

Vice-Chairperson Clare R. Stromlund 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 was Supervisor Ron Gajewski, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, seven concerned citizens. Supervisor Scott Welsh was out of state.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the April 9, 2013 Town Board Meeting.

Motion made by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to accept the following Treasurer's report dated April 30, 2013.

**Checking 14076-14122**

|                   |                     |              |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$180,343.36        |              |
| Receipts          | 3,117.89            |              |
| Transfers         | \$0.00              |              |
| Disbursements     | \$-12,480.84        |              |
| Ending Balance    | <u>\$170,980.41</u> | \$170,980.41 |

**Money Market**

|                   |                     |              |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 108,435.39       |              |
| Interest/Deposits | \$0.00              |              |
| Withdrawals       | \$0.00              |              |
| Ending Balance    | <u>\$108,435.39</u> | \$108,435.39 |

**Total Accounts**

**\$279,415.80**

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

4/14 Gobel Aggregate, Inc. – Aggregate Tax reporting form for the first quarter of 2013. No board action.

4/15 Thompson Insurance Agency – Certificate of Insurance for Sinnott Blacktop. No board action.

4/16 St. Louis County Planning & Community Development - Ordinance 60 draft amendment. No board action.

4/16 Northland Constructors - Aggregate Tax reporting form for the first quarter of 2013. No board Action.

4/29 St. Louis County Planning & Community Development - CDBG and HOME programs Requalification. No board action.

4/29 Country Trucking - Aggregate Tax reporting form for the first quarter of 2013.

4/29 Shelton Excavating - Aggregate Tax reporting form for the first quarter of 2013.

4/30 Minnesota Association of Townships - Legislative & Research Committee registration.

5/6 Couri & Ruppe, Attorneys - Ad for legal seminar. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to allow Board members to attend the October 5<sup>th</sup> legal seminar in Cotton.

5/10 Arrowhead Library System - Notice that the bookmobile is out of service until further notice because of mechanical problems.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:** The Treasurer has two bills in addition to the list of Outstanding Bills: Regena Merritt for mileage and cell phone reimbursement in the amount of \$32.30; and, Clare Stromlund in the amount of \$18.08 for mileage. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski, and carried to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list and the additional bills from the Treasurer for a total amount of \$48,976.50.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:** a) Township resident Dan De Santo appeared before the Town Board last month 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 contacted Township

Attorney John Bray and also the Township insurance carrier and were advised to hire the patrol themselves. The Board discussed allowing renters to hire their own patrol as required for parties where alcohol is served. The Board decided it is not in the town's best interest to allow personal friends/co-workers act as patrol at town hall functions. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to keep with Township policy and not allow renters to hire their own patrol for parties that serve alcohol.

**ROAD: a)** The Board has two estimates for crack filling and sealing the hall parking lot and the basketball court. KTM's quote is \$9,742.30 for the hall parking, and \$2,004.30 for the basketball court area. This includes an extra \$75 per patch for some areas where heavy trucks have left an indentation in the blacktop. Sinnott provided a quote of \$8,976.00 for both areas. As Sinnott's quote is quite a bit lower, the Board feels they can have a couple of patches that are needed added to Sinnott's bid and still be lower than KTM. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to hire Sinnott Blacktop to crack fill, seal, and stripe the hall parking lot and the basketball courts for \$8,976 plus an additional amount for patching a couple of indented areas. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to use money from the Aggregate Tax for this project.

**b)** The Board has a quote of 88 cents per gallon from Jake Demenge to apply dust control the township roads. This is an increase of 3 cents from last year. The quote from St. Louis County is 84 cents per gallon. MR. Demenge is available to apply dust control sooner and on our schedule, and also has a smaller truck with better access to the smaller roads. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to hire Jake Demenge to apply dust control to the township roads at a cost of 88-cents per gallon.

**c)** Supervisor Gajewski reported that Jerry, Van Gassler, North and South Hanson Roads were underwater from snow melt run off. No board action.

**d)** Supervisor Gajewski reported that a culvert on Jeffrey Road had collapsed and the water has begun to undermine the blacktop. The bottom of the culvert was rotted out. Supervisor Gajewski called Shelton Excavating who replaced the culvert and will fix the blacktop as soon as the hot mix is available. The bill will be \$4,200 including the blacktop. Supervisor Gajewski reported that a new 18-inch culvert with apron was installed.

**e)** There is a damaged culvert at 6279 Maple Grove Road causing water to back up. This culvert is the county's responsibility. No board action. Township resident Butch Lund reported that the Stone Lake Road was also under water, and a driveway was put in without an adequate culvert that is causing some of the water problems. There is a 12-inch culvert in this driveway that is not handling the water volume. The property owner has never contacted the township office for a driveway permit. The Board feels a 15-inch by 30-foot culvert is needed. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to send a certified letter to the resident specifying a 15-inch by 30-foot culvert be installed within 60 days. The Town Clerk will contact John Bray to see what options the Town has.

**f)** The annual township road inspection was held on April 26<sup>th</sup>. A total of 143 loads of class 5 gravel is suggested to be applied the township roads as stated on the road survey sheet. The Board has gravel price quotes from Shelton's and Jim Lindquist. They are both at \$17.20 per yard. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to have Shelton Excavating supply the gravel for the township roads, and Jim Lindquist grade the gravel as it is applied.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to have Jim Lindquist ditch the Jeffrey, Heine and South Hanson Roads as specified in his quote of \$5,800 for these three roads. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to replace the "Dead End" sign on the South Bergquist Road, and to add a street sign at Jerry and Sandberg intersection.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT: a)** Fire Chief Alan Mitchell and Firefighter Jeff Nelson reported four grassfires for the past month. No burning permits are being issued. Chief Mitchell mentioned that the snow plow pushed the address sign at 607 Hwy 194 over. He is wondering if the Town had any help for the homeowner to put the sign back up. The Board does not, and hopefully the sign is just in the ditch and can be put upright by someone. Jeff Nelson will check on this.

**b)** The leaking roof has not been fixed. This will be mentioned at the next Fire Department meeting.

**c)** The valve on the boiler at the Fire Hall was replaced by Randall Brothers on April 13<sup>th</sup> and is working well.

**d)** The Fire Department has looked at different ways to replace tanker #3. They have provided two plans and quotes to the Board. They both propose to use cab and chassis that is for sale at Mid-State Truck Service in Marshfield, WI. This is a 2005 International 4300 in good condition for \$25,000. There are two options to put a tank on this chassis. One is to have Stainless and Repair build a tank similar to the one they built for us last year. The total amount for this would be \$123,000 including the cost of the used chassis. The second option is to have the old tank on #3 refurbished. There is quote from Hansen's Welding for this in the amount of \$24,192.17 or \$48,700 including the cost of the used chassis. Whichever option the Board chooses we will still need to purchase the used cab/chassis. The Department has looked at other trucks and feels this one is a good deal. Fire Chief Mitchell will contact Mid-State Truck Service to see if they will hold the truck for us and if they require money down to hold it. The Board would like to set a Special Meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to further discuss and decide on the Fire Truck options. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to approve up to five thousand dollars for a down payment to be used if necessary to hold the truck.

It was mentioned that the medical van is a loaned truck from the DNR and is not in good shape. The Board would like to replace this vehicle in the near future.

**RECYCLING:** **a)** Nothing to report.

**HALL:** **a)** The Clerk reported that the new color printer/scanner/fax will cost an additional \$10 per month.

**b)** Supervisor Gajewski has quotes to repair the town hall chimney. The first is from Jim Perrault for \$1,000 and the second from Gary Foucault for \$1,500. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to have Jim Perrault Construction replace the cement cap on the chimney and tuckpoint the bricks.

**c)** Supervisor Gajewski "Solway Township" has a quote from Todd Signs to replace the sign on the front of the hall building in the amount of \$725.00 this includes \$275 to mount the sign. This will be an aluminum 3-foot by 6-foot sign. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to purchase and have installed a new Solway Township sign for the front of the town hall in the amount of \$725 to include mounting.

**d)** The remodeling work in the hall office is not yet completed.

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

**f)** Rick Flesvig has replaced the NE and SW banks of lights on the town hall building.

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

**b)** Brian Olson has asked to use the baseball field for K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade Proctor Area baseball on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for the next few weeks. Mary Saline will handle the field scheduling and has contacted Mr. Olson.

**c)** Supervisor Gajewski has a quote for using rubber mulch on the playground. The quote is \$15,486 and Supervisor Gajewski and Vice-Chair Stromlund would like to table this decision until the full Board is at a meeting. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to table the decision to purchase rubber mulch for the playground until the June Board meeting.

**d)** Fertilizer for the township soccer fields was purchased. A spreader was purchased at Menards for \$99.99.

**e)** The Board may purchase "no horses allowed" signs for the township fields from St. Louis County for \$115 each. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to purchase two signs at the cost of \$115 each for the township fields.

**f)** Rick Flesvig replaced the timer for the parking lot lights.

**g)** Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that bus garage could use painting. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to table this decision until the June meeting.

**h)** The metal on the south gable end of the Munger School garage that had come loose from the wind has been re attached.

**CEMETERY:** a) Supervisor Gajewski completed a cemetery inspection along with the monthly playground inspection. No safety hazards were found.  
b) Supervisor Gajewski reported that there are maple trees that might need to be replaced by A. J.'s because of winter kill. He will keep an eye on it.

**COMMITTEES:** a) Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** a) The Clerk contacted the Proctor Journal to get the status of the Solway Centennial books they are reprinting. They are not ready and not sure when they will be. The Clerk will give them another call.

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported that he has left word for Ken Sulem regarding a bill proposed by the Cloquet Fire District to expand their taxing district to neighboring townships without consent from the townships. Supervisor Gajewski placed calls to Rep Mary Murphy and Sen Tom Bakk. Rep Murphy returned his call and reported that the bill will not be heard this year. Supervisor Gajewski will stay informed on this bill.

c) Supervisor Gajewski attended the open house informational meeting regarding the Great Northern Transmission line that is proposed to go through Solway Township. Supervisor Gajewski would like to have the same type of meeting at the town hall for township residents. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to plan for a public informational meeting regarding the Great Northern Transmission Line. Supervisor Gajewski will try to set up this meeting and report at the June meeting.

d) The Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting has been recessed until May 20<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM giving the assessor time to review a few properties whose value is in question.

e) L & R Meeting will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud. Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that he was told this is very informational and a good time to visit the legislators. The February L & R is in St. Paul and would be a better time to have access to legislators. It was decided to plan for next year.

**NEW BUSINESS:** a) The "Caution Fire Run" and "No Passing" signs on Munger Shaw Rod bordering our property will be removed by St. Louis County. They are considered unnecessary.

b) Residents near the Kivi gravel pit are concerned because there is land being cleared near the pit as if they are expanding. There is no indication of violations and they can clear up to 50-feet of their property line.

c) Supervisor Gajewski was contacted by the Rouna family who owns the old teacherage and would like to have an open house to allow people to tour the building. The Board thinks they should submit an article for the newsletter with an invitation to view their home.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.