

Solway Town Board Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2010

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

MOTION made by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2010 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Gajewski seconded by Stromlund and carried to accept the following Treasurer's report dated August 31, 2010.

Checking 12547 - 12604

Beginning Balance	\$205,815.83	
Receipts	\$3,617.51	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$21,847.20	
Ending Balance	\$187,586.14	\$187,586.14

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 113,782.50	
Interest/Deposits	\$28.99	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$113,811.49	\$113,811.49

Total Accounts **\$301,397.63**

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

8/20 DHW Consulting - Aggregate Tax report for Kivi Trucking. The report shows an additional amount due of \$277.77. Mr. Kivi thought that he only had to pay Aggregate Tax on the gravel that was sold to others, not on the gravel that he used when doing a job. Mr. Kivi sent the money owed on August 26, 2010.

8/20 Cosgriff Sheet Metal, LLC - Estimate for air conditioner in the amount of \$3,650.00 this is for the air conditioner alone and the electrical work will be additional. The board will table this until spring 2011. This is also addressed under Hall.

9/10 MN Pollution Control Agency - Variance Application for expansion of the Shamrock Environmental Landfill in Carlton County. No board action.

9/14 Berkley Risk Administrators - Loss Notification for the Fire Department Rescue Vehicle that hit a deer while answering a call on September 12, 2010. The insurance company is asking for an estimate. The work needs to be completed as soon as possible to allow the vehicle to get back in service. The board discussed where to have the vehicle repaired and decided on Moe and Sons. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to have John Moe from Moe and sons do the repair work to the Fire Department Rescue vehicle and to submit an estimate for the insurance company.

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9/14 Kathy Kern – claims examiner via Fax - Notice to send an estimate of repairs for the Fire Department rescue vehicle. This will be done as soon as John Moe can look at the vehicle.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: In addition to the list of bills presented by the Treasurer, there is an additional bill to pay from L & M Towing in the amount of \$70.00 to have the Fire Department Rescue vehicle towed back to the town hall after hitting a deer.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) Nothing to report.

ROAD: a) The Clerk needs to schedule the removal of the maple trees growing up in the hedge in the Heine Road right-of-way.

b) Brushing of the Township roads was completed by Don Juten. Supervisor Gajewski suggested that we clear out the ditch along the VanGassler Road at the cemetery. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to ditch and clean out the Van Gassler road ditch near the Township Cemetery not to exceed \$500.

c) The roadwork scheduled for this year is completed.

d) Tree branches that were obscuring the “Stop” signs on Sandberg Road north and south of the Morris Thomas Road have been trimmed.

e) St. Louis County is upgrading the Morris Thomas Road from the Midway Road to the Canosia Road.

f) Jim Lindquist mentioned that there are some county road intersections that need to have the trees trimmed back for visibility. The board asked Jim Lindquist to give us a list of the intersections and Supervisor Gajewski will notify the county.

FIRE: a) Jeff Nelson reported for the Fire Department. Mr. Nelson reported that he was driving the rescue vehicle when he hit a deer. The accident has been turned into the insurance carrier and John Moe will be getting an estimate to the insurance company. There is a \$250 deductible for the vehicle.

The extraction equipment ordered by the Fire Department through the FEMA grant has arrived.

No update on the new tanker being built with funds from a FEMA grant.

The Department received a DNR matching grant to purchase new fire hose.

The battery on truck #7 is dead. The department will take care of this.

There have been 50 calls to date with the last 14 all medical calls.

b) Truck Chassis payment is not yet required from the township.

c) The Board will again hold an Appreciation Dinner for the Fire Department members. The Clerk will contact the Fire Chief to work out a date for the dinner. MOTION by Gajewski seconded by Stromlund and carried to hold an Appreciation Dinner for the Fire Department not to exceed \$600.

e) The department has two new applicants.

RECYCLING: a) There is no news regarding the Electronic Waste Recycling program.

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HALL: a) The board discussed purchasing a second air conditioner for the town hall. Twice during the Country Music Show the air conditioner has not been able to keep the hall cool. It was mentioned that it has been an unusually hot summer. The board is tabling this issue until next spring.

b) Veronica Childers is now doing the town hall cleaning.

PARK: a) The middle playground and the picnic table near it need painting. The picnic table will need to be scraped before painting.

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

c) The soccer field at the Munger School Site needs to be fertilized. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to spend up to \$500 to fertilize the soccer field at the Munger School Site.

CEMETERY: a) b) John Childers will cut the grass in the north end of the cemetery and Jim Lindquist will level off the dirt pile at the cemetery using the fill to extend the road north toward the fence. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to have Jim Lindquist level off the dirt pile at the cemetery, using the fill to extend the road at the cemetery.

COMMITTEES: a) The Special Events Committee will hold a meeting September 27, 2010 to plan for the Halloween Carnival and to review the Fall Fun Day.

b) The CLUP public dialog meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2010 at 6:30 pm. The Clerk has had post cards with this meeting information sent to all township property owners and residents.

OLD BUSINESS: a) Don Walsh has audited Wissota, Mark Kivi, Gobel Aggregate, Jim Lindquist, Northland Constructors and Jim Sathers. Mahnke Trucking is getting their records together for Mr. Walsh. Country has asked to wait until after the first of the year due to building a home, moving, working and operating the aggregate business. Country is not a full time operation.

Wissota and Kivi owe a small amount. Mr. Kivi has paid the amount owed. Wissota will add it to their third quarter payment.

Northland owes close to \$15,000 for the period of July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2010. This is due because Northland had been reducing their taxable tons by 25% every quarter because they bring aggregate into the pit from other leased pits. They have determined that approximately 25% of this aggregate is not used in the township. Township attorney John Bray and Mr. Don Walsh both believe that this material brought in is taxable as stockpiles are mentioned in the state statute as taxable. Northland told Mr. Walsh that it was negotiated at the time of the township's settlement with Northland in 2006 that the township agreed to exempt the stored material from aggregate tax. This is not mentioned in the settlement and John Bray does not recall this being mentioned at the negotiations.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to have Township Attorney John Bray review the settlement with Northland Constructors and proceed to collect what they owe.

Jim Sathers was audited today and it was discovered he has been under reporting on his quarterly reporting forms and owes \$26,658 in aggregate tax.

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MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to have John Bray handle the collection of aggregate tax owed to the township from Jim Sathers.

NEW BUSINESS: a) Election Judges need to be appointed for the General Election. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to appoint Bonnie Siiro, Mary Busch, Ron Gajewski, Amy Johnson, Scott Welsh, Leon Forstrom, and Clare Stromlund/alternate as election judges for the General Election November 2, 2010. The Clerk will send notices to serve to the appointed judges.

b) The township will need snowplowing for the town hall and fire hall parking areas. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to have Shelton's Excavating plow the parking areas at the town hall and fire hall for the coming winter.

c) ACTS meeting will be held at Solway Town Hall on September 21, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

d) MAT District 10 meeting will be held at the Carlton Highway Department Building at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.