

October 13, 2009

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 was Supervisors Scott Welsh and Clare R. Stromlund, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and six citizens.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried to approve the minutes from the September 1, 2009 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by welsch, seconded by Stromlund and carried to accept the following Treasurer's report dated September 30, 2009.

**Checking 12055 - 12095**

Beginning Balance	\$163,220.14	
Receipts	\$ 1,317.50	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$15,337.13	
Ending Balance	\$149,200.51	\$149,200.51

**Savings**

Beginning Balance	\$0.00	
Interest	0.00	
Deposits	0.00	
Withdrawals	0.00	
Ending Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00

**Money Market**

Beginning Balance	\$ 113,370.27	
Interest/Deposits	\$75.80	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$113,446.07	\$113,446.07

**Total Accounts** **\$262,646.58**

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

**9/11 St. Louis County Assessor's Dept** - Board of Appeal and Equalization training for Township Supervisors. Supervisor Welsh's training expires July of 2010. MOTION by Gajewski seconded by Stromlund and carried to have Supervisor Welsh attend the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization training to be held at the Cotton Town Hall on November 4, 2009. The Clerk will sign-up Supervisor Welsh for the training.

**9/30 PERA Newsletter** – Informational, no board action.

**10/8 Mark Kivi** - Aggregate Tax reporting form and payment for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2009.

**10/8 ARDC** - Regional Energy Survey - This survey is for units of government who are working on renewable energy initiatives. No board action.

**10/13 Jim Lindquist** - Aggregate Tax reporting form and payment for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2009.

October 13, 2009

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:** In addition to the prepared list of bills, the Treasurer has three additional bills as follows: Anthony Merritt in the amount of \$110.00 for work on the office computers; Equipment Specialists for repairs to fire truck # 6 in the amount of \$339.81; Diane Fremling in the amount of \$325.00 for hall rental damage deposit return including the amount paid for patrol because the patrol did not show up. MOTION by Stromlund seconded by Welsh and carried to pay all outstanding bills.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:** a) The Clerk was contacted by township resident Linda Stephens who is a member of the square dance club that previously met weekly at the town hall. The club would like to start meeting again. There is no alcohol at these meetings, and many of the members are township residents. MOTION by Gajewski seconded by Welsh and carried to allow the square dance club to use the town hall on Thursday's. The Clerk will work out the details with Linda Stephens.

**ROAD:** a) The Clerk received a phone call informing her that there has been a garage break-in in the St. Louis River Road area. Some residents have noticed that there has been more St. Louis County Sheriff Deputies in the area. The board will not take any action, as we have no law enforcement capability.

b) Chairperson Gajewski reported to Minnesota Power that the streetlight on the corner of Munger Shaw and Morris Thomas Roads is out.

c) The Board needs to arrange for snowplowing at the town hall and fire hall parking lots. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to hire Shelton's Excavating to plow the town hall and fire hall parking lot for the 2009-2010 winter. The Clerk will contact Shelton's.

d) John Childers has completed mowing the township roadsides for a second time this summer.

**FIRE:** a) There have been 76 calls year-to-date. There have been six calls for the month of September that include two motor vehicle accidents, one mutual aid, and three fire calls. New firefighters Chris Tverberg and Adam Field have started Firefighter I and II training.

b) Chief Sulin has not received any notification on the FEMA grants.

c) The Town Board has planned an Appreciation Dinner for the firefighters to be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Solway Town Hall.

d) The Town Board thanked the Fire Department for their help on the Fall Fun Day.

e) The Fire Department plans on running the Bingo at the Halloween Carnival.

**RECYCLING:** a) The Clerk requested an additional quote that includes stuffed furniture, mattresses and box springs for the unacceptable items collection day. The trucking and labor will be an additional \$100 to accept furniture and mattresses. The board feels they should wait to see how many take advantage of this collection before spending more money. Also, there is not enough time to inform the residents that the collection will include furniture. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried not to include furniture in the unacceptable items collection day scheduled for October 17, 2009.

October 13, 2009

**HALL:** a) There is some painting touch up to be completed and also the door to the storage room needs to be fitted before the downstairs remodeling project is complete. Pete Hildre plans to finish up by this weekend. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried to pay Mr. Hildre the \$3,200 from his quote and hold the check until the work is completed.

b) The Clerk is waiting to hear back from Morin's Siding regarding the rust on the bottom of the siding on the town hall front steps.

c) The Clerk reported that the work on the office computer is completed and is working well.

d) Chairperson Gajewski reported that the flagpole in front of the hall blew down and broke in two places. Leon Forstrom and John Childers have fixed it. Chairperson Gajewski has some information and estimates to replace the pole. There is an option to have the pulley's internal or external. Todd Signs will install the flagpole for an additional \$575. The price of the 30-foot pole recommended by Todd Signs is \$775. There is also an estimate from Arrowhead Company that starts at \$778 for a 30-foot pole. The board feels we should have a 32-foot pole. The board will discuss this at the Budget meeting and have this as an agenda item for the February Town Board Meeting.

**PARK:** a) Chairperson Gajewski reported that Duluth Lawn and Sport does not have the parts for the front end loader in one "kit" so the parts are being ordered separately. Duluth Lawn and Sport will contact Chairperson Gajewski to have the tractor brought down for the installation as soon as the parts arrive.

b) Leon Forstrom and Chairperson Gajewski have completed the repairs to the Munger Site garage roof.

c) Chairperson Gajewski completed a monthly playground inspection. The pea rock on the small playground needs to be shoveled to cover the footings. There are a few other small items that will be put on Leon Forstrom's to do list.

d) Pete Hildre is planning to sand and paint the backstop posts on the baseball field this weekend.

e) The Clerk reported that the biffie at the Munger Site soccer field has been removed.

f) Chairperson Gajewski feels it is time to fertilize the soccer fields. MOTION by Stromlund seconded by Welsh and carried to spend up to \$500 to fertilize the soccer fields.

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

b) One burial – Richard Hink

c) Some of the gravesites at the cemetery need to be filled. Leon Forstrom will work on this.

**COMMITTEES:** a) The Halloween Carnival is planned for October 30<sup>th</sup>. The Fire Department will be running the Bingo and there will be hot dogs, chips, coffee, pop, and bars available. An officer has been hired to patrol during the carnival.

**OLD BUSINESS:** a) Newsletter has been sent out.

b) Jim Lindquist and Mark Kivi have sent Aggregate Tax Reporting Forms and tax due.

October 13, 2009

**NEW BUSINESS:** a) The Clerk was contacted by the church on Highway #2 to let the board know they are applying for a Conditional Land Use Permit for a cemetery. The board is concerned because if the church disbands the responsibility for the cemetery falls to the township. The Clerk will contact the attorney's at the Minnesota Association of Townships to find out what the townships legal responsibility would be if the church disbands.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.