

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, seven concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the April 10, 2012 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried all in favor to accept the following Treasurer's report dated April 30, 2012.

Checking 13505 - 13530

Beginning Balance	\$240,483.94	
Receipts	\$2,443.89	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$-8,981.07	
Ending Balance	<u>\$233,946.76</u>	\$233,946.76

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,314.22	
Interest/Deposits	\$27.06	
Withdrawals	\$00	
Ending Balance	<u>\$108,341.28</u>	\$108,341.28

Total Accounts \$342,288.04

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

4/8 Interpoll Laboratories - Informational brochure advertising environmental monitoring services. No board action.

4/11 University of Minnesota Extension Service – Notice of wood ash application at 3557 Mettsa Rd. No board action.

4/12 St. Louis County Planning and Zoning – Variance request from Mark Krsiean. The Clerk has sent meeting notices to the Solway Planning and Zoning Committee. This will be addressed under Committees.

4/16 Western Lake Superior Sanitary District - Problem Materials Management Program. This program is reviewed annually to address trends and emerging issues with problematic wastes. No board action.

4/17 Couri & Ruppe Attorneys at Law – Ad for legal services and legal seminar on Saturday September 29, 2012.

5/1 St. Louis County Planning and Zoning - Board of Adjustment Public Hearing for Mark Krsiean application.

Supervisor Welsh reported that he had received a call at home from Dennis Johnson voicing a complaint that Jan Jackson did not return his call to her. Mr. Johnson was told his complaint would be brought up at the next Town Board meeting.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: The Treasurer has additional bills as follows: \$25 each for hall reservation deposits to Sandy Elfving, Dennis Seppala and Shyanne McGregor; three bills to Minnesota Power in the amounts of \$171, \$268, and \$288 for Town Hall, Fire Hall and road lighting power; Cloquet Interiors

in the amount of \$1,211 for carpeting of stage that was completed today. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh, and carried all in favor to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list and the additional bills from the Treasurer for a total amount of \$19,162.18.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) The owner of the Grand Lake Station Store Kristina Carl, appeared before the Town Board for renewal of their liquor license. The Town Board has received no concerns or complaints regarding the Grand Lake Station. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve the liquor license for the Grand Lake Station. The Clerk will send the report of Board action to St. Louis County.

ROAD: a) The Annual Road Inspection was completed on April 26, 2012. Several Road projects were discussed. Ditching is needed on the South Hanson Road. Jim Lindquist estimates this to cost \$5,500 to \$6000. A culvert needs to be replaced on the Tondryk Road which Jim Lindquist estimates to cost \$850. The shoulder on the north side of the Stonelake Road needs to be built up. There is an estimate from Jim Lindquist for \$200. The Board would like to complete these projects this summer. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to have Jim Lindquist complete ditching on South Hanson Road; replace a culvert on the Tondryk Road; and build up the north side of the Stone Lake Road with this work to be completed for \$7,050. The Board would like to put 128 loads of gravel on the township roads. There is a quote from Shelton Excavating for \$16.70 per yard for class 5 and a quote from Jim Lindquist for \$16.05 per yard from his own pit. It would take longer for the road work if the gravel came from Mr. Lindquist's pit. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to purchase the gravel at \$16.70 per yard from Shelton Excavating as we have done in the past. Since the Board has been getting gravel from Wissota through Shelton Excavating there has been no complaints regarding the quality of gravel on the roads.

b) The Board needs to schedule chloride application to the township roads. Chairperson Gajewski has contacted Jake Demenge and found that the county is charging 80 cents per gallon, but does not have the equipment to do small roads. Mr. Demenge charges 85 cents and does have the equipment to do smaller township roads. Mr. Demenge has done good work for the township in the past. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to have Jake Demenge (The Dust Dr.) apply dust control to the township roads, applying extra at stop signs and intersections to use up to 6000 gallons. Chairperson Gajewski will contact Mr. Demenge to make arrangements for this to be completed.

c) At the Annual Town Meeting a couple of residents complained about the north end of the Jeffrey Road going to the gravel pit. This Road is paved and in poor condition. Because of the gravel pit at the end, there is a lot of heavy traffic on the road. Chairperson Gajewski obtained a quote from Sinnott Blacktop to overlay one and a half inches in the bad areas for the amount of \$17,340. The Board has used Sinnott Blacktop for repairs and an overlay to the Jeffrey Road between Maple Grove and Highway #2 and was very satisfied with their work. Sinnott was lower at that time than the other quote the board received. The Board discussed which parts of the road should now have an overlay and how thick. Because of the truck traffic the board feels a two inch overlay would be a good idea. This would increase the price of the job to \$19,620. The Board also would like to extend the overlay to include the last home on the road. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to hire Sinnott Blacktop to put a two inch asphalt overlay on the Jeffery Road north of the Maple Grove Road past the driveway of the last house on the road before the gravel pit. The cost not to exceed \$25,000. Supervisor Welsh abstained from this vote as he lives on the Jeffrey Road. Chairperson Gajewski will contact Sinnott to make arrangements to have this work completed.

Cracks are beginning to appear in the hall parking lot. Chairperson Gajewski has a quote for crack filling and sealing this lot. The quote is to clean the asphalt, router cracks, crack fill, seal and mark the Town Hall parking lot in the of \$7,867. The board discussed if sealing is needed at this time and decided at this time to do the cleaning, router and crack fill only. This will cost \$2,935. MOTION by

Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to have the Town Hall parking lot cleaned and the cracks routed and filled for \$2,935.

e) Jake Demenge also has brushing equipment and will do the Township Roads for \$75 per hour. This includes equipment and driver with another worker to do hand brushing and clean up. Mr. Demenge estimates it takes four to five hours to do one mile. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have Jake Demenge brush the township roads at \$75 per hour including equipment spending up to \$4,800.

There are several signs and sign posts that should be replaced. Two "Dead End" signs are needed one on Stonelake, and one on South Mattson Road. Two "Stop" signs one each on Birchway and Cedarway Roads. Also, the curve sign and posts need to be replaced on the Heine Road. Twelve posts (six six-foot posts and six eight-foot posts) are needed for these signs. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to purchase four signs and twelve posts from St. Louis County in the amount of \$300.

The county had previously notified Chairperson Gajewski that the snowplow did not have enough room to turnaround on the Baily Road. During the road inspection the Board noted that the turnaround seems large enough, but there is a mailbox that is in the way. Chairperson Gajewski has contacted the county to see if moving the mailbox will solve the problem for the snowplow driver. He has not yet heard back from the county.

Chairperson Gajewski also mentioned that Jake Demenge has a gravel reclaimer that runs along the shoulder of a road to pull the gravel back onto the road that was pushed into the ditch during the winter snowplowing.

Chairperson Gajewski contacted St. Louis County about trimming the trees at the corner of Sandberg and Morris Thomas, and Mettsa and St. Louis River Roads. This is needed for visibility at the intersection.

FIRE: a) Fire Chief Wayne Suliin and Firefighter Jeff Nelson reported for the Fire Department 26 calls year-to-date. During April they had six calls: four of the calls were medical, one grass fire and one car accident.

Membership is at twenty with two new applications.

The donated Silverado pick-up is at Stainless and Repair getting the work completed making it into a grass fire rig. The truck also needs engine bolts and exhaust work. The old body Stainless is taking off the Silverado will be sold on consignment and taken off the bill for the exhaust work. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have Stainless and Repair do the additional work on the Silverado in the amount of \$1,600 and sell the old truck body on consignment with that amount to be taken off the bill.

Firefighter Nelson has a quote from Hansen's Fire Equipment Service for pump certifications and maintenance on the fire trucks. The quote includes pump tests and a DOT inspection on trucks 1, 6, and 2 for \$1,200. There is a list of additional services that includes oil change, filters, grease, and brake adjustment for future reference. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have Hansen's do pump testing and DOT inspection on fire trucks 1, 6, and 2, in the amount of \$1,200. Ask if this includes any other maintenance such as an oil changes and get back to the board when they find out.

The Solway Fire Relief Association has raised the lump sum payout to \$1,400 per year of service. This retirement fund is completely self funded with no costs to the township.

The door latch on the front entrance to the fire hall is still not working correctly. The Town Clerk will call the locksmith to have him return to fix the door latch properly.

RECYCLING: a) The Clerk received a request from a resident of Grand Lake Township to put a collection box out by our recycling shed for coated paper. The paper is sold and the money used for Proctor School activities and the youth soccer program. The Recycling Program at Solway is run with grant money from WLSSD. In the agreement with WLSSD anything brought to the recycling shed is their property. The Board does not feel this would abide with the contract.

HALL: a) Installation of new stage carpeting is completed.
b) The upstairs bathroom has been painted and the ceiling tiles replaced.
c) Installing the new tile in the upstairs bathroom is scheduled for the week of May 21st

PARK: a) Barb Mattson called to let the Board know that the fence is down on the township's and her property line. Leon Forstrom and Chairperson Gajewski checked out the fence and replaced the fence posts with heavier ones that won't break.

b) The monthly playground inspection shows no hazards and that the parks are in good shape.

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

b) The work by Shelton Excavating to add fill to level the low areas in the cemetery and to extend the driveway has not been started. Chairperson Gajewski will contact Shelton Excavating to find out when they plan to complete this work.

c) The Clerk is continuing to pursue the DNR Sentenced to Serve officials to see if they are able to have a crew do the work of raising and leveling headstones at the cemetery.

d) Tuominen Landscaping is here with plans and sample stones for the cemetery patio area. The plan calls for flagstone around the flagpole on a class five gravel base over fabric with sand joints. The Board discussed having benches built in and also some shrubs around the perimeter of the patio. Mr. Tuominen has a few ideas for the board. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to spend up to \$5,000 to install a flagstone patio with a built in bench and shrubs. Mr. Tuominen hopes to have this work finished by Memorial Day weather permitting.

e) One burial: Katherine Miller - April 19, 2012

COMMITTEES: a) The Solway Planning and Zoning Committee met regarding a variance request from Mark Krsiean. The is a request for a variance from the 100-foot setback to 10-feet from the property line. After Mr. Krsiean purchased the home he had the property surveyed and found his garage is a few feet on the neighbor's property. Mr. Krsiean plans to tear down this garage and build a different one that would be 10-feet from the property line. The Clerk has talked with the county regarding this variance and they stated that where Mr. Krsiean plans to build the new garage is the only suitable building site on the property. The Solway Planning and Zoning Committee recommends approval of the variance. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to recommend approval of the Mark Krsiean variance. The Clerk will notify St. Louis County Planning and Zoning of the Boards recommendation.

OLD BUSINESS: a) There is no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS: a) The Board discussed employee wages and would like to increase the wages as follows: Leon Forstrom one dollar per hour increase; all other employees a 50 cent per hour increase.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to raise Leon Forstrom wages one dollar per hour and all other employees 50 cents per hour.

b) The Minnesota Association of Townships is holding short course training on June 28th at the Black Bear Convention Center. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously that whoever is able to attend the short course in Carlton do so at township expense.

c) David Larson has requested the township put an ad in the newsletter for Summer Vacation Bible School at the Munger. The Township has not put this type of ad in the newsletter for a few years as citizens expressed concerns about private advertisements. Now notices are only put in the newsletter for public community groups that meet at the town hall. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried with Welsh opposing, to not allow church or private party ads in the newsletter.

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.