

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

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried with all in favor to approve the minutes as written from the February 14, 2012 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried with all in favor to appoint Supervisor Gajewski as Chairperson, and Supervisor Welsh as Vice-Chair for the coming year.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried with all in favor to accept the following Treasurer's report dated February 29, 2012.

**Checking 13411 - 13454**

Beginning Balance	\$254,448.24	
Receipts	\$19,700.56	
Transfers	0.00	
Disbursements	\$12,039.32	
Ending Balance	\$262,109.48	\$262,109.48

**Money Market**

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,273.63	
Interest/Deposits	\$40.59	
Withdrawals	\$00	
Ending Balance	\$108,314.22	\$108,314.22

Total Accounts \$370,423.70

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

**2/20 Century Link** – Construction season information. No board action.

**2/22 Office of State Auditor** – Information for Town Clerk to send required financial report. The Clerk sent the financial report to the Auditor's Office on March 6, 2012.

**2/24 St. Louis County Auditor Office** – Fire Department Bingo Application signed by county. The Clerk has forwarded this application to the State of MN.

**3/1 American Red Cross** – Signed facility use agreement. No board action.

**3/1 Minnesota Association of Townships** – Short Course information. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried with all in favor to allow Town Board members to attend the MAT Short Course at whatever location is most convenient at township expense.

**3/6 WLSSD / Lorilee Blais** – Recycling Program Operations Grant application. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried with all in favor to apply for the WLSSD Operations Grant.

**3/8 Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance** – Certificate of Insurance for Fire Hall. The clerk will send the Certificate to Wells Fargo Public Financing.

**3/12 Land Stewardship Project** – Legislative information regarding House File 389. The Supervisors asked the Clerk to contact MAT Attorney Kent Sulem and find out if this legislation is something for the Town Board to take action on.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:** MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh, and carried with all in favor to pay all bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list in the amount of \$22,155.54 encompassing check numbers 13455 to 13504 along with an additional donation payment to DECA in the amount of \$100, as approved by the electorate at the annual meeting, and \$121 to Portable John for rental of the portable toilet at the town hall.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:** a) None

**ROAD: a)** Stonelake resident Butch Lund addressed the Board regarding the condition of the west side shoulder of the Stonelake Road. The Town Board will check this out during the Annual Road Inspection. Jim Lindquist also mentioned that drivers are cutting the corner at the intersection of Sandberg and Jerry Roads causing damage to the road.

**b)** The Board discussed a date for the Annual Road Inspection. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried with all in favor to hold the Annual Road Inspection on Thursday April 19, 2010 beginning at 8:00 AM.

**c)** Chairperson Gajewski reported that he was contacted by St. Louis County Public Works letting him know there was damage done to a culvert on the Tondryk Road by the snowplow. The end of the culvert is torn up. The culvert can be moved over and still be long enough to work. The county will cut off the torn part in the meantime.

**FIRE: a)** Firefighter Jeff Nelson reported for the Fire Department. There have been nine calls total year to date. Presently there are 21 firefighters and two new applications. The Easter Bingo is planned for March 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Nelson mentioned the poor condition of the Munger Shaw Road between St. Louis River Road and Highway #2. This had been previously reported to St. Louis County Commissioner Peg Sweeney at the Annual Meeting.

The Fire Department would like to have a cover constructed for the ladders on truck #6. There is a partial aluminum cover now, but it is not long enough to cover the entire ladder. There is no ladder cover for truck #1 and the Department would like one for that truck also. The Department has a quote of \$300 for both. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried with all in favor to allow the Fire Department to spend up to \$300 to have covers for the truck ladders on #6 and #1 constructed.

Assistant Chief Al Mitchell is working on quotes to turn the Silverado pick up donated by the Enbridge Company into a grass fire fighting rig.

Solway Township has a Facilities Use Agreement with the American Red Cross. Chairperson Gajewski explained that to house a generator there would need to be a small shed on a concrete slab, and fuel tank. The electrical work needed at the Town Hall and Fire Hall in order to use the generator in case of a power outage or emergency is \$6,900. The clerk will try to contact the Red Cross to see if this would be compatible with any equipment the Red Cross would bring in an emergency, or if they would even need us to do this work.

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

**HALL: a)** Remodeling of the upstairs bathroom was discussed at the Annual Meeting. The electorate seemed to support the idea. The Board discussed options for the bathroom including getting a handicapped height toilet. The Board asked Chairperson Gajewski to get estimates on new flooring and wall tile for the upstairs bathroom. Chairperson Gajewski

mentioned that the switch for the corner lights on the ceiling of the main part of the hall are in the bathroom. It would be nice to have this switch moved outside of the bathroom to the wall with the other hall ceiling light switches. Chairperson Gajewski will get a quote for moving the light switch and remove the unused electrical boxes from the bathroom.

**b)** The work to the Town Hall to use the generator was discussed under Fire.

**c)** Treasurer Moe is looking into new blinds for the upstairs windows in the hall.

**d)** The Board discussed getting new carpet for the stage. The Board directed Chairperson Gajewski to get an estimate from Cloquet Interiors for new stage carpeting. The Township has worked with Cloquet Interiors in the past and found them to be reliable and competitively priced.

**e)** Leon Forstrom installed new shelves in the custodial supply closet.

**PARK:** **a)** The monthly playground inspection shows no hazards and that the parks are in good shape.

**CEMETERY:** **a)** Chairperson Gajewski completed a cemetery inspection along with the monthly playground inspection. No safety hazards were found.

**b)** Improvements to the cemetery including an area with patio blocks and benches were discussed by the electorate at the Annual Meeting. The electorate was in favor of making these cemetery improvements. There is an estimate from Shelton Excavating in the amount of \$8,345.00 to add fill to level the low areas in the cemetery and to extend the driveway in the cemetery. Jim Lindquist suggested using road ditching material to fill the low areas of the cemetery. Mr. Lindquist was asked if he would like to give the Board a quote on the cemetery improvements and he declined. **MOTION** by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried with all in favor to accept Shelton Excavating quote of \$8,345 and to start the upgrades to the cemetery.

**c)** There are a few headstones that need to be raised and leveled. It was suggested to try to get people doing Community Service to do some of this work. Resident Butch Lund mentioned that his church has a cemetery and they have contracted with the Cloquet DNR to do work at their church cemetery. The DNR has Community Service people working for them. The Board will contact the DNR to check this out. **MOTION** by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried with all in favor to try to get a work crew from the Cloquet DNR to help with work at the Town Cemetery.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:** **a)** Nothing to report.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **a)** The Minnesota Association of Townships Short Courses are in Grand Rapids on April 5<sup>th</sup> and in Carlton on April 6<sup>th</sup>. This was also addressed under Correspondence.

**b)** Supervisor Stromlund notified the Board that new plat books are available from St. Louis County. **MOTION** by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried with all in favor to have the Clerk purchase a 2012 plat book for the Town office.

**c)** The Town Clerk notified the Board that the August Town Board Meeting is on the same date as the Primary Election. **MOTION** by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried with all in favor to hold the August Town Board Meeting on August 9, 2012.

**d)** The Town Board is required to reestablish by resolution the polling place after redistricting has been completed by the state. The resolution was passed as follows:

**SOLWAY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #80**  
**Resolution Reestablishing Precinct and Polling Place for Solway Township**

**WHEREAS**, the legislature of the State of Minnesota has been redistricted; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statute section 240B.14 subd. 3 (d) requires that precinct boundaries must be reestablished within 60 days of when the legislature has been redistricted or at least 19 weeks before the state primary election, whichever comes first;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Town Board of Solway Township, County of St. Louis, State of Minnesota hereby reestablishes the boundaries of the voting precincts and polling places as follows:

Solway Town Hall is the designated polling place for all of Solway Township which encompasses the total voting precinct.

Attached to this resolution, for illustrative purposes, is a map showing said precinct and the location of each polling place.

Supervisor Stromlund moved the adoption of the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Welsh, and it was declared adopted on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012 upon the following votes: Yeas – Clare R. Stromlund, Ronald Gajewski and Scott Welsh.

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried with all in favor to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.