

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 Clare Stromlund and Scott Welsh, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, three concerned citizens.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to appoint Supervisor Welsh as Chairperson, and Supervisor Stromlund as Vice-Chair for the coming year.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the February 12, 2013 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to accept the following Treasurer's report dated February 28, 2013.

Checking 13974-14020

Beginning Balance	\$250,330.60	
Receipts	11,297.23	
Transfers	\$0.00	
Disbursements	<u>\$-63,340.96</u>	
Ending Balance	\$198,286.87	\$198,286.87

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,427.86	
Interest/Deposits	\$7.53	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$108,435.39	\$108,435.39
Total Accounts		\$306,722.26

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

2/12 St. Louis County Assessor's Office - Board of Appeal & Equalization training available for Township Supervisors. Solway Supervisors do not need training until 2014.

2/13 St. Louis County Assessor's Office - via email - Acknowledgement that County will be taking over assessing work for Solway Township per the Town Board's request.

2/21 Minnesota Benefit Association – Information regarding insurance for township officials. No board action.

2/26 Minnesota Association of Townships – Information on the Spring Short Course. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to allow Town Board members to attend at township expense.

3/11 St. Louis County Assessor's Office - Notice that Solway Township Board of Appeal and Equalization is scheduled May 6, 2013.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: The Treasurer has eleven additional bills as follows:

- L & M Supply - \$71.10
- Red D Electric - \$3,740.00 for work at the Munger School Site garage
- Mary Busch - \$135.00 election judge wages and cake for the Annual Meeting.
- Kareen Nelson - \$40.00 for serving as the moderator for the Annual Meeting
- Clare Stromlund - \$100.00 election judge wages
- Bonnie Siiro - \$115.00 election judge wages
- Leon Forstrom - \$115 election judge wages
- Forum Communications - \$203.78 for election and annual meeting publishing in Duluth News Tribune and also the Pine Journal
- Metro Sales - \$56.13 for copy machine rental
- Proctor Journal - \$26.40 election and annual meeting publishing

- Perrault Construction - \$1,200 for work on the Munger School Site garage. The work on the garage is not complete and the Board directed the clerk not to send payment until the Board finds that the work is completed.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski, and carried unanimously to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list and the additional bills from the Treasurer for a total amount of \$18,383.51.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) No Citizen requests or concerns

ROAD: a) A date for the annual road inspection needs to be set. The Board set Friday April 26th 8AM to approximately noon for the 2013 road inspection.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: a) Firefighter Jeff Nelson reported a total of 17 calls year to date; three calls in March. He mentioned that most of the calls are medical calls.

b) Jeff will check on the status of the DNR fire condition sign.

c) No word yet on the FEMA grant for the tanker truck.

d) There is a ceiling heater that has a thermostat on the wall below the air exchanger at the fire hall. The thermostat is getting a draft from the exchanger causing the heater to turn on. Jeff will mention this at the fire department's meeting on Thursday. It should have a shield installed around it.

The Flamettes pancake breakfast will be Sunday April 28th 8AM to noon.

Firefighter Nelson reported that new strobe lights and power supply are needed on truck #6. The lighting presently on the truck is outdated. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to spend up to \$1,300 for new strobe lights and power supply for truck #6.

RECYCLING: a) Jim Miller reported that things are going well at the recycling center.

HALL: a) Pete Hildre has completed painting the Town Hall office, and is working on the cabinet.

b) Outside lighting on the hall building has been completed by Red D Electric.

c) The emergency lights upstairs in the town hall were replaced. The lights were not working, and Leon Forstrom replaced them with new lights purchased from Menards. Chairperson Welsh mentioned that the emergency lights should be tested once every three months and let the emergency flood lights run for two hours.

d) The gutter on the town hall was damaged when the old flag pole fell. Leon Forstrom will fix the gutter as weather permits.

PARK: a) The monthly playground inspection shows no hazards and the parks to be in good condition.

b) The electric work at the Munger School Site garage is completed by Red D Electric. Overhead fluorescent lights above the three bays and the work bench have been added.

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

b) At the Township Annual Meeting, it was asked of the electorate what they thought of adding "Solway township property owners" along with "township residents" to the allowable burials at the township cemetery. The electorate was in agreement. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to add "township property owners" to those who are allowed to be buried at the Solway Cemetery.

COMMITTEES: a) Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: a) The Proctor Journal is reprinting the Solway Centennial book and will contact the office as soon as the books are completed.

NEW BUSINESS: a) The Board discussed various articles for the Township Newsletter.

b) The results of the Township Election are Ron Gajewski 29 votes; there were no other votes or write-ins.

c) The Solway Citizen of the Year is Jeff Nelson. Jeff was presented with a plaque at the Annual Meeting. Congratulations Jeff!

d) The Minnesota Association of Townships Short Course is scheduled for Friday April 8, 2013 at the Black Bear Convention Center.

e) The Town Board discussed the Board and employee wages. It has been five years since a raise in Town Board wages. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to review the Town Board and employee wages yearly; to also reward employees for long term service; and to raise Board and employee wages effective March 1, 2013 to as follows:

- Treasurer and Clerk \$18.00 per hour
- Deputy Clerk and Treasurer \$15.00 per hour
- Supervisors \$16.00 per hour
- Grounds, Maintenance \$14.00 per hour – Base pay \$13.00 per hour
- Grounds, Maintenance Asst \$13.00 per hour – Base pay \$11.00 per hour
- Election Judge wage \$10.00 per hour
- Annual Meeting Moderator \$40 per meeting
- Recycling Shed Attendant \$11.50 – Base pay \$10.50
- Skating Rink Attendant \$9.00 per hour
- Town Board Meetings and other meetings remain the same.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.