

Solway Town Board Meeting Minutes
 July 12, 2011

Chairperson Clare 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 were Supervisors Ron Gajewski and Scott Welsh, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and six concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the June 8, 2011 Welsh Cartway Public Hearing. This hearing was continued until March 20, 2012 to give time for the Welsh's to deposit the needed funds with the township. The Welsh's are suing their title company and this will be the source of the funds for the cartway proceeding.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the June 14, 2011 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Welsh seconded by Gajewski and carried to accept the following Treasurer's report dated June 30, 2011.

Checking 13040 - 13085		
Beginning Balance	\$145,980.24	
Receipts	\$16,283.28	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$-41,642.85	
Ending Balance	<u>\$120,620.67</u>	\$120,620.67
Money Market		
Beginning Balance	\$108,160.53	
Interest/Deposits	\$22.22	
Withdrawals	00	
Ending Balance	<u>\$108,182.75</u>	\$108,182.75
Total Accounts		\$228,803.42

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

6/15 Minnesota Association of Townships Legislative & Research Committee - Meeting minutes. No board action.

6/15 MN State Auditor - Government shutdown information. No board action.

6/24 Attorney John Bray - copy of court documents regarding Northland Bituminous. No board action.

6/24 State Demographer - 2010 Census counts showing total population of 1,944 and occupied housing units numbering 749.

6/28 Awes Seidel Diversified Insurance - Certificate of Liability Insurance for the Solway Fire Department. This coverage has a four million dollar limit. No board action.

6/27 SLC Auditor Office - Election Administrator Certification for Clerk Regena Merritt. No board action.

7/5 St. Louis County Assessor David Sipila - Notice of Minnesota Revenue ordered reassessment of Solway Township for 2011.

7/8 Attorney John Bray - Update on July 5 court hearing regarding Northland Bituminous. No board action.

OUTSTANDING BILLS:

Treasurer Moe presented additional bills as follows:

- \$421.04 to Portable John for biffie rental.
- \$257.80 to Don Walsh for Aggregate Tax Consulting.
- \$30 to Butch Lund for bus garage fuel tank.
- \$1085.22 to St. Louis Public works for road sanding 1/1/11 to 5/31/11.
- \$52.00 to Duluth News Tribune for publishing.
- \$117.36 to John Childers as reimbursement for roadside mower blades.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh, and carried to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list and to include the additional bills presented by the Town Treasurer.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:

a) Butch Lund is present tonight asking that the Town Board consider putting up a fence between the town sliding hill and Barb Mattson's property. She has complained about people crossing onto her property through the woods. According to Barb, this was not a problem until the Town Board developed the sliding hills giving easier access to her property. The Board will address this issue at the end of the meeting by taking an inspection walk.

b) New owners of the Saginaw Grand Lake Station Kristina and Troy Carl appeared before the Town Board. They need to re-new the liquor license in their name. The previous owners' liquor license expired Jun 30, 2011. The Board has no objections to the county renewing the liquor license at the Saginaw Grand Lake Station. There have been no complaints received at the town office regarding the bar. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to allow renewal of the liquor license for the Saginaw Grand Lake Station in the name of Kristina Carl.

ROAD: a) Dust Control was applied to all township roads except the Peterson Road. Construction on the Maple Grove Road blocked access to the Peterson Road at the time the dust control was applied.

b) Some roadside brushing that was noted on the Annual Road Inspection will be completed by Leon Forstrom and Supervisor Gajewski.

c) Supervisor Gajewski explained that the state advises townships to have a Local Weed Inspector. The Board discussed options for this position. In the past township resident Tom Jacobson has shown interest in the noxious weed issue. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to approach Tom Jacobson regarding the position of Local Weed Inspector.

d) The emergency work on Jeffrey Road has been completed in the amount of \$3,695. More work needs to be done. There is much cracking in the road and the shoulders have broken down in areas causing water to run under the blacktop. Supervisor Gajewski has met with KTM Paving and Sinnott Blacktop for quotes and suggestion on how to fix the problem areas on the road. There is a quote from KTM in the amount of \$12,730.02 for 120 tons of blacktop at \$106.08 per ton. There is a quote from Sinnott in the amount of \$19,650.00 for 200 tons of blacktop at a price per ton for the blacktop of \$98.25. There is a quote from Shelton

Excavating for fixing the road shoulders in the amount of \$1,680. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried to accept the quote from Shelton Excavating in the amount of \$1,680 for shoulder work on the Jeffrey Road. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried to accept the quote from Sinnott Blacktop in the amount of \$19,650.00 for repairs to the Jeffrey Road.

FIRE: a) No Fire Department members are present.

Supervisor Stromlund mentioned that he has been approached by retired Fire Department member John Rogalla asking why the retired members and spouses are not invited to the Fire Department Appreciation Dinner. This was an oversight on the part of the Town Board. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to invite retired Fire Department members and their significant other to the Appreciation Dinner, and also the spouse of deceased members.

RECYCLING: a) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that some additional strips of siding on the bottom of the recycling shed are rotting. Leon Forstrom will replace the bad boards. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to spend up to \$100 to repair the recycling shed siding.

HALL: a) Installation of the new carpeting for the town hall ramp is scheduled for July 21st weather permitting.

b) Supervisor Gajewski is wondering if our hall rental contract includes what is recommended by the Minnesota Association of Townships. The Clerk has used the sample contract available on the MAT website as a guide for our rental contract.

c) The outside light on the northwest corner of the hall is still out. Rick Flesvig is in process of repairing the lights.

PARK: a) The hedge at the Munger School Site will be trimmed this coming week.

b) Veronica Childers will paint the wooden playground equipment as weather permits.

c) Supervisor Gajewski reported that some of the concrete blocks on the corner of the warming shed are loose and need concrete patching. Leon Forstrom will check this out and do any needed repairs.

d) Supervisor Gajewski reports that he repaired the field painter and it is working fine so there is no need to purchase a new one at this time.

e) The roof on the Munger Site bus garage is leaking. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to spend up to \$300 to repair the Munger School Site bus garage.

f) A 250-gallon fuel tank has been installed at the Munger School Site garage. This will be used for filling the roadside and lawn mowers.

g) There is a light fixture broken on the Munger School Site field. Supervisor Gajewski will notify Minnesota Power.

h) The monthly playground inspection shows no hazards and the parks in good condition.

CEMETERY: a) One burial: Harriett Pelletier

b) The flag pole and memorial plaque are ready to be installed at the cemetery and Supervisor Gajewski is looking for help in deciding where to place them. The Board decided to install the flag pole in the middle of the cemetery. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to place the flag pole and memorial plaque in the middle of the cemetery. Supervisor Gajewski will let Todd Signs know.

COMMITTEES: a) A Special Events Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday August 8th to make plans for the Fall Fun Day. The Clerk will send out notices to the committee members.

OLD BUSINESS: a) The Clerk has billed the Welsh's for the expenses incurred by the town for the cartway procedure. The Welsh Cartway Public Hearing is scheduled to be re-convened on March 20, 2012.

b) A hearing for summary judgment for the Northland lawsuit was scheduled on July 5. The judge has 60 days in which to make a decision. As of today we have heard nothing.

NEW BUSINESS: a) No new business.

The Board recessed their meeting at 7:50 to look at the area of Town property that borders with Barb Mattson. This is a concern brought forward by Butch Lund as a family friend of Barb Mattson.

At 8:10 the meeting was called back to order. The board viewed the area and decided to put up a plastic snow fence type of barrier to keep people from passing from the town property onto Barb Mattson's. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to spent up to \$250 to have Leon Forstrom install a fence at the property line behind the sliding hill.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the Board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.