

Solway Town Board Meeting Minutes August 20, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Solway Town Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Ronald Gajewski, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was held in remembrance of Clare Stromlund, who recently retired as a township supervisor and passed away on August 16, 2024. Also present were Supervisors Scott Welsh and Jeffrey Keppers, Clerk Tami McGregor, Treasurer Cindy Moe, Deputy Clerk Regena Merritt, and nineteen concerned citizens.

II. MINUTES – TOWN BOARD MEETING OF JULY 9, 2024

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously to accept the minutes from the town board meeting of July 9, 2024, as presented.

III. TREASURER’S REPORT – JULY 31, 2024

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously to accept the monthly Treasurer’s Report dated July 31, 2024, as presented.

Checking: 20051-20096

Beginning Balance	\$124,342.17	
Receipts	63,684.21	
Disbursements	<u>-35,110.84</u>	
Ending Balance	\$152,915.54	\$152,915.54

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$90,994.31	
Interest/Deposits	163.88	
Withdrawals	<u>0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$91,158.19	<u>\$91,158.19</u>

Total Accounts **\$244,073.73**

IV. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE (By date received)

- 07/15 MN PERA – Notice of “Watch On-Demand: 2024 Legislative Update” RE: 2024 Pension and Retirement Policy and Supplemental Budget Bill
- 07/16 Jeff Krueger, MAT Director – Rededication to working together to tone down rhetoric in wake of Trump attempted assassination
- 07/16 Breanna Archer (Jim Foldesi), SLC Public Works – Rice Lake Road Corridor Project reception on 07/25 at Rice Lake City Hall (Notice also rec’d via 07/24 email from Toni Blomdahl, Rice Lake City Administrator)

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- 07/16 Coon's Aggregate Supply - 2024 second quarter Aggregate Material Tax Reporting Form and payment received (Not in packet)
- 07/16 Northland Constructors of Duluth - 2024 second quarter Aggregate Material Tax Reporting Form and payment received (Not in packet)
- 07/18 KTM Paving - 2024 second quarter Aggregate Material Tax Reporting Form and payment received (Not in packet)
- 07/18 One North - 2024 second quarter Aggregate Material Tax Reporting Form and payment received (Not in packet)
- 07/19 Victor Lund, SLC Public Works – Request for resolution of support for funding application for the Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) Grant Program for the CSAH 13 (Midway Road) Railroad Crossings Planning and Preliminary Engineering Project (SLC presentations not in packet) (Discussed under “Road”)
- 07/22 SLC Economic and Community Development – Notice of public comment period on the SLC 2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (Comment period 07/15 through 07/30)
- 07/22 Senator Grant Hauschild – Unable to attend Solway National Night Out
- 07/23 Mediacom – Expansion of high-speed, fiber-to-the-home Internet broadband, home and mobile phone services to Solway area and FAQs
- 07/23 Sathers Construction - 2024 second quarter Aggregate Material Tax Reporting Form and payment received (Not in packet)
- 07/24 Brice Hansen – Signed agreement returned RE: Use of Cedarway Cul-De-Sac
- 07/24 PERA – 2024 Legislative Update – Watch On-Demand: 2024 Legislative Update; Q&A handout available
- 07/24 Eric Allen, Bobcat – Application for Credit RE: Kubota mower – **MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously to table discussion regarding a potential credit account with Bobcat until the September meeting.** Clerk McGregor will contact Bobcat regarding specific credit application requirements.
- 07/24 Mark Munger – Request for board meeting dates to introduce himself as candidate for House 3B. Mr. Munger's request was discussed, and although the board does not allow campaigning, brief introductory remarks by candidates are allowed at board meetings. Clerk McGregor will send September and October meeting dates to Mr. Munger.
- 07/25 Teghan Grulkowski – Approval RE: MN Power rebates on mini-splits to be included with parking lot lighting rebate; air exchanger not eligible for rebate (Discussed under “Old Business”)
- 07/26 Forum Communications-Pine Journal – Affidavit of Publication-Notice of Public Accuracy Testing on 08/05 for Primary Election
- 07/29 Proctor Journal – Affidavit of Publication-Notice of Public Accuracy Testing on 08/05 for Primary Election
- 07/29 SLC Land and Minerals – Adjoining owner sale of state tax-forfeited lands (PID: 530-0250-00120 – Outlot A, The Woods Town of Solway). Recommendations to county board for conditions to be imposed on the sale must be received within 30 days of the date of this letter (07/24).

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Following discussion, **MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously that Clerk McGregor respond to St. Louis County indicating Solway Township has no recommendations to the sale of PID: 530-0250-00120 – Outlot A, The Woods Town of Solway.**

- 07/29 Pit 56 - 2024 second quarter Aggregate Material Tax Reporting Form and payment received (Not in packet)
- 07/29 WLSSD – 2025 Budget Schedule and Notice of 9/9 Capital Budget and Solid Waste Mgmt. Fee Public Hearings
- 07/30 Chris Pinkert, Asst. SLC Attorney – Contact info and info RE: SLC Board meeting on 08/13 RE: portion of Old Hwy. #2 (between Munger Shaw & Hwy. #2) possible vacation (Discussed under “Road”)
- 07/31 Forum Communications-Duluth News Tribune – Affidavit of Publication-Notice of Public Accuracy Testing on 08/05 for Primary Election
- 07/31 MN Dept. of Revenue – Certified 2025 Town Aid Amounts (Solway: \$438)
- 08/01 MN Association of Township – Notice of District 10 Meeting & Election on 08/29 at Grand Lake Town Hall (Registration-5:30PM, Meeting-6PM & Election-7:30PM)
- 08/01 SLC Public Works – Township snowplow application renewal notice (Submission deadline: 09/16/24). **MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh, and carried unanimously to submit Solway’s snowplow application, excluding Strom Road, to St. Louis County.**
- 08/01 Steve Krasaway, SLC Public Works – Munger Shaw Road/Hwy. #2 Turn Lane Project Road Closure 08/19 through 9/28
- 08/02 Andrea Smith, MN Power – Request for verification of requirement for documentation of work being done in road rights-of-way, but no requirement for excavation permits
- 08/05 Hermantown Star – Affidavit of Publication-Notice of Public Accuracy Testing on 08/05 for Primary Election
- 08/05 Kim Sarvi, Rice Lake – Agenda and minutes for Duluth Area Townships (DAT) meeting on 08/08
- 08/05 Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) – Notice of Webinar on 08/09 for local governments on cannabis implementation
- 08/08 MN PERA – Open election period 10/01-10/30 for public officials (with service beginning 02/01/24 and 07/31/24) to make final PERA membership decision
- 08/12 Shelton Excavating - 2024 second quarter Aggregate Material Tax Reporting Form and payment received (Not in packet)
- 08/13 Rondi Watson, ARDC – MIC’s draft long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan now open for review and comment through 08/30; open house 08/14 & 08/15
- 08/14 Chris Pinkert, Asst. SLC Attorney – Request for certified copy of Solway Resolution 2024-05 for recording purposes RE: Old Hwy. #2 (CR 161) vacation (Discussed under “Road”)

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- 08/14 Dillon Malay, MN Power – Notice of eligibility for \$1,394.17 rebate for parking lot LED lighting and hall mini-splits; request to review and sign documents (Discussed under “Old Business”)
- 08/14 Amanda Wold, MN PCA – Engagement opportunity to join advisory workgroup RE: Climate Action Framework Update (Applications due by 08/23)
- 08/15 Dillon Malay, MN Power – Confirm submission of completed rebate documents (Discussed under “Old Business”)
- 08/15 Amanda Mitchell, SLC Public Works – SLC 2025 Maintenance Programs (Discussed under “Road”)
- 08/15 Sherri Riley – Request for nonresident cemetery plot (Discussed under “Cemetery”)
- 08/19 SLC Economic & Community Development – FY2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Open House and Public Hearing on 09/12 (1-3PM) at Proctor City Hall
- 08/19 DeCaigny Excavating - 2024 second quarter Aggregate Material Tax Reporting Form received; no payment due (Not in packet)
- 08/19 MN Association of Townships (MAT) – Invite to 2024 Fall Legislative & Research Committee Meeting on 09/13 (9AM-4:30PM) at St. Cloud Holiday Inn
- 08/20 Nancy Nilsen, SLC Auditor – Township Final Levy Certification form for taxes payable in 2025 (Due by 09/30)

V. OUTSTANDING BILLS - Treasurer Moe reported additional bills for the Outstanding Bills List as follows:

- Gena Merritt - \$255.00 (Election Judge Wages)
- Portable John - \$127.05 (08/19/24 Invoices)
- Jennifer Manty - \$25.00 (Return Hall Deposit)
- Maki Trucking - \$2,611.45 (Calcium Chloride-Jeffrey Road)
- Midway Sewer - \$300.00 (Hall Septic Pumping)
- Great Plains Fire – \$2,375.00 (Pump testing for Engine #1; Units #2 & #3)
- Alex Air Apparatus 2- \$809.89 (Annual Compressor Air Quality Test)
- SVFD - \$20,000 (Contribution to purchase of 2012 F550 vehicle)

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh, and carried unanimously to pay all bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills List, and any additional bills presented by the town treasurer, for a total of \$52,006.22.

VI. CITIZEN REQUESTS AND CONCERNS (Discussed under “Road” & “Cemetery”)

VII. ROAD

- A. Parking Lot Lighting – Update to LED – The parking lot lighting LED conversion was completed on July 11, 2024.

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- B. Entrance Culvert Replacement at 6364 Jerry Road (West) – A 50-foot entrance culvert was installed at 6364 Jerry Road on July 24, 2024.
- C. County Road #161 (Old Hwy. #2) – St. Louis County Vacating Road Between Munger Shaw and U.S. Hwy. #2 and Eliminating CR 161/U.S. Hwy. #2 Intersection – Chris Pinkert, Assistant St. Louis County Attorney, and Andy Butler, Public Works Right-of-Way Agent, hosted a public hearing on behalf of the county on July 29, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., at the Solway Town Hall. At the public hearing, attendees were also informed that a resolution to vacate County Road #161 would be considered at the county board's next regularly scheduled meeting in Mt. Iron on August 13, 2024.

Attendees at the public hearing were informed by Attorney Pinkert and Mr. Butler that they would report information from the hearing to the county board at their August 13, 2024, meeting, and they were also encouraged to submit written comments or concerns to the county board by August 6th or personally attend the meeting.

On August 14, 2024, Andy Butler reported to Clerk McGregor that the county board resolution passed revoking County Road #161, and that the county attorney's office would proceed with legally recording the appropriate documents with the St. Louis County Recorder's Office. At the county's request, a certified copy of "Solway Township Resolution #2024-5, Resolution Vacating Old Highway 2 (County Road 161) Right-of-Way," was sent to them, and will be included with the recorded documents.

According to the county, the removal of the entire road surface of CR #161 and closure of the intersection at CR #161/U.S. Hwy. #2, will be completed in conjunction with the MnDOT Highway #2/Munger Shaw Road intersection project that commenced on August 19, 2024.

Nevada Iverson attended the August 20th town board meeting, expressing concerns regarding the vacation of CR #161 due to its historical value to the community, and there was also a question regarding adjoining landowners and the effect of any potential property overlap. The information Mr. Iverson presented was appreciated by the board; however, he was informed that the process to vacate CR #161 was completed effective with the county board's passage of their resolution.

According to the county, no property was landlocked due to the vacation of CR #161; therefore, the concerned property owner was referred to Chris Pinkert, Assistant St. Louis County Attorney, to address those concerns.

- D. Embedded Rock Removal – Jeffrey (South), Sandberg (North) and Mattson Roads – Supervisor Gajewski reported at the August meeting that the embedded rock removal is not a high priority at this time and therefore will be postponed so that other projects with a higher priority may be completed.

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- E. Roadside Mowing – At the August meeting, Butch Lund reported that the new tires, new seat, and brake release have been installed on the mower tractor, and repairs on the voltage regulator and generator have also been completed. Mr. Lund is currently on the second round of roadside mowing.
- F. Hanson Road Ditching/Cedarway Cul-De-Sac – Supervisor Gajewski reported at the August meeting that ditching on the Hanson Road has been completed. Fill removed from the Hanson Road was used in the center of the Cedarway cul-de-sac and maintenance staff will now re-seed the area.

On July 24, 2024, Brice Hansen returned a signed copy of the letter of agreement with the township regarding use of the Cedarway cul-de-sac.

- G. Sandberg Road (North) Branches – Some of the minor branches have been removed, and for now, issues with the tree in question will be periodically monitored. Supervisor Gajewski reported that the speed limit sign is obscured by some branches and they will be removed by maintenance staff.
- H. Jeffrey Road – Additional Dust Control – At the July meeting a motion was made and carried to order an additional application of calcium chloride for dust control on Jeffrey Road, between the Maple Grove Road and Hwy. #2.

On July 26, 2024, an invoice in the amount of \$2,611.45 was received from Maki Trucking for the application of 1,801 gallons of calcium chloride on July 19, 2024, prior to the road being graded, and without an order from the township.

Ken Maki from Legacy Custom Coatings attended the August meeting regarding the July 19, 2024, calcium chloride services and invoice. Mr. Maki assumed responsibility for the miscommunication and understands that going forward, requests for calcium chloride applications will be documented and made via email prior to application.

Following the calcium chloride application, Bob Rodda was able to mix the calcium chloride into the road surface while grading, resulting in an exceptional surface, that is expected to be very durable.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously to pay the July 26, 2024, Legacy Custom Coatings invoice in the amount of \$2,611.45 in its entirety.

Jim Sathers, who owns the pit on Jeffrey Road was also present during the discussion relating to Jeffrey Road maintenance and inquired whether there are any restrictions on the expenditure of aggregate tax revenue. Mr. Sathers was informed that aggregate tax revenue is not limited to roads, but may be used for any approved township expenditures.

- I. Strom Road – Removal/Redistribution of Gravel Windrows on South Side – Per Supervisor Gajewski at the August meeting, this project has been completed.

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- J. Jerry Road (Middle) – South Side Ditching Near Power Line – Per Supervisor Gajewski at the August meeting, this project has been completed.
- K. St. Louis County 2025 Maintenance Programs – After discussion, it was determined that the township will not be participating in any of the county maintenance programs at this time.
- L. Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program Funding Application (Midway Road) – On July 19, 2024, Vic Lund with St. Louis County Public Works, informed the township that the county will be submitting a funding application to the Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) Grant Program for the CSAH 13 (Midway Road) Railroad Crossings Planning and Preliminary Engineering Project. If the township is willing, the county is requesting a resolution of support by August 30, 2024, to support their application.

SOLWAY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #2024-8 Resolution of Support for the CSAH 13 (Midway Road) Railroad Crossings Planning and Preliminary Engineering Project

WHEREAS, there are two railroad crossings on CSAH 13 (Midway Rd), identified as USDOT #251850G and #251905S, that each carry approximately 30 trains per day; and

WHEREAS, CSAH 13 (Midway Rd) is a minor arterial and a regionally significant highway within the Duluth metropolitan area that connects I-35 to US 53 that serves 7,000 vehicles per day at both railroad crossings; and

WHEREAS, the combination of a high volume of trains and vehicles results in significant delays for traffic on CSAH 13 (Midway Rd) and creates a risk for high-speed rear-end type crashes; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County led the CSAH 13 (Midway Rd) Railroad Crossings Exploration Study in 2023 and found that both railroad crossings are a top concern on the CSAH 13 (Midway Rd) corridor and that there should be improvements completed at both railroad crossings; and

WHEREAS, the St. Louis County Railroad Crossing Safety Plan prioritizes the railroad crossings on CSAH 13 (Midway Rd) and recommends a grade separation (bridge overpass) at both railroad crossings; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County is seeking funding for the CSAH 13 (Midway Road) Railroad Crossings Planning and Preliminary Engineering Project through the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program which is a grant program included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of Solway Township, St. Louis County, Minnesota, that Solway Township recognizes CSAH 13 (Midway Rd) as a regionally significant highway for the Duluth metropolitan area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Solway Township supports St. Louis County's Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program funding application for the CSAH 13 (Midway Road) Railroad Crossings Planning and Preliminary Engineering Project.

Supervisor Keppers moved the adoption of the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Welsh, and it was declared adopted on the 20th day of August 2024, upon the following votes:

Yeas: Supervisors Gajewski, Welsh and Keppers – 3

Nays: None – 0

Absent: None – 0

Clerk McGregor will submit an executed copy of Solway Township Resolution #2024-8 to St. Louis County Public Works.

VIII. FIRE DEPARTMENT

- A. Department Report – Chief Brandon Porter reported that current membership is at 15. The department has been very busy with numerous medical calls, but no township fire/car crashes since the last meeting.
- B. Insurance (Engine #1-2005 Pierce Enforcer) Equipment Coverage – The MN Association of Townships Insurance Trust (MATIT) requested an equipment cost inventory in October 2023 to support a requested additional \$100,000 in coverage due to the equipment Engine #1 carries. Completion of a cost inventory is currently on hold pending a determination regarding other potential insurance options.
- C. DNR Wildland Matching Grant – The department has applied for a 2025 DNR Wildland matching grant. If approved, funds will be used to outfit equipment. At the August meeting, Chief Porter stated that he believes Solway has a very good chance of receiving grant funds this year and should be hearing something soon.
- D. DNR Government Surplus Trucks – The 2004 Chevy Silverado (Unit #7) currently being used to pull the trailer transporting the UTV with 150 gallons of water is lacking power, and the trailer has insufficient braking capabilities.

At the August meeting, Chief Porter reported that the DNR trucks previously considered had a great deal of rust and he is not recommending their purchase.

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Tony Boespflug from the department presented information on other alternatives, and after discussion, it was determined that due to the low number of miles that would be put on the truck, a used vehicle would be preferable to a new unit. It is anticipated that the replacement vehicle will also be equipped for use in responding to medical calls.

After discussion, it was determined that the best fit for the department's needs, and falling within the budget, would be a 2012 4WD F550 with 129,000+ miles. The total cost for this medium grade diesel commercial vehicle, along with the necessary additional equipment, would be \$65,645.

Chief Porter indicated that to pursue the purchase of the truck at this time, the department could contribute \$15,000 and requested \$20,000 from the township. The 2004 Chevy Silverado (Unit #7) can be sold at auction, with those proceeds also being utilized for this project. Chief Porter estimates the proceeds from Unit #7 at about \$20,000.

Following its purchase, the 2012 unit will be outfitted with additional equipment, and going forward, the department will refund the township with future fundraising and grant money, if received.

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously that the township contribute \$20,000 toward the purchase of a 2012 Ford 4WD F550 truck.

- E. Roundabout Speed Limit Signs (Hwy. #2 & #194) – Chief Porter inquired regarding the possibility of reduced speed limit signs being placed at the Hwy. #2/Hwy. #194 roundabout due to safety concerns. Vic Lund with the county agreed to follow-up on this matter with Jim Miles at MnDOT as the roundabout is part of a state highway system. There was no update at the August meeting.
- F. Water Cisterns – After conducting additional research, Chief Porter indicated at the August meeting that a water cistern project would be cost prohibitive. With the availability of the new hydrant on the Maple Grove Road, Chief Porter is recommending that the township forgo the water cistern project.
- G. Munger Shaw/Maple Grove Road Intersection – At the August meeting, Chief Porter inquired regarding a temporary 4-way stop at the Maple Grove and Munger Shaw Road intersection while it is being used as a detour for the Munger Shaw Road/Hwy. #2 intersection project. Supervisor Gajewski will contact Vic Lund with St. Louis County regarding this matter.

IX. RECYCLING

- A. Dumpster Padlocks – Lori Blais from WLSSD dropped off two additional dumpster locks on August 13, 2024; however, the locks were not keyed the same as the recycling dumpsters. The delivered locks will be used for the

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hall dumpster and Ms. Blais indicated she will deliver two locks keyed the same as the recycling dumpsters, once she receives them.

X. HALL

- A. Video Conferencing & Audio-Visual System – Supervisor Gajewski reported at the August meeting that Tim Aldrich is hoping to install the TV antennas sometime next week. There was no update from Mr. Aldrich regarding the best options for the camera to be used during virtual meetings.
- B. Septic System Pumping – Midway Sewer pumped the first septic tank on July 15, 2024.
- C. Chair Cleaning – Treasurer Moe reported that it was brought to her attention by cleaning staff that it has been difficult to keep up with cleaning the chairs. After discussion, it was determined that Clerk McGregor will inform our cleaning contractor that she will not be responsible for cleaning chairs and that our maintenance staff will take care of this project once summer work for them subsides.

XI. PARK

- A. Safety Inspection Report – Supervisor Gajewski reported there were no safety hazards included in the August 6, 2024, report.
- B. Field Maintenance Report – At the August meeting, Horst Blumerich recommended that lime pellets and fertilizer be purchased from Federated Co-ops in Moose Lake based upon previous soil sample results at a cost of \$826.00. According to Mr. Blumerich, only the Maple Grove Road field currently requires fertilization. The first half of the product will be applied to the field this fall and the second half next spring. **MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously to approve \$826.00 for lime pellets and fertilizer from Federated Co-ops for the Maple Grove Road soccer field.** Clerk McGregor will provide Federated Co-ops with tax exempt information and obtain an invoice.
- C. Benches - Refinishing – Leon Forstrom reported at the August meeting that bench refinishing has not been completed; however, it is hoped that this may still be able to be taken care of before winter. If not, the benches may be stored in the garage for the winter.
- D. Sign – Sale of Old Message Center – Leon Forstrom reported at the August meeting that Thealley Church in Cottage Grove purchased the old message center for \$350.00 and it was picked up on July 30, 2024.
- E. Maple Grove Road Hedge – It was reported at the August meeting that Paul Dunaiski has completed the hedge trimming at the Maple Grove Road soccer field.

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XII. CEMETERY

- A. Sherri Riley (Request for Non-Resident Cemetery Plot) – Sherri Riley attended the August meeting requesting a spot for her brother, who although he does not currently live in the township, did at one time. Although the definition of a “resident” is not specifically defined in the current regulations, the board’s understanding has been that if a person lived in the township at any time, they would be eligible for a plot at no charge. **MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously that the “Solway Township Cemetery Rules and Regulations” be amended to include a person who is, or has lived, in the township.**

XIII. COMMITTEES

- A. National Night Out – Solway’s National Night Out was held on Tuesday, August 6, 2024. Approximately 200 people attended, the weather was beautiful, and a good time was had by all.

XIV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Insurance Review – The township’s insurance is currently provided by the Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance Trust (MATIT); however, alternative insurance options are being explored.

On July 2, 2024, current policy and premium information was sent to Bill Owens of Young and Associates to be used in his analysis and potential insurance estimate. There was no update at the July meeting as Mr. Owens has indicated his analysis may take some time.

- B. Aggregate Tax Audits - Amanda Nelson has been in the process of conducting aggregate audits covering the past six years as allowed by Minnesota Statutes. Ms. Nelson reported at the August meeting that although she was not able to devote a lot of time to audits in July or the first part of August, she has reviewed 2017 data for Sathers and is about halfway through the material from Northland, which included all of their pits.

- C. Minnesota Power Rebates – Clerk McGregor reported at the August meeting that invoices were submitted for the LED conversion parking lot lighting project on July 25, 2024. Teghan Grulkowski confirmed the same day that MN Power approved rebates on the parking lot lighting and mini splits. No rebates were available on the air exchanger.

On August 14, 2024, a Custom Commercial Rebate form was received via DocuSign from MN Power reflecting a \$364.80 rebate on the parking lot lighting and \$1,029.37 on the mini splits, for a total rebate of \$1,394.17. The document was electronically signed and submitted that same day.

- D. Recognition Dinner Caterer Selection – At the August meeting, menu selections and pricing from Sarah Mae’s Catering for the Recognition

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Dinner on November 7, 2024, were briefly reviewed. Final selections will be made at the September meeting.

- E. Primary Election – The Primary Election was held on August 13, 2024. There were 188 ballots cast, out of 1,399 registered voters.

XV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Fine/Penalty Revenue – Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 484.90, Subd. 6, two-thirds of applicable fines shall be paid by the court to the treasurer of the town in which the offense was committed. Clerk McGregor completed the process with the state and local law enforcement to obtain this revenue in January 2024, and Solway's first funds were received in June. A total of \$169.96 has been received since that time resulting from three offenses.
- B. Willow River Boot Camp - Butch Lund reported that the Willow River Boot Camp is available to assist the township with projects on October 8, 2024. **MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously to invite the Willow River Boot Camp to assist the township with projects on October 8, 2024.** Prior to their arrival, the township will compile a project list, and if not already completed, the park bench project may be a consideration.
- C. Surge Protectors – Election Equipment – Due to a power surge at the primary election that affected the DS200 ballot counter, there was discussion regarding the purchase of surge protectors for election equipment. **MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Keppers, and carried unanimously to approve up to \$200.00 for the purchase of two surge protectors to be used with the DS200 Ballot Counter and OmniBallot election machines.** Clerk McGregor will purchase the surge protectors prior to the November General Election.
- D. Floor Jack – Leon Forstrom requested \$250.00 to purchase a floor jack to assist with maintenance on the Kubota and road mowing tractor. **MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski, and carried unanimously to approve up to \$250.00 for the purchase of a floor jack.** Mr. Forstrom will select and purchase the floor jack.

XVI. SIGN CHECKS/ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski, and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting with the signing of checks. The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.