

The Solway Town Board Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Solway Town Hall by Chairperson Ron Gajewski, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Supervisor Clare R. Stromlund and Supervisor Scott Welsh, Clerk Regena Merritt, Deputy Clerk Terri Jensen, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and seven concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the May 12, 2015, Town Board Meeting.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept the monthly Treasurer's report dated May 31, 2015, along with a corrected Treasurer's report for April 2015.

**Checking:15368-15408**

Beginning Balance	\$262,203.99	
Receipts	485.00	
Disbursements	<u>\$-16,985.23</u>	
Ending Balance	<u>\$246,593.76</u>	<b>\$246,593.76</b>

**Money Market**

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,619.89	
Interest/Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	<u>\$108,619.89</u>	<b>\$108,619.89</b>

**Total Accounts** **\$355,213.65**

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

**05/08 - Couri & Ruppe, R.L.L.P., Attorneys at Law** – Informational Flyer for legal services along with dates, times and locations for upcoming legal seminars held by Couri and Ruppe.

**05/12 – Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD)** – Letter regarding mandatory meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. to discuss recycling programs and grants in the WLSSD service areas. Clerk Merritt attended the meeting and reported on some of the highlights of the program consisting of the history of rural recycling, grants and township communication tools.

**05/12 – St. Louis County Planning and Community Development Department** - Soliciting proposals to prevent introduction or limit spread of aquatic invasive species. St. Louis County is a recipient of grant funds from State of Minnesota for aquatic invasive species prevention. No Board action taken.

**05/18 – Solway Planning and Zoning Committee** – Memo regarding outcome of Chad Walsh Conditional Use Permit. Discussed under Citizens Request and Concerns.

**05/20 – St. Louis County Land and Minerals Department** – Letter notifying municipalities of Classifications of State tax forfeited land. The application to withhold reclassified or classified tax forfeited land from sale pending acquisitions was also included. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to table issue for Clerk to obtain land map prior to July 14, 2015, Board Meeting.

**05/26 – St. Louis County Planning and Zoning Development Department** – Letter advising Township Zoning Ordinance 62 was approved and replaces Zoning Ordinance 46. Ordinance 62 will be effective June 1, 2015.

**05/27 – St. Louis County Planning and Development Department** - Notice of hearing on Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 9:00 am in Virginia, MN, regarding a commercial, retail and service establishment for a gun shop and shooting range for Chad Walsh at site address: 6552 Highway 2, Cloquet, MN.

**06/01 – State Demographer** - Letter to Clerk containing annual population and household estimates for Solway Township. Any challenges to these estimates need to be made prior to June 24, 2015.

**06/09 – Sinnott Blacktop, LLC** – Quote for filling cracks. Discussed under roads.

**06/09 – Duluth Coating Solutions** – Information and project estimate to replace floor coating at fire hall. Discussed under Fire Department Report.

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

- Todd Signs for a new cemetery flag in the amount of \$38.20.
- Como Oil and Lube for pail of lubricant for roadside mower in the amount of \$168.00.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh, 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 \$52,380.97.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:** a) Report of Town Clerk that we received an application from Saginaw Grand Lake Station to grant or disallow intoxicating liquor sales. The Board recommended approval of the liquor license. The Clerk will complete the form and send it to St. Louis County Auditor's Office. Kristina Clemens, Saginaw Grand Lake Station owner was wondering if recycling aluminum cans monies and the pull-tab profits be used locally. Fire Chief Chris LaGraves will contact Kristina regarding the pull-tabs. No Board action taken regarding recycling of aluminum cans.

b) Supervisor Welsh reported from Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting they recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit for a retail gun shop and shooting range. Supervisor Welsh also mentioned that this facility will be used by law enforcement for training and felt Mr. Walsh was well organized and prepared for the meeting. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee for approval of the Conditional Land Use Permit from Chad Walsh. The Clerk will forward the Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee's recommendation along with the Town Board's recommendation for approval.

c) There has been no additional contact regarding the Verizon Tower Conditional Use permit that was approved in May.

d) Supervisor Gajewski reported Mr. Delarosa from MN DOT would be attending the meeting regarding the Kivi petition for a cartway at the Nelson property on June 23, 2015 at 3:30 pm. A representative from the Canadian National Rail Road may also be attending this meeting as well. Mr. Hoff, the appraiser from FI Salter, would be appraising the Nelson property on Wednesday, June 10, 2015. Supervisor Gajewski also reported talking to MAT Attorney Kent regarding case law in reference to the damages Nelson's property would suffer due to this

cartway. All Supervisors felt a two rod width cartway was insufficient and needed to be at least three rods wide.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** a) Fire Chief Chris LaGraves presented a six month report to the Board. There have been 72 calls year to date, medical calls have doubled and car accidents are down.

b) No grant monies have been received from Canadian National.

c) Still no word regarding the FEMA Grant.

d) Wayne Sullin is being recruited to help the department with grant writing.

e) Supervisors Welsh and Stromlund inspected the floor at the Fire Hall. Board felt the \$20,000.00 estimate received from Duluth Floor Solutions for a new floor coating was more than the condition of the floor warranted. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to keep an eye on the floor and re-address possible repairs in a couple of years based on condition of floor.

f) Shelton Excavating has sealed around the risers of the cistern that has been leaking. Shelton's are waiting for the return of their camera to check the seals.

g) The National Volunteer Council is running advertising recruitment ads, and the Department is looking at one potential member.

**ROAD:** a) Chairperson Gajewski stated that Jeffery Road crack filling has been completed by St. Louis County.

b) Sinnott Blacktop sent a quote for \$2,500.00 regarding crack filling maintenance of the parking lot. Striping will not be completed at this time. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept the quote of \$2,500.00 for crack filling the hall parking lot and to have Sinnott Blacktop also repair a 4 x 4 patch on the tennis court for an additional \$500.00.

c) Chairperson Gajewski reported that all township roads have had gravel applied and graded. Also noted is that the visibility is still an issue at the corner of Morris Thomas and Sandberg Roads. The limited visibility makes it especially hard for grader and truck drivers. Supervisor Gajewski will notify Steve Tverberg of the situation.

d) Dust control through Jake DeMenge will be \$1.00 per gallon. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have Jake DeMenge spread the calcium chloride for dust control on the township. Chairperson Gajewski will make arrangements with Mr. DeMenge.

e) Chairperson Gajewski mentioned that John Childers has cut the township roadsides and this year no brushing is needed.

f) There is a noticeable amount of clay and sand on Morris Thomas Road coming from Rogalla Pit. Because this is a county road, St. Louis County will need to address this. Jim Lindquist from township road maintenance did say that Vieta is responsible for keeping the road clean, as Vieta is the contractor for the project where Rogalla is supplying the gravel.

**RECYCLING:** a) Clerk Regena Merritt reported on the WLSSD Meeting attended on May19, 2015. New rules are going to be implemented and followed to keep grants: new signs will be required, only accept recycling items with symbols one – seven, no plastic bags or greenhouse flowerpots. Make sure to keep information for annual reports and all agreements must be signed. Information on the recycling shed and the proper ways to recycle items must be readily available; i.e. newsletter. A mandatory meeting for recycling attendants will be held later this

summer, and a mandatory meeting for township officials or grant administrator will be held in August.

**b)** The overhead recycling door needs replacement. Leon Forstrom checked into the cost of replacing the 7 x 12 foot door. If it is not a special order, Leon and Paul will be able to make the repairs. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously for Leon Forstrom to pick up a door and parts at Menards not to exceed \$1,000.00

**c)** Morin's Siding and Windows has not had any contact or sent anything to the township regarding the window for the recycling shed.

**HALL: a)** The work for installation of the new septic at the town hall is completed, so the remainder of monies owed to Shelton's regarding the landscaping work be released.

**b)** A plaque from Duluth Superior Trophy will be purchased and installed on the frame of the Witte homestead painting.

**c)** The crack in basement wall has not been looked at.

**PARK: a)** Field Coordinator Terri Jensen was able to obtain a new striper at no cost for the soccer fields from Dawn Lind coordinator at Arrowhead Youth Soccer Association.

**b)** Witte Memorial Trail will be laid out before the next board meeting. Clerk Regena Merritt received a call about possible Eagle Scout project and mentioned this might be a good project. Clerk Merritt will notify the group about this upcoming project and see if there is any interest.

**CEMETERY: a)** Two burials: Valeria Witte and Terry Johnson

**b)** Pastor Walter from Hope Lutheran Church is no longer interested in being moderator for Memorial Day. After some discussion by the board, it was questioned if the moderator needs to be a clergyman or if Wayne Sullin would be interested due to his military background, Supervisor Welsh felt this should be tabled until Annual Meeting when the electorate could decide.

**c)** A Memorial Choke Cherry Tree has been purchased and planted by Chairman Gajewski and Leon Forstrom with donated funds by Jim Anderson.

**d)** Deer scent has been set out around the trees at the cemetery.

**e)** Grass is growing where the tire depressions in the ground have been filled with dirt. Leon Forstrom said more dirt would be needed in the future. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to purchase one and a half yards of dirt for future use at the cemetery.

**COMMITTEES: a)** The Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee findings were discussed in Citizens Requests/Concerns.

**b)** Special Events Meeting will be held in August to plan for National Night Out.

**OLD BUSINESS: a)** Clerk Regena Merritt reported on the Legislative & Research Conference she attended. Items currently being looked at: the removal of the use of the Automark during elections, but Clerk Merritt felt this would not happen due to the Americans with Disability Acts,; calling a week early when using weekly papers for publishing notices and dates; looking at terminating the need for the clerk to be in the office from 1:00 – 5:00PM on the last day of candidate filing for March election, and the notification to landowners when the Department of Natural Resources changes land use.

**NEW BUSINESS: a)** Contact Clerk Regena Merritt regarding items for the Newsletter.

**b)** National Night Out Meeting will be placed on Agenda for July Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.