

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 Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, Deputy Treasurer Terri Jensen, and four concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the September 9, 2014 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to accept the following Treasurer's report dated September 30, 2014.

Checking:14952-14993

Beginning Balance	\$214,453.05	
Receipts	1,125.99	
Disbursements	<u>\$-21,772.58</u>	
Ending Balance	\$193,806.46	\$193,806.46

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,574.37	
Interest/Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$108,574.37	<u>\$108,574.37</u>

Total Accounts

\$302,380.83

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

9/10 St. Louis County Assessor's office – Local Board of Appeal and Equalization trained board member certification form. The Clerk has filled in the form and returned it to St. Louis County.

9/18 Western Lake Superior Sanitary District via email – Notification that no grant funds are avail for recycling shed improvements. The Clerk had inquired in hope of getting grant monies to pay for new shingles on the recycling shed. No board action.

9/20 Minnesota Department of Health – Bacteriological investigation report showing the drinking water supply is in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act for coliform bacteria. No board action.

9/24 Cloquet Ford Chrysler – Invoice for the new fire truck. This bill will be paid tonight. This truck has been delivered to Stainless and Repair to complete the work needed making it into a rescue vehicle for the Fire Department.

9/25 Keith Anderson – Snowplowing rates for this coming winter. The rates are the same as last year and he has been hired to do the snowplowing for this coming winter. The Clerk will check with Mr. Anderson to make sure he has the needed insurance coverage.

10/2 Shelton Excavating – Third quarter aggregate tax reporting form and payment. No board action

10/7 Kivi Aggregate – Third quarter aggregate tax reporting form and payment. No board action.

10/13 Coon's Aggregate – Third quarter aggregate tax reporting form and payment. No board action.

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

- Cloquet Chrysler in the amount of \$47,565 for new fire truck.
- Jim Lindquist in the amount of \$1,144 for roadwork.
- Terri Jensen in the amount of \$25 for hall rental reimbursement.
- Minnesota Association of Townships in the amount of \$165 for annual conference registration. There is also one change from \$25 to \$80.49 on the reimbursement check to Regena Merritt. The additional money is for mileage and postage.

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 presented by the Town Treasurer for a total amount of \$70,398.44

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) The Clerk reported she has not heard from Ayers Road residents Larry and Nancy Carlson who had appeared before the Board at the September Town Board Meeting asking about a variance to build a modular home. It was found that Larry and Nancy Carlson's property is not located in Solway Township.

ROAD: a) The Clerk asked the Board if they knew if there was a Driveway Policy for the Township. The Board needs to develop a policy to use when residents request to install driveways off of Township roads to insure the correct size culvert is installed correctly. The Board directed the Clerk to check with St. Louis County public works and Minnesota Association of Townships for direction in developing a policy.

b) Supervisor Gajewski spoke to the Heine Road property owners where a hedge, along with some maple trees, is growing in the Road right-of-way. He informed the residents that no trees are allowed in the right-of-way and the hedge should be trimmed further to allow better visibility for drivers.

c) Supervisor Gajewski and Leon Forstrom checked the township roads and removed any downed trees from the right-of-ways.

d) The two "Minimum Maintenance" road signs that were ordered from the county have arrived and Supervisor Gajewski and Leon Forstrom will install them.

e) The snowplowing rates from Keith Anderson are the same as last year. Mr. Anderson will be doing the plowing at the township hall and fire hall.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: a) Firefighters Jeff Nelson and Chris LaGraves reported for the department that there have been 69 calls year-to-date. The Department is hiring one new member who has EMT basic training. The alarm for the fire hall floor drain sounded so the department had that tank pumped.

The Department has requested and is preparing for an ISO inspection. This will hopefully get a better rating for the Department and in turn will make for lower homeowner insurance premiums for township residents.

The Department has received a DNR grant in the amount of \$100 that will be used for truck parts and supplies.

Scott Welsh attended the Fire Department business meeting and reported that Fire Chief Al Mitchell has retired and firefighter Jim Johnson will be the interim Chief. In November the Department will hold elections.

b) The Ford truck that has been purchased to be built as a Rescue rig has been delivered to Stainless and Repair and should be completed in eight weeks.

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

HALL: **a)** The new entry doors have been installed, but there is some weather stripping yet to be added to the front doors.

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported that the design for the new septic system had been changed from two 1500-gallon tanks to two-2000 gallon tanks. Shelton Excavating has installed the system, although the blacktop repair and the electric work is not finished. The electric includes two lines wired to the electric panel in the hall so if one line gets damaged, there will not be a need to dig from the hall to the control box in the park area. The old system has been crushed and filled. The lines were inspected with a camera and everything is in good condition inside the town hall. Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that with the upgrade in tank size there might be an additional cost. The Board decided that Shelton Excavating should bill the township for any additional cost incurred in installing the septic system.

c) Supervisor Gajewski and Leon Forstrom completed landscaping work in front of the town hall near the basement entry.

d) Leon Forstrom will begin work on the shelving in the downstairs office/storeroom when the septic work is completed.

e) There are outside lights at the southwest corner of the building that have burnt out. Supervisor Gajewski will contact Rick Flesvig to repair the lights.

PARK: **a)** Two footings around the lower playground have been lowered by Larry Shelton.

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

c) The downed trees at the Munger field have been removed by Paul Dunaiski.

d) Leon Forstrom reported that Frank Siiro will be making new "HOME and VISITOR" signs for the baseball field in the spring.

e) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned the need to fertilize the township soccer fields. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to spend up to \$500 to fertilize the township soccer fields and in the cemetery where needed.

CEMETERY: **a)** Leon Forstrom and Paul Dunaiski filled in tire ruts left by the vault truck after a burial, but they still need some work. Leon and Paul will fill with dirt and reseed.

b) The section of the north fence has been reattached to the top bar of the fence.

c) The dates for removal of grave decorations and disposal of the decorations will be in the township newsletter.

d) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that the flag will be taken down for the winter, but a new one needs to be purchased for next spring. This will be put on the agenda for the March Town Board meeting.

COMMITTEES: **a)** The Special Events Committee will meet October 20th 6:30 PM at the town hall to plan the Halloween Carnival scheduled for October 24th.

OLD BUSINESS: **a)** The Aggregate Tax reporting forms for the third quarter of 2014 have been sent to pit owners and operators.

NEW BUSINESS: a) Supervisor Gajewski reported a few things from the legal seminar that he attended in Cotton. First is that a copy of Jim Lindquist's bill for roadwork should be kept in the road file. This is already done by the Clerk. Also mentioned was that "recording of the meeting is for use transcribing minutes only and not a part of the official record" can be put on the agenda if the meeting is being recorded. The third thing is the need for a Supervisor to be authorized by the Board to spend money. This can be done by Resolution with a maximum dollar amount allowed written in the resolution. The Clerk will research the Minnesota Association of Townships WEB site for more information and a sample resolution. Supervisor Gajewski also mentioned that the open meeting law seems less constrictive than we were previously told. Any business or decisions must be made in an open meeting, where coordinating or comments regarding the decision that has been made would not require an open meeting.

b) The second Tuesday of November will be the Veteran's Day Holiday, and because of this no government public meetings can be held. MOTION By Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have the November Town Board meeting Wednesday November 12, 2014. The Clerk will post the meeting date change.

c) The Supervisors need to appoint election judges to serve at the General Election November 4th. MOTION by Gajewski and seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to appoint Clare R. Stromlund, Joan Gajewski, Scott Welsh, Terri Jensen, Bonnie Siiro and Delores Vogel (alternate) to serve as election judges on November 4, 2014.

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