snow plow to turn around. Chairperson Gajewski met with the resident who resides at the end of the road and he was very cooperative and will move the parked vehicles.

Chairperson Gajewski mentioned that the turn around should be looked at during the annual road inspection to see if roadwork is needed on the turnaround.

b) Jim Lindquist mentioned that there is water over the top of the culvert on the Metsa Road. Mr. Lindquist suggested we mark the ends of the culvert with steel posts to make it easier to find if we need to thaw the culvert this winter.

c) All township roads were graded.

FIRE: a) There have been 81 calls year-to-date. There have been three calls for the month of October and four so far for November. Jeff Nelson obtained a grant for the Fire Department from Minnesota Power in the amount of \$500.00 to purchase a multi-gas detector. Truck #5 is running poorly and will be taken to Melanson's Service for repairs. Chief Suliin asked if the firefighters can use a truck to attend training meetings in Gnesen Township. The board gave permission for the firefighters to use the one-ton truck.

b) Chief Suliin has not received any notification on the FEMA grants.

c) Rick Flesvig has ordered two cases of lights for the fire hall.

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RECYCLING: a) The non-recyclable items collection day was not well attended. The board discussed holding a collection day every other year instead of yearly. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to not hold a non-recyclable items collection day in 2010.

HALL: a) The downstairs remodeling project has been successfully completed.
b) Scott Welsh would like to look into blinds for the downstairs windows. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to have Supervisor Welsh put down a deposit for blinds to be reimbursed by the township.

c) The Clerk met with Terry from Morin's Siding and was given two options to repair the rusted siding on the front stairway. If the siding is replaced with the same type of siding it will rust again when salt is used on the stairway. The other option is to replace the siding with green treated wood. Either way, Morin's will be out next week to do the repairs. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to have Morin's Siding replace the rusted siding with green treated wood.

d) Deputy Clerk Mary Saline is asking the board if she should charge renters if they are asking to rent both floors of the town hall for a small gathering. The Board's directions are to offer either up or down and only for a wedding would a resident get both floors. This will be an agenda item at the annual town meeting in March 2010.

e) The septic tank at the town hall and fire hall and the fire hall drain collection tank are usually pumped every other year. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to have the septic tanks at the town hall and fire hall and fire hall collection tank pumped. The Clerk will contact Midway Septic to have them do this work.

PARK: a) The front-end loader for the John Deere tractor has arrived and Leon Forstrom reports that it is working very well.

b) Baseball backstop posts have been sanded and painted. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to pay Pete Hildre for his work painting and sanding the baseball backstop posts.

c) Chairperson Gajewski and Leon Forstrom fertilized the soccer fields at the Munger School Site and Townsite fields.

d) A park report was completed by Chairperson Gajewski. Pea rock is needed around the foundations on the lower playground.

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

b) One burial – Patrick Wippler

c) Leon Forstrom has been working on filling gravesites.

COMMITTEES: a) The Halloween Carnival was a huge success this year.

OLD BUSINESS: a) The Clerk was notified by Chris Morris from the Apostolic church on Highway #2, that they will be submitting a conditional land use permit to St. Louis County for a cemetery. Our Planning and Zoning Committee will review the materials when received from the county and forward a recommendation to the Town Board.

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b) Country Trucking was sent a registered letter for Aggregate Tax due from the Town Clerk.

NEW BUSINESS: a) Chairperson Gajewski noticed a person at the light pole in the hall upper parking lot. When Chairperson Gajewski asked this person what he was doing, he explained that he was playing a GPS game locating previously hidden "treasure". If they find the "treasure" there is a ledger that they sign with their name and date and they may place or exchange a small trinket in the box.

b) Chairperson Gajewski mentioned the need for a utility trailer for township use. Leon Forstrom will look for prices and report back at the December Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.