

The Solway Town Board Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Solway Town Hall by Chairperson Welsh, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Supervisor Clare R. Stromlund and Supervisor Ron Gajewski, Treasurer Cindy Moe, Deputy Clerk Terri Jensen and six concerned citizens. Deputy Clerk Jensen stated the meeting would be recorded but only for the purpose of typing the minutes, and upon completion of typing the minutes, the tape would be erased.

MOTION made by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the Town Board Meeting of March 15, 2016.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept the tentative monthly Treasurer's report dated March 31, 2016.

March 31, 2016

**Checking:15807-15849**

Beginning Balance	<b>\$364,667.58</b>	
Receipts	1,190.39	
Disbursements	<u>\$-16,823.97</u>	
Ending Balance	<u>\$349,034.00</u>	<b>\$349,034.00</b>

**Money Market**

Beginning Balance	<b>\$ 108,746.39</b>	
Interest/Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	<u>\$108,746.39</u>	<b><u>\$108,746.39</u></b>

**Total Accounts** **\$457,780.39**

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

**04/01 Lorilee Blais, Western Lake Superior Sanitary District** - Sample grant request letter supporting expanded services at recycling centers. Support letters sent by Clerk Merritt on April 5, 2016.

**04/07 Phil Chapman, St. Louis County Deputy Assessor** - Letter re: battery replacement for election equipment. No Board action taken.

**04/07 Proctor Journal** - Via E-Mail Affidavit of Publishing Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting. No Board action taken.

**04/07 Duluth News Tribune** - Via E-Mail Affidavit of Publishing Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting. No Board action taken.

**04/07 Pine Journal** - Via E-Mail Affidavit of Publishing Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting. No Board action taken.

**04/07 Kivi Aggregate** - 2016 1st Quarter Aggregate Tax Form.

**04/08 South Ridge School** - Letter requesting donation. Board declined as not discussed at Annual Meeting.

**04/11 Solway Planning & Zoning Advisory Committee** - Timothy Ludwig Variance. Committee voted to recommend approval of variance.

**04/11 Jim Sathers** - 2016 1st Quarter Aggregate Tax Form.

**04/11 Gobel Aggregate, Inc.** - 2016 1st Quarter Aggregate Tax Form.

**04/11 Kris Leroy, MAT Agency** - Via E-Mail. Answer to Clerk's Liability Question re: Community Education Program. No Board action taken.

**04/12 Coon's Aggregate Supply** - 2016 1st Quarter Aggregate Tax Form.

**04/12 Munger Tavern & Grill** - Request for Renewal of Liquor License. Board granted renewal.

**04/14 Margaret Dunsmore, County Assessor** - Letter re: Local Board of Appeal & Equalization confirmation of meeting date & information packet. No Board action taken.

**04/30 South Ridge School** - Letter requesting donation. Board declined as was not received in time to discuss at the Annual Meeting to get approval from the electorate.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:** The Treasurer has additional bills to be added to the Outstanding Bills list as follows:

- Metro Sales, Inc. for the town hall copier contract in the amount of \$114.29.
- L & M Supply for a blade for the road side mower in the amount of \$178.96.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund, and carried unanimously to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list and the additional bills as presented by the Town Treasurer for a total amount of \$13,063.71.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERN:** a) MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve the draft letter regarding installation of culvert without a permit application. The letter and permit application are to be sent upon receipt of correct address from Steve Tverberg.

b) The St. Louis County Planning and Community Development Department approved the Jill Dryke conditional use permit for a new home/seasonal rental hall.

**ROAD:** a) Steve Tverberg will be contacted by Supervisor Gajewski regarding the filling of potholes on the Jeffrey Road.

b) Jim Lindquist started April 12, 2016, grading the township roads; however, the grading on Wargin Road will be held off until the road dries out.

c) Supervisor Gajewski will request a quote from Sinnott Blacktop for crack filling, sealing and relining the parking lot along with repairing, sealing and relining the tennis court/basketball court area.

d) MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to obtain three more handicapped signs and designate three additional handicapped parking sites in the town hall parking lot.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** a) Fire Chief Priolo reported there have been 27 calls year-to-date: 19 medical, 6 fires and 2 vehicle accidents. A majority of the calls have been due to mutual aid response requests.

b) Solway resident Frank Haydon approached the fire department about putting in another water source for use in filling tanks during fires. Mr. Haydon felt his property would be a good site especially with being on the other side of the railroad tracks which can cause the tanker trucks to be held up. It was also mentioned that this has been an ongoing issue with ISO rating. Mr. Haydon did not have an idea what the cost would be to construct this site. Chairperson Welsh felt this project was not something that could be decided on at one board meeting and asked Mr. Haydon to check into requirements the Department of Natural Resources and St. Louis County may have and report back to the board, Fire Chief Nick Priolo was asked to explore the feasibility of using this property along with requirements for doing so and report back to the board.

c) Fire Chief Nike Priolo mentioned Department Member Jeff Keppers is looking into making changes to the piping system at fire hall to allow topping off of tanker trucks quicker especially during flooding of the ice rink. However, due to some questions regarding pipe size and where the pipes would be placed. Fire Chief Priolo was asked to obtain additional information from Jeff Keppers and present it at the next board meeting.

d) Fire Chief Priolo requested a new department member check into possible grant money for the replacement of the department's radios and has not reported back.

e) Fire Chief Priolo reported that department member Nick Hite will be on a six month leave of absence and may not come back. At this time no other members have gone through the school to become licensed regarding a pull tabs operation. No other department members have stepped up to go through the process for the pull tabs, and no one wants the responsibility. Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that there could possibly be a lot of money lost, and the fire department members should re-explore this.

f) Fire Department Member, Jeff Nelson, did some additional research and found a replacement pump for Tanker 3 which was less expensive. Also, the Lakehead Harvest Reunion is willing to purchase the old pump for \$500.00. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to purchase the new pump in the amount of \$3,100.00 and sell the old pump to Lakehead Harvest Reunion in the amount of \$500.00 bringing the final cost to \$2,600.00.

**RECYCLING:** a) Nothing to report.

b) Replacement of the base siding board will be looked at once the weather improves.

**HALL:** a) Additional changes to cleaning list were requested by Veronica Childers; i.e. anything involving a ladder were marked and would be done when two people are available.

b) MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to purchase "Solway Brown" paint in the amount of \$200.00 for use in painting the exterior foundation of the town hall, middle playground wooden swing and any other items in need of paint.

c) MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to use the town hall for Community Education Programs.

d) Supervisor Gajewski reported the septic electrical system was repaired so the alarm operates correctly.

**PARK:** a) The monthly Township Properties Safety Inspection Report as completed by Gajewski shows no hazards and the parks, fields and township grounds are found to be in good condition.

- b)** Supervisor Gajewski will contact Larry Shelton regarding working on the Witte Memorial Trail prior to the load restrictions being lifted.
- c)** Deputy Clerk Jensen will send a letter to Mr. Ripley requesting a response within two weeks regarding the repair or removal of the baseball batting cage.
- d)** Crack filling, sealing and repair of tennis court/basketball court were discussed under "Roads".

**CEMETERY:** **a)** MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to spend up to \$400.00 to purchase new shrubs from Grussendorf Nursery to replace any winter killed shrubs.

**b)** Chuck Coccie has been approached to be the service leader for the Memorial Day Observance and is willing to do so.

**COMMITTEES:** **a)** Scott Welsh reported the Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee did not see a problem with the Timothy Ludwig Variance. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept the Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee's recommendation regarding the application for variance by Timothy Ludwig. Deputy Clerk Jensen will send an e-mail to the county with a copy of the committee's recommendation along with the board's decision to recommend approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:** **a)** Deputy Clerk Jensen reported work on the Solway Supervisor List has been completed. A frame will be purchased displaying the supervisor list which will be hung in the town hall. This is a list of all supervisors who have served on the township board since Solway Township was established in 1895.

**b)** MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve four, solar powered, Wi-Fi, night vision security cameras in the amount of \$229.99 each plus shipping and handling. Clerk Merritt will order these as soon as possible.

**c)** The Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2016, at 5:00 pm.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **a)** A request for renewal of the 2016-2017 liquor license for the Munger Tavern & Grill was granted by the Solway Town Board. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to grant the request for a liquor license.

**b)** Supervisor Gajewski reported the transportation bonding bill may or may not pass this session dependent upon whether the members of the legislature can work together.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.