

Solway Town Board Meeting Minutes
 April 9, 2013

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 Clare Stromlund and Ron Gajewski, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, three concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the March 14, 2013 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION made by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to accept the following Treasurer's report dated March 31, 2013.

Checking 14021 - 14075

Beginning Balance	\$198286.87	
Receipts	440.00	
Transfers	\$0.00	
Disbursements	\$-18,383.51	
Ending Balance	\$180,353.36	\$180,343.36

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,435.39	
Interest/Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$108,435.39	\$108,435.39

Total Accounts \$288,778.75

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

- 3/20 American Pavement Solutions – Advertisement, no board action.
- 3/25 St. Louis County Community Development – Draft of revised zoning maps. Board will check the maps and report to St. Louis County any corrections needed.
- 3/27 Great Northern Transmission Line – Announcement of Open House Meeting and map showing Showing the corridor and route alternative for a high voltage transmission line from the Minnesota -Canada border to a receiving substation near the Iron Range and a line from the Iron Range Substation to the Arrowhead substation near Hermantown, MN. The Board feels one of the Supervisors should attend this meeting. Supervisor Gajewski is able to attend. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to allow Supervisor Gajewski and Clerk Merritt to attend the Open House Meeting regarding the Great Northern Transmission Line at Hermantown Government Building Thursday April 25, 2013.
- 4/2 Wells Fargo Securities – Request for current financial statement. Clerk Merritt will send this statement to Wells Fargo.
- 4/4 Kivi Aggregate – Completed Aggregate Tax form.
- 4/8 Jim Lindquist – Completed Aggregate Tax form.
- 4/9 Coon's Aggregate and Supply – completed Aggregate Tax form and payment.

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

- Rod Chiles – hall rental refund in the amount of \$25.00
- Regena Merritt – cell phone reimbursement in the amount of \$25.00
- Forum Communications for publishing of a legal notice in the amount of \$112.22
- Scott Welsh – cell phone reimbursement in the amount of \$25.00
- St. Louis County Auditor in the amount of \$300.48 for road sanding.

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 \$12,480.84.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) Saginaw Union Station needs a report from the Town Clerk completed and sent to St. Louis County in order to renew their Liquor License. There have been no complaints or concerns received at the Town Hall office. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to allow recommend renewal of the Liquor License for the Saginaw Union Station.

b) Munger Tavern & Grill also needs a report from the Town Clerk completed and sent to St. Louis County in order to renew their Liquor License. There have been no complaints or concerns received at the Town Hall office. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to allow recommend renewal of the Liquor License for the Munger Tavern and Grill.

c) Township resident Dan De Santo appeared before the Town Board. He is asking to be allowed to have friends/co-workers that are police officers serve as patrol at the De Santo wedding reception taking place at the town hall. The Board's rental policy states that "one officer is required for every 100 people in attendance at parties where alcohol is served and that the township will secure the security people and let the renter know the cost." Mr. De Santo is a Lt with the Reserve Police Department. They are expecting 100 to 150 guests, and state that the police will be in uniform and not invited guests. They will be dedicated to secure the property. The Board would like to get some advice from the Township Attorney and the Township insurance carrier. The Board will research this question and decide at the next Board meeting. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to table this issue to the next Town Board meeting in order to contact and get advice from the Township Attorney John Bray, and Minnesota Association of Township Insurance Agency.

ROAD: a) The part of the hall parking lot past the center island was blacktopped a couple of years ago and has yet to be seal coated. The lines on the basketball courts are also fading. The Board directed Supervisor Gajewski to obtain quotes for crack filling, seal coating the remainder of the parking lot, and striping of the basketball courts.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: a) Because of illness, Fire Chief Alan Mitchell could not be present at the Board Meeting. However, he called the Town Clerk this afternoon to report a couple of things. There were four calls for the month of March. The Department did not receive a FEMA grant this year. Because of this the Department is hoping to purchase a tanker to replace tanker #3 that is out of service at this time. Public financing as was done in the past for a new fire truck is an option the board would like to investigate. The firefighters will work on specifications for a new tanker for bidding purposes.

RECYCLING: a) Nothing to report.

HALL: a) The Clerk mentioned that the internet service at the town hall is not working as it should. The Wi-Fi is not available as it should be, and St. Louis County would like that capability for the upcoming Board of Equalization Meeting. The Board also discussed getting a color printer. When downloading and printing maps from the St. Louis County website, it is very hard to distinguish the different zoning areas in black and white. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to spend up to \$100 per month rental on a color copier/fax/scanner/printer at the town hall office and to install Wi-Fi for the town office.

b) Supervisor Gajewski noticed that the chimney on the town hall building needs work. In the past, Como Oil suggested that a rain cap be put on the chimney. Supervisor Gajewski will get quotes for this repair work.

c) The "Solway Township" sign on the front of the hall building either needs to be painted or replaced. The Board likes the design of the sign, but would like something more weather proof. Supervisor Gajewski will check with Todd Signs for prices on a sign of the same size.

d) Dan De Santo's request to supply his own patrol at his wedding reception taking place at the town hall was discussed under Citizen Requests.

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

b) The electric al 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, as well as two exterior fixtures.

c) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned using rubber base for the playground instead of pea rock around the playground equipment. The Board directed Supervisor Gajewski to get quotes for this.

d) Last fall the Board authorized the fields to be fertilized. The Board aerated the fields, but they did not get fertilized. Leon Forstrom suggested using a typed of "weed and feed" to get rid of the weeds taking over on the fields. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to fertilize the soccer fields when weather permits.

e) The Clerk will call to have a portable toilet set up at the Munger School Site soccer field.

f) The Board discussed the problem of someone riding horses on the Munger Site soccer field. The Board would like to have signs made stating "no horseback riding or motorized vehicles allowed" due to damage caused to the fields. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to have Supervisor Gajewski get quotes for two signs for the Munger School Site soccer fields from Todd Signs.

g) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that the John Deere mower is getting about ten years old and maybe the Township needs another mower, or one with a smaller turning radius for use at the cemetery. Leon Forstrom feels we do not need another mower and that the John Deere is in good shape and works well for the cemetery.

h) Striping of the basketball courts was discussed along with the parking lot seal coating under Roads.

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

COMMITTEES: a) Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: a) The Clerk contacted the Proctor Journal asking how long it will be to reprint the Solway Centennial books. The Proctor Journal reported that repair work is being completed to the printing machine used for the Centennial book and it might be awhile before our books are finished.

NEW BUSINESS: a) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that he has heard from other township officers that the L & R meetings seem to be much more informational and productive than Lobby Day. The Board decided to table whether the Board would like to attend L & R to the May Town Board meeting when more information about the June L & R will be available.

b) Supervisor Gajewski and Clerk Merritt worked on the Hall Rental information sheet. It needed to be streamlined to be more understandable. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to use the new rental rate information sheet.

c) Supervisor Gajewski was issued a Certificate of Election and given the Oath of Office by Town Clerk Merritt.

d) Supervisor Gajewski reported the following from the Minnesota Associations of Townships Short Course.

- The Governor is recommending a 5-cent gas tax increase.
- A bill to give priority to an orderly annexation over a hostile annexation done by a city.
- A bill to allow "no excuse" for absentee voting.
- A bill allowing the Cloquet Fire District authority to expand its taxing district. The Board will contact MAT attorney Kent Sulem for more information. Solway Township has been contacted in the past to join the Cloquet Fire District. They have also asked the Township to pay for medical calls to the Township, but as Gold Cross takes the calls in Solway, there was no money paid to the Cloquet Fire District.

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 9:15 p.m.