

**Solway Town Board Meeting Minutes  
May 10, 2011**

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 was Supervisor Ron Gajewski, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, five concerned citizens. Supervisor Scott Welsh was not in attendance.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to approve the minutes as written from the April 12, 2011 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Gajewski seconded by Stromlund and carried to accept the following Treasurer's report dated April 30, 2011.

Checking 12937-12991		
Beginning Balance	\$281,131.62	
Receipts	\$8,967.61	
Transfers	\$90,000.00	
Disbursements	\$-15,545.10	
Ending Balance	<u>\$184,545.13</u>	\$184,545.13
Money Market		
Beginning Balance	\$18,122.82	
Interest/Deposits	\$90,000.00	
Withdrawals	00	
Ending Balance	<u>\$108,122.82</u>	\$108,122.82
Total Accounts		\$292,667.95

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 4/13 ARDC - In-Kind Grant Program. This grant is for ARDC staff time for transportation planning. Solway has no transportation projects planned.
- 4/20 Proctor DECA - Thank you note for donation.
- 4/20 St. Louis County Land Department - Classification of state tax forfeited land. No board action.
- 4/25 MN Dept of Health - Drinking water test showing no coliform bacteria detected in the town hall drinking water.
- 4/25 St. Louis County Planning - Proposed revisions to St. Louis County subdivision regulations. No board action.
- 4/27 Wells Fargo - Request for current financial statements for public financing loans. The Town Clerk will send the financial statements to Wells Fargo.
- 5/6 WLSSD via email - Grant application. The Town Clerk will complete the grant and return it to WLSSD.
- 5/6 Attorney John Bray via email - Affidavit regarding Northland Bituminous for the Town Clerk to sign. Clerk printed out the affidavit and returned signed copy to John Bray.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:**

The Treasurer has the following bills in addition to those listed on the Claims List for Approval: three bills to Minnesota Power in the amounts of \$171.00, \$245.00 and \$363.00; Regena

Merritt in the amount of \$631.73 for reimbursement; Karen Brickley in the amount of \$175.00 for damage deposit refund; Carla Lasky in the amount of \$25.00 for hall rental damage deposit refund. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski, and carried to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills List and the additional bills presented by the Town Treasurer.

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

**ROAD: a)** Paul Suomela at 6328 Jerry Road is having trouble with the culvert at the end of his driveway. Mr. Suomela has tried to clean it out, but there is something stuck in the middle of the culvert. This culvert is old and might need to be replaced. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund to have Jim Lindquist check out the culvert and if it needs to be replaced go ahead and replace the culvert.

**b)** The Board reviewed the notes from the April 29<sup>th</sup> Road Inspection. The board took a look at all of the signs while they were on the road inspection and they are all in good shape. There is a total of 128 loads of gravel. Culverts need to be replaced on the North Sandberg Road, Tondryk Road, and the North Berquist. Jim Lindquist has an estimate of \$2,000 for these three culverts. The turnaround at the end of the Van Gassler Road needs some work. Jim Lindquist estimates this will cost \$600. The North Sandberg is in need of ditching and Mr. Lindquist estimates it will cost \$3,500 for this work. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to approve the road orders from the road inspection held April 29<sup>th</sup> to include: 128 loads of gravel; replacing culverts on Tondryk, North Sandberg, and North Berquist Roads; and ditching on the North Sandberg Road; Van Gassler Road turn around work; Ditching on North Sandberg Road.

There are old tires in the ditch on the North Sandberg Rd and two televisions in the ditch on the North Berquist Road. Leon Forstrom will pick the tires and televisions up and take them to the Materials Recovery Center in Rice Lake.

Brushing needs to be done at the end of the Ayres Road. The Board feels that the smaller brushing jobs can be done by township personnel. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to have the smaller roadside brushing work done by township personnel.

There is an issue with visibility on the Morris Thomas Road at the Sandberg Road intersection. The Town Clerk will call the county to see if they can some brushing at this intersection. There is still many old cars in the yard at 3729 Bailey Road. This site has been a problem for many years. The Clerk will contact WLSSD for help in getting this site cleaned up.

**c)** The Board was advised at a seminar they attended to have signed contracts with any contractors that do roadwork. The Clerk has two examples, but the board feels they are too long for what is needed. The Clerk will check out other options. The board will table this issue until July Town Board Meeting. MOTION by Gajewski seconded by Stromlund and carried to give copies of the four-page Contract for Services to Larry Shelton and Jim Lindquist and let them look it over to next month.

**d)** Town Clerk was notified that the state had made changes in the road limits making the unposted paved roads ten ton limits. Gravel roads are still at five-ton for unposted roads. The county also notified the clerk that Jim Sathers had an emergency permit to haul gravel for an emergency in Hermantown the past couple of weeks..

**e)** The Board has two gravel quotes. Shelton Excavating in the amount of \$15.80 and Jim Lindquist in the amount of \$15.90. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to have Shelton Excavating haul gravel for the township roads and to have Jim Lindquist spread and grade the gravel.

**FIRE: a)** Jeff Nelson reported for the Fire Department that there have been 27 calls year-to-date. Since the last Town Board Meeting of April 12, 2011 there have been seven calls. There is no news on a truck donation from Enbridge, or any grants.

**RECYCLING: a)** Jim Miller has been working on getting the office at the Recycling Shed cleaned. Ron Gajewski and Leon Forstrom will help Mr. Miller.

**b)** Jim Miller reported that there was garbage left at the recycling shed in the early morning of May 7, 2011. Some mail has been recovered from this garbage, and the Board has directed the Town Clerk to write a letter to the person named on the mail instructing them that this is not allowed and the St. Louis County Sheriff's Department will be called if it happens again.

**HALL: a)** Supervisor Gajewski will be contacting Cloquet Interiors for a quote for replacing the carpet on the ramp to the side entrance of the hall.

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

**b)** Supervisor Gajewski reported that the Soccer field and baseball diamond are being prepared for summer use.

**CEMETERY: a)** There will be a Memorial Day ceremony at the Solway Cemetery.

**b)** Supervisor Gajewski completed a cemetery inspection along with the monthly playground inspection. No safety hazards were found.

**c)** Leon Forstrom has been filling the sinking gravesites.

**d)** Supervisor Gajewski has spoke with Todd Signs regarding a memorial at the cemetery in honor of William Peterson who donated land for part of the cemetery. Todd Signs said they have done a lot of this type of work in the past. Supervisor Gajewski will get more information and a quote for the next Town Board meeting. The Clerk will contact Joan Peterson to get her thoughts on a memorial.

**COMMITTEES: a)** The Special Events Committee met Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to discuss a National Night Out event. As there were four committee members at the meeting the board feels there is not enough support for a National Night Out event.

**OLD BUSINESS: a)** The Public Hearing for the Welsh Cartway is scheduled June 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m at the Solway Town Hall.

**NEW BUSINESS: a)** The Clerk mentioned that she was contacted by Chris Morris to ask the township if part of the hall parking lot could be used by the Apostolic Church on Highway #2 for overflow parking on Labor Day weekend. The Board does not have a problem with the church using part of the upper parking lot for overflow parking. The Clerk will work out the details with the hall renters for that weekend and Mr. Morris.

Solway Town Board Meeting Minutes  
May 10, 2011 continued

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the Board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.