

The Solway Town Board Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Solway Town Hall by Vice-Chairperson Ron Gajewski, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Supervisors and Scott Welsh, Clerk Regena Merritt, Deputy Clerk Terri Jensen, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and five concerned citizens. Chairperson Clare R Stromlund was not in attendance.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the July 8, 2014, Town Board Meeting.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to accept the following Treasurer's report dated July 31, 2014.

Checking: 14835-14886

Beginning Balance	\$125,193.51	
Receipts	168,184.05	
Disbursements	<u>\$-50,948.02</u>	
Ending Balance	\$242,429.54	\$242,429.54

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,556.03	
Interest/Deposits	\$18.34	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$108,574.37	<u>\$108,574.37</u>

Total Accounts

\$351,003.91

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

7/21 Minnesota Association of Townships - District 10 Meeting Notice. Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that the Minnesota Association of Townships attorney's will be on hand prior to the meeting to answer questions from township officials.

7/21 Vic and Colleen Viebahn -Bailey Road concerns regarding the installation of the culvert at the end of the road. To be discussed under Road.

7/27 Wells Fargo - letter informing Town Board that public financing for the fire hall is paid. No board action.

7/28 Duluth News Tribune and Pine Journal - Affidavit of Publication for notice of public Accuracy testing o the township voting machines. No board action.

7/30 WLSSD - Notice of public hearing on the 2015 capital budget projects.

7/31 St Louis Cnty Public Works - Notice of Maple Grove Road closures. No board action.

7/31 Minnesota Revenue - Notice that 2015 Township state aid for Solway Township will be \$571.00.

8/4 St. Louis County Auditor Office - Information regarding dropping off election supplies. The Clerk will be dropping off the election supplies.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: The Treasurer has four additional bills to be added to the Outstanding Bills list as follows: \$297.69 to the Corporate Card for ice cream and coffee at the National Night Out, Town Clerk notary commission fee, and corner flags for the soccer field; \$120.17 for reimbursement to Scott Welsh for cell phone, and National Night Out expenses; \$50.49 to Menards for the roadside mower; \$25 to Bree Johnson for hall rental deposit refund. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to pay all outstanding bills as listed

on the Outstanding Bills list and the additional bills presented by the Town Treasurer for a total amount of \$28,377.77.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) Supervisor Gajewski reported he received a call from a Wargin Road resident complaining that the township had mowed onto their property. Supervisor Gajewski will speak with the township personnel about this matter.

St. Louis County Commissioner Pete Stauber attended the Board meeting to get acquainted with the Board and ask if they have any concerns or problems. Commissioner Stauber spoke about the county doing the assessing for the City of Duluth and that the county will now do assessing for the township at no cost to the township. Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that Solway was totally assessed by the County this year, and we have been very satisfied with the assessing and overall help received from the county. Jim Lindquist mentioned that there is a problem with visibility due to trees and brush at a few intersections in the township. Commissioner Stauber asked the Clerk to email him with the intersections and he will forward the concerns to the public works department.

ROAD: a & b) The Board received a letter from Vic and Colleen Viebahn regarding road drainage after the culvert was installed on the Bailey Road. They feel there needs be some ditching to allow water to flow to the Morris Thomas Road ditch. The Board received the letter on July 21st and Supervisor Gajewski and Jim Lindquist went out to the road to measure the height of the culvert to the height of the Morris Thomas ditch. The water from the Bailey Road does puddle in the yard of the resident on the corner of Bailey Road and Morris Thomas, although there has been no flooding or complaint from that resident. Jim Lindquist gave a quote of \$600 to ditch the Bailey Road to help the water flow into the Morris Thomas Road ditch. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to have Jim Lindquist ditch the Bailey Road in the amount of \$600.

c) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned there are potholes that need filling on the Jeffrey Road. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have the Clerk email St. Louis County Public Works to have them fill the potholes at their convenience when they are out patching other blacktop roads in the township.

d) The Board noted that the hedge on the Heine Road is again high enough to cause a problem with visibility. This hedge was planted years ago in the road right-of-way. The Post Office contacted the Town Board a couple years ago when there was a near miss accident between the mail carrier and a child riding a bike on the road. The mail carrier could not see around the hedge where the road turns. The hedge has been trimmed by the property owners in the past. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have the Clerk send a letter to the property owners reminding them the hedge needs to be trimmed for safety concerns and if they cannot get this done in a couple of weeks that the Board will have township personnel trim the hedge.

e) Ditching needed on the South Mattson was noticed on the annual road inspection. The Board had asked a quote from Jim Lindquist in May and tabled the decision for budget concerns until other road work was completed. The Board discussed having half of the work done this year at a cost of \$3000. There is money in the road fund for this work. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have Jim Lindquist ditch the South Mattson beginning at the south end of the road and to do half of the original length of the project for \$3000.

f) Supervisor Gajewski and Leon Forstrom will be working on clearing the downed trees on town roads right-of-ways.

g) There is not yet any perimeter lighting on the “Stop” sign at Canosia Road and Highway #194. Supervisor Gajewski has contacted the Minnesota Traffic Engineer again and he was told that Jim Miller has taken Rob Egge’s position. Mr. Miller will be studying the information compiled about accidents on the intersection to see if perimeter lighting is warranted and get back to Supervisor Gajewski.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: a) There are no Fire Department members present.

Firefighter Jeff Nelson reported to the Clerk that there have been 54 calls year to date. Truck #6’s CAFS system is being looked at by Hansens and is not in service at this time.

b) The Department received a \$1000 matching grant from the DNR that the department will use for wildland firefighting supplies.

c) There is not an update on the Rescue rig that is being built by Stainless and Repair.

d) One of Solway’s fire trucks were noticed at a private event in the township. The Board is concerned with using the fire trucks for personal reasons. The Board feels they should be notified if the trucks are being used for anything other than fire calls or regular driving for maintenance. The Board is concerned that there might be a liability issue with the town’s insurance carrier. The Clerk will send a letter to the Fire Chief outlining the Board’s concerns.

RECYCLING: a) Jim Miller reports that everything is going well at the recycling shed.

HALL: a) Perraults is working on getting the doors installed. They are waiting for new thresholds for the doors from the manufacturer.

b) Shelton Excavating is waiting on the permits for installation of the septic system at the town hall. Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that it was decided to move the tanks away from foot traffic as a precaution and the change may delay the permitting process.

c) The air conditioner in the town hall office has not been working great. The air conditioner is at least 15 years old. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to purchase a new air conditioner for the town office for up to \$300.

d) Some of the landscaping in front of the building is overgrown and should be replaced. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to spend up to \$100 to buy new plants/bushes for the front of the town hall.

e) The Primary Election was held at the town hall and all went well.

f) The Board discussed creating storage shelves in the downstairs office/storage room. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to purchase the wood necessary to create shelves in the downstairs office/storage area.

g) Supervisor Gajewski reported the parking lot lights are working and that Rick Flesvig has ordered a new light for the southwest corner of the hall building.

h) The Clerk received a call stating that the last well test done at the hall showed coliform and that the state would be out today to do another test. The state id call back late this afternoon to report that the second test was fine and the first test was s false positive.

PARK: a) Two footings around the lower playground need to be lowered. Larry Shelton mentioned that he could do this when he is at the hall for the septic system work.

b) The monthly Safety Inspection Report for township properties completed by Supervisor Gajewski shows no hazards and the cemetery, parks, fields and township grounds to be in good condition

c) Repairs to the pavilion are in progress.

d) Leon Forstrom is working on getting new “HOME and VISITOR” signs for the baseball field.

CEMETERY: a) No safety hazards were found at the cemetery during the monthly Township Properties Safety Inspection completed by Supervisor Gajewski.

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported that he and Leon Forstrom replaced eight of the hedge plants that have died.

c) Leon Forstrom reported that along the north fence some of fill washed away and pulled the fencing detaching it from the top rail. Leon will work on getting this fixed.

d) Leon Forstrom has been using a watering tank on his pick-up that he has been using to water the hedge plants and trees at the cemetery.

COMMITTEES: a) The National Night Out celebration was successful.

OLD BUSINESS: a) None

NEW BUSINESS: a) The Duluth Association of Townships meeting will be this Thursday at 6:00 PM.

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