

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

MOTION made by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the Town Board Meeting of May 8, 2018 as presented.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept the monthly Treasurer's report dated May 31, 2018.

Checking:16929-16969

Beginning Balance	\$302,156.52	
Receipts	950.00	
Disbursements	<u>\$-43,976.59</u>	
Ending Balance	\$259,129.93	\$259,129.93

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,963.84	
Interest/Deposits	\$18.21	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$108,982.05	<u>\$108,982.05</u>

Total Accounts

\$368,111.98

5/14 Lori Blais/WLSSD - . Email from Lori Blais notifying us that now all carts will be picked up on Thursday. No Board action.

5/15 SLC/ Public Works - Calcium Chloride Dust Control program prices for this year. The Board has already hired with Jake DeMenge to apply dust control to Township roads.

5/18 SLC Auditor's Office - Election Training notice & reminders for Town Clerk. Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk will be attending this training on June 15th at the ST. Louis County Court House.

5/18 Minnesota Association of Township - Membership cards for Board members.

5/22 A.M. & Paula Skibinski - Township copy of letter to Dave Sipila regarding the assessed value of their property. They have already presented their concerns at the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. No Board action.

5/24 Lori Blais / WLSSD - Letter notifying the Township that the Grant submitted for 2017 has been approved in the amount of \$7,730.72.

5/31 Proctor/Hermantown Community Ed - Proctor School Calendar for informational purposes.

5/31 St. Louis County Planning & Community Development - Draft Goals & Objectives for Land Use Plan that the County is updating. No Board action.

6/1 MN Demographic Center - Population & household estimates showing Solway Township population estimate at 1951 and household's numbering 763.

6/5 Lori Blais / WLSSD - Notice of recycling attendant meeting at WLSSD June 18th. Paul Dunaiski will be attending this meeting.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: a) Treasurer Moe has the following bills and one correction in addition to the Outstanding Bills List:

- One correction to Scott Welsh expense check. The total amount should be \$96.94
- North State Service for garbage service in the amount of \$108.91
- Jake DeMenge in the amount of \$7,644 to apply calcium chloride to Township roads.
- Reimbursement to Brandon porter for a battery on fire truck #4 in the amount of \$125.96.

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to pay all bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list presented by the Town Treasurer and the additional bills listed for a total amount of \$50,979.86.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) The Clerk has received a "Report of Town Clerk" form from the Saginaw Union Station as part of the process to renew their liquor license with St. Louis County. There have been no complaints reported to the Town office. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to recommend renewal of the Saginaw Union Station liquor license. The Clerk will send the report to St. Louis County.

b) Sandberg Road resident Paul Sitko was present to inquire why the Board has applied calcium chloride before grading the road. He is also complaining about the wash boarding where the blacktopping ends at the Morris Thomas Road. The Board and Jim Lindquist explained that the wash boarding will always be a problem where the blacktop ends and the gravel begins. Jim Lindquist graded the road prior to the Board having calcium chloride applied but the road was very hard packed making it hard to grade. The Board also explained that grading can be done after the dust control has been applied and we will pay special attention to this area in the future.

ROAD: a) Gravel and dust control has been applied to Township Roads. Gravel was applied the first week in June and dust control was applied on June 11th.

b) No estimate has been received from Sinnott Blacktopping for seal coating and striping of the Town Hall parking lot and basketball/tennis courts.

c) Chairperson Gajewski reported that the culvert on the Munger Shaw Road is half full of gravel preventing good drainage. This is in the County right of way. Supervisor Gajewski will contact the County to try to get them to fix the problem with this culvert. Firefighter Michael Jeka suggested that the Fire Department use the fire hose to try to clear out the culvert. He will ask the Fire Department at the next meeting.

d) St. Louis County did fill some of the potholes and did some crack filling on the Jeffrey Road.

e) The railroad crossing signs on the Jerry and Jeffrey Roads need to be replaced; most are about twenty years old. Chairperson Gajewski reported that he heard the MN Department of Transportation will replace railroad crossing signs. This information was incorrect the signs are the responsibility of the local road authority. County sign person Duane Eckstrom said to order the signs through Vic Lund at St. Louis County. The Board is wondering if those current sign posts meet current breakaway standards. We will get a quote from Vic Lund for signs and posts.

f) The Stonelake Road entrance culvert that is in need of replacement has been replaced by Jim Lindquist.

g) Chairperson Gajewski mentioned that the hedge on the Heine Road needs to be cut down again this year for visibility for traffic traveling along the bend on the Heine Road. The Clerk will send a letter to the property owners asking them to cut the hedge.

h) Chairperson Gajewski mentioned that the Munger School Site hedge is too high and will begin to cause visibility problems for traffic coming up to that corner. Paul Dunaiski will take cut the hedge to take care of this.

i) Jim Lindquist has not yet looked over the contract for services with the Township.

j) Chairperson Gajewski reported that during the applications of dust control he noticed some garbage dumped on the Bergquist Road. Kerbie Merritt and Paul Dunaiski will take care of this.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: a) Firefighter Michael Jeka reported a total of 51 calls year-to-date: 31 medical, 17 fires and 4 vehicle accidents.

b) The television antenna is installed and working great.

c) Kerbie Merritt reported that when he was mowing by the Fire Department septic he noticed the area around one of the tanks is wet and smells of sewage. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have the Fire Hall septic tank pumped. Chairperson asked Michael Jeka if the septic alarm was sounding at the Fire Hall. Mr. Jeka said there was no alarm sounding at the Fire Hall.

d) Firefighter Michael Jeka reported that the Department has not heard about the gear grant, and won't hear back until early 2019.

RECYCLING: a) The Township was awarded a Western Lake Superior Sanitary District Operations grant in the amount of \$7,730.72 and the grant agreement needs to be signed and returned to Western Lake Superior Sanitary District. The Chairperson and Town Clerk will sign and return to WLSSD. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to accept the Western Lake Superior Operations Grant in the amount of \$7,730.72.

b) Paul Dunaiski reported that he attended the June 18th meeting for recycling shed attendants and shared that the recycling shed will now be accepting clean film plastic.

c) Recycling shed attendant will be gone July 21, 25, and 28. Kerbie Merritt has agreed to work the recycling center on those days.

HALL: a) Chairperson Gajewski reported that Jim Perrault Construction had a cost run over due to them needing to level the front steps. When they jacked up the steps the beams supporting the porch were found to be rotted. This is what is causing the steps and porch itself to be sagging. The beams have been replaced with green treated lumber. This work will be and additional \$2,500. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to pay Jim Perrault Construction for the additional work needed on the front porch steps. The new beams will need to be painted next fall after the wood dries.

b) Chairperson Gajewski reported that while clearing out the downstairs office, the old decoy surveillance cameras were thrown out.

c) Chairperson Gajewski reported that the work on the back porch is completed and the handrails on the front porch are also completed.

d) A new flag for the Town Hall flagpole has been purchased and will be installed by Memorial Day.

PARK: a) Rick Flesvig from Red D Electric has a quote for \$8,406.00 to install new lighting on the basketball court/ice rink. The new 25-foot light poles will need footings.

b) Clerk Merritt and Chairperson Gajewski are working on ordering the ADA playground equipment with grant monies from the CDBG grant.

c) Leon Forstrom's cousin (Precision painting), has put a second coat of sealer on the Witte Trail park benches. The Clerk will send a thank you note to him.

d) Clerk Merritt reported that she has been in contact with Vance Oakstad from Proctor Baseball Association regarding the batting cage on the Township fields. Mr. Oakstad feels the batting cage is no longer the property of the Baseball Association and is working on taking it down. He was hoping to make it to tonight's meeting, but is not in attendance.

CEMETERY: a) Chairperson Gajewski reported he has purchased a couple of shrubs to replace the dead ones at the cemetery. The dirt enclosure needs painting and straightening.
b) There have been three burials in June, Terrance Andres, Darlene Fremling and Mayme Jackson.

COMMITTEES: a) Chris Ellian reported on the high speed internet for the Township. There is a different contact at CenturyLink. There is still a process in place or framework for putting high speed internet into the entire township.

OLD BUSINESS: a) Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS: a) Chairperson Gajewski mentioned we may need to raise the wage for hall custodian to get the vacancy filled. Supervisor Welsh felt that because it is a weekend job, that is making it harder to get the position filled.
b) The Board discussed putting the hall cleaning position in the Newsletter.
c) Precision Painting was discussed under Park, the Clerk will be sending a thank you note to them for their volunteer work painting the Witte Trail benches. Thanks to Leon and Paul for donating their time working on this project.

At the end of the meeting, Vance Okstad from the Proctor Baseball Association arrived. The Board discussed with him the need to get the old batting cage off of the field as it is a liability for children playing on it. The batting cage is bent up and not useable. Mr. Okstad mentioned they are having a little trouble as there are some small concrete footings, but it will be gone in about a week.

Mr. Okstad is asking if they can use the baseball field and discussed with the Board about allowing T-ball or coach pitch and soccer at the same time. Safety soft balls are used for T-ball which is 5-6 year olds and coach pitch which is 7-8 year olds. Mr. Okstad mentioned that they could put up a type of temporary snow fence at the base line to prevent balls from going into the soccer field area, or move the bases to shorten the base path. The Board is in agreement that the T-ball and coach pitch can be taking place at the same time as U-8 or U-12 soccer games.

Their season begins early May to June, then there is a break for a week and it might pick up again for a bit in July. The field is not needed this year as all games and practices have been scheduled at other fields.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.