

Solway Town Board Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2010

Chairperson Scott Welsh 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 Ron Gajewski and Clare R. Stromlund, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and four concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2010 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Stromlund seconded by Gajewski and carried to accept the following Treasurer's report dated May 31, 2010.

Checking 12402 - 123447

Beginning Balance	\$149,849.01	
Receipts	\$7,656.00	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$34,792.57	
Ending Balance	\$122,712.44	\$122,712.44

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 113,696.51	
Interest/Deposits	\$28.96	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$113,725.47	\$113,725.47

Total Accounts		\$236,437.91
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INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

5/12/10 – St. Louis County Land Department - Proposed sale of tax forfeited land. No board action.

5/13/10 St. Louis County Public Works Department - Calcium Chloride dust control information. No board action. Dust control has been applied to the township roads this past week by a private vendor.

5/13/10 St. Louis County Attorney - Annual report for informational purposes. No board action.

5/14/10 Minnesota Association of Townships - Membership cards that were handed out to all board members.

5/15/10 South St. Louis County Soil & Water District – Informational newsletter. No board action.

5/18/10 St. Louis County Auditor's Office - Notice of election Clerk training. Clerk Merritt is not able to attend this training at the court house, but will attend the Town Clerk Election Training at the Minnesota Association of Townships short course that will be held on July 1, 2010.

5/18/10 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Posters about the importance of native bees.

5/24/10 St. Louis County Auditor's Office - Notice of WLSSD Board election. Deputy Clerk Mary Saline will attend this election to cast the Township's vote for James Aird.

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5/26/10 WLSSD - Operations grant in the amount of \$7,041. The Town Board must accept grant money by resolution. Motion by Gajewski seconded by Stromlund and carried to adopt Resolution #73 accepting a grant from WLSSD as follows:

WHEREAS, Solway Township, St. Louis County, operates a recycling program in agreement with WLSSD; and

WHEREAS, WLSSD may have funds available for communities for expenses incurred by local communities for operating recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, Solway Township submitted a grant application in the amount of \$7,041.00 on May 20, 2010; and

WHEREAS, WLSSD approved the grant request and awarded \$7,041.00 in funding on May 26, 2010;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Solway Town Board accepts the WLSSD grant of \$7,041 on June 8th 2010.

6/1/10 Admin Minnesota - State demographer estimate of population and households in Solway Township. The state requires that this information not be released to the public until July 15, 2010.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: The Treasurer has one additional bill. This is to the South Saint Louis County Fair in the amount of \$100 as a contribution as previously passed by the electorate at the annual meeting. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski, and carried to pay all outstanding bills as presented by the Town Treasurer.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) At the May 11, 2010 Town Board meeting the Supervisors motioned to have Don Walsh, DHW Consulting, appear at tonight's meeting to explain his consulting services as an aggregate tax specialist. Mr. Walsh is retired from the Minnesota Minerals Tax office and has done aggregate tax auditing for Becker, Clay, Steele, Rice and Freeborn Counties in Minnesota.

Mr. Walsh's procedure is to write a letter to the aggregate producers explaining that he has been hired by the township to do an audit, and asking them to contact him to set up a meeting where he can audit their aggregate tax reporting. In his letter he will also explain what documents he will need to do his work. Mr. Walsh will write a report for the Town Board stating if any of the aggregate producers owe any additional tax.

Solway has not audited any of the aggregate producers to date.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to hire DHW Consulting to audit the aggregate tax reporting from the producers and haulers within Solway Township beginning approximately with the 3rd quarter of 2006.

b) Sandberg Road resident Paul Sitko appeared at tonight's meeting with a complaint about the condition of the Sandberg Road at the Morris Thomas Road intersection. It is very bumpy and

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washboardy. This seemed to get worse after the dust control was applied. Even after the road is graded the washboarding comes back within a day or two. The board will have Jim Lindquist grade the road within the next few days, and pay special attention to the area the rest of the summer.

ROAD: a) Supervisor Gajewski reported that Mr. Jake Demenge (The Dust Dr.) is thinking of purchasing roadside gravel reclamation equipment and is wondering if any townships would be interested in this service. The board feels there is not much gravel on the shoulders or in the ditches of the townships roads. This would not be cost effective.

b) The Qwest phone line that was lying on top of the South Jeffrey Road roadside has been removed by Qwest.

c) The roadwork has been completed per the annual road inspection recommendations and dust control has been applied to township roads. Culverts have been placed on the Metsa Road where there was a wash out this spring. This culvert had rusted through. A culvert has also been placed on the East Jerry Road. The board decided with Jim Lindquist's recommendation that the culvert on the Lindrose Rd. did not need to be replaced.

d) The end of the Peterson Road has been staked out by surveyor Norm Livgard. The Town Board will need to meet to discuss a plan for widening this road, as a turnaround is needed at the end of the road for snowplowing. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to meet at the end of the Peterson Road along with the property owners at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday July 13, 2010. The Clerk will send letters to notify the property owners that would be involved and also post this Special Meeting.

e) Supervisor Gajewski will meet with Sinnott Blacktop to schedule the crack filling, sealing and striping of the townsite parking lots.

f) John Childers will begin the roadside mowing the last week in June. Supervisor Gajewski has notified Mr. Don Juten of this so he can schedule the road brushing after the roadsides are mowed.

FIRE: a) When Paul Suomela from Como Oil was at the town hall cleaning the furnace he noticed the propane tank at the fire hall sinking. Paul will notify Como's office to arrange to have the tank lifted and re-set.

b) There are no firefighters present to report, but the board knows of nothing new on the fire truck.

RECYCLING: a) The Clerk and Jim Miller attended a meeting at WLSSD explaining the new recycling collection process. All of the plastic, glass and metal will be placed in the carts inside the recycling hall and may be mixed together. There will be three dumpsters outside for the mixed paper, cardboard and newspaper. This will take effect in the next couple of weeks.

b) There is a broken window in the recycling shed that Leon Forstrom will fix.

HALL: a) The new flagpole at the town hall has been installed.

b) The town hall furnace and water heater have been cleaned by Como Oil.

c) The Clerk is unable to find a new computer with the software needed for the \$600 the board has allowed. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to allow an additional \$200 for a total of \$800 to get a new computer with the needed software.

d) The Board mentioned that the trash cans inside the hall are in bad shape. There are 38-gallon trash cans from Sam's Club available for \$104.04 each. These cans are covered, square and will fit up against the wall. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to purchase two of the square trash cans in beige from Sam's Club for the town hall.

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PARK: a) The board asked Leon Forstrom to check on trailer prices and report back to the board in September.

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported from his inspection that there are no hazards at the park. Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that the grills at the pavilion are rusting. Leon Forstrom will look at them to see what can be done.

c) The hedges at the Munger Site Soccer Field need to be trimmed. There are maple trees beginning to grow up in the hedge on the Heine Road that need to be removed. The Heine Road hedge and maple trees are in the road right-of-way. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to have Kerbie Merritt trim the hedges at the Munger Site and remove the maple trees in the hedge on the Heine Road.

CEMETERY: a) One burial: William Peterson May 20, 2010.

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

c) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that it would look nice to clean out the ditch and plant some trees along the Van Gassler Road side of the cemetery. The board will wait until the roadside mowing and brushing is completed and sees what it looks like before making plans.

COMMITTEES: a) The Comprehensive Land Use Plan Committee met on Thursday May 13th at 6:30 p.m. The surveys will be sent out soon and the next meeting will be in August after the surveys are returned and the results are tabulated.

b) The Fall Fun Day is set for Saturday September 11, 2010. A meeting of the Special Events Committee will be scheduled at the next Town Board Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: a) The Town Board Supervisor job description has been updated to include the State Statutes #366 and #367.

NEW BUSINESS: a) The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday August 10, 2010 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded Stromlund and carried to appoint Bonnie Siiro, Joan Gajewski, Sharon Stenberg, Delores Vogel, Mary Saline and Leon Forstrom as election judges for the Primary Election on August 9, 2010.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.