

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

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the Town Board Meeting of July 11, 2017.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to accept the monthly Treasurer's report dated July 31, 2017.

Checking:16523-16563

Beginning Balance	\$311,794.43	
Receipts	176,908.72	
Disbursements	<u>\$-19,219.58</u>	
Ending Balance	\$469,483.57	\$469,483.57

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,882.38	
Interest/Deposits	\$8.95	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$108,891.33	<u>\$108,891.33</u>

Total Accounts **\$578,374.90**

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

07/13 Pete Stauber, St. Louis County Commissioner – Letter thanking township for hosting County Board Meeting. No Board Action.

07/13 Perraults, Millers Roofing & SISU – Roofing estimates. Discussed under Hall.

07/18 Gobel Aggregate, Inc. – Second Quarter Aggregate Tax Reporting Form. No Board Action.

07/20 Daid Yapel, St. Louis County GIS (Global Information System) Manager – Email mapping out population density of Solway Township to be used for Broadband Committee. No Board Action.

07/20 Lori Johnson, Proctor High School Assistant to Superintendent – Email requesting Township Supervisors attend the School Board Meeting upon completion of projects using referendum money. No Board Action.

07/24 Coon's Aggregate Supply – Second Quarter Aggregate Tax Reporting Form. No Board Action.

07/24 Shelton Excavating – Second Quarter Aggregate Tax Reporting Form. No Board Action.

07/24 Minnesota Association of Townships Agency – Letter and worker's compensation dividend check. No Board Action.

07/24 Mary Anderson, Manager, St. Louis County Planning Dept. – Notification letter for upcoming land use workshops. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have Clerk Jensen attend the August 24, 2017 workshop.

07/26 Kristin Fogard, St. Louis County Ag Inspector – Email regarding Poison Hemlock. No Board Action.

07/27 Kristin Fogard, St. Louis County Ag Inspector – Email regarding noxious weed inspections. No Board Action.

07/27 Kristie Strum, Senior State Program Admin, MN Dept of Revenue – Letter notifying Solway Township of town aid. No Board Action.

07/31 PIT 56, Inc. – Second Quarter Aggregate Tax Reporting Form. No Board Action.

08/01 Gordy Halverson, St. Louis County Public Works Dept – Follow-up letter regarding July 12, 2017 road turnarounds. Discussed under roads.

08/01 State Representative, Mary Murphy – Email explaining not attending Solway's National Night Out. No Board Action.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: a) The Treasurer has an additional bill to be added to the Outstanding Bills List as follows:

- Como Oil & Propane in the amount of \$496.03 for fuel oil at the town hall.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list and the addition as presented by the Town Treasurer for a total amount of \$45,210.42.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERN: a) MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously that the township will provide three loads of gravel to the Strom Road. Jim Lindquist will grade the Strom Road after the gravel has been delivered. Resident of Strom Road Tyler Johnson will cut and remove any branches as needed for the maintenance of the turnaround. Solway Resident Tyler Johnson signed the St. Louis County and Township Road Maintenance Agreements for Strom Road.

b) Century Link Representative, Troy Mack, discussed the broadband issue regarding the township. Most Solway township residents should have access to ten megabytes download and one megabyte upload by 2018. This higher speed should cover approximately 95%-99% of Solway residents by 2021, which would be ten times the amount of residents currently covered.

c) The Brian Heikkila Memorial will be brought before the Electorate at the March 2018 Annual Meeting. Leon Forstrom did note that Brian Heikkila's headstone at the cemetery is engraved as Solway Police Officer.

ROAD: a) Supervisor Gajewski attended the township road inspection with St. Louis County Road Maintenance Supervisor Gordy Halverson regarding the St. Louis County Maintenance Turnaround Agreement. This inspection took place to identify needed improvements to township roads for snowplowing by county snowplow trucks. Strom Road, East Jerry Road, S. Sandberg, Stonelake, Heine, N. Bergquest, S. Bergquist, S. Hanson, Woodgate, and Birchway Roads need tree trimming. Leon Forstrom, Paul Duniaski and Supervisor Gajewski will complete some of the trimming work. The property owner of Bailey Road will need to be contacted as 6 to 12 trees to be taken down or removed. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to contact Minnesota Power to place a work order to trim branches and remove trees on the South Hanson Road due to powerline contact. MOTION by

Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to contact Jake Demenge to trim trees on the South Hanson Road up to \$1,500.00 if Minnesota Power is unable to do so. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to have Jim Lindquist complete needed improvements on Metsa, E. Jerry and S. Sandberg turnaround and ditching on the Strom Road in the amount of \$7,500.00 to meet St. Louis County requirements for continued snowplowing services by the county.

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported the VanGassler culvert installation has been completed.

c) Jim Lindquist reported the needed ditching and culvert replacement for the township roads has been completed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: **a)** A total of 78 calls year-to-date: 39 medical, 34 fires including mutual aid and 5 vehicle accidents

b) Supervisor Welsh will be attending the Solway Fire Department's Business Meeting on August 18, 2017.

c) MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously for the Solway Fire Department to continue the filling of township residents swimming pools. Supervisor Welsh asked Chief Priolo if a liability form is signed by those individuals have their pools filled. Chief Priolo reported there is not.

d) Chief Priolo will be getting estimates for the upcoming board meeting regarding battery backups for door openers to lift the fire hall doors when there is a power failure.

e) Fire Department Member Jeff Keppers will be checking into a sump pump for the cistern.

f) Emergency Apparatus Maintenance has completed the pump testing. Engine 6 was found to need repairs. Issues identified were with the foam system, a bad ground, and the rear springs are not taking grease.

RECYCLING: **a)** None

HALL: **a)** MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept the Miller's Roofing estimate of \$27,480.00 for the reroofing of the town hall.

b) Motion by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to table accepting bids for replacing the handicapped ramp and downstairs doors until Clerk Jensen contacts Steve Nelson from Community Development Block Grant to see if the entire \$16,000.00 needs to be spent on both projects, the ramp and handicap accessible doors, or if it is acceptable to use on one project.

c) Leon Forstrom replaced the batteries in the door bells.

d) MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to increase the cleaning deposit to \$300.00 for hall rentals where alcohol is involved.

e) MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously beginning August 18, 2017 that the hall rental contract will include "no covering or removal of the flags".

f) Clerk Jensen reported the condition of the hall following the July 15, 2017 Wedding Reception was unacceptable. Chairperson Stromlund was contacted by Clerk Jensen to look at the hall on Sunday, July 16, 2017. Chairperson Stromlund explained that due to the condition of the hall the damage deposit and cleaning deposit should be withheld from the renters. Chairperson Stromlund went on to explain there were several items in the contract that had been violated: alcohol not removed from premises, floors not swept or mopped, and hall left in uncleaned condition. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to withhold the damage and cleaning deposits from the July 15, 2017 Wedding Reception. A check in the amount of \$25.00 for the date reservation fee will be returned to the renters.

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

b) MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously that there will be no cutting of the wood on the Witte Memorial Trail unless it is for maintenance or unblocking trails.

c) All the playground has been painted by the grounds maintenance crew. Supervisor Gajewski wanted it noted that the township is kept in such good shape due to the grounds maintenance crew.

CEMETERY: a) Grussendorf's Nursery had to order a replacement choke cherry tree.

b) Lakeview Masonry has rescheduled the start date to August 21, 2017 for the new Solway cemetery sign.

COMMITTEES: a) Supervisor Gajewski reported National Night Out was well attended and the planning for future National Night Outs should be done in June. There are several cases of hot dogs and bags of hot dog buns left. These will be frozen for use during the Halloween Carnival.

OLD BUSINESS: a) Clerk Jensen reported that the benches and bleachers have been ordered. After some discussion by the Supervisors, a new warming house along with other ideas have been tabled until the 2018 March Township Annual Meeting to receive citizen input.

b) Chairperson Stromlund and Supervisor Gajewski reported seeing the article and picture in the Minnesota Association of Township Insider magazine for Regena Merritt's retirement as Solway's Town Clerk.

NEW BUSINESS: a) MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously for Chris Ellian to help provide computer security for the upcoming 2020 Census. The wage for this is yet to be determined.

b) Motion by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously that any board member wanting to attend the legal seminar in Cotton on October 7, 2017, may do so at township expense.

c) Clerk Jensen reported Regena Merritt has been sworn-in as Solway's Deputy Clerk.

d) MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously that any board member wanting to attend the 2017 Minnesota Association of Township's Annual Conference in Rochester, Minnesota may do so at township expense.

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.