

The Solway Town Board Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Scott Welsh, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Also present were Supervisors Clare Stromlund, Ron Gajewski, Clerk /Deputy Amy Johnson, Treasurer Cindy Moe and 5 concerned citizens.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the Town Board Meeting of June 14, 2022 as presented.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept the Treasurer's report dated June 30, 2022.

**Checking:18905-18952**

Beginning Balance	\$292,432.28	
Receipts	\$9,791.88	
Disbursements	<u>\$-47,035.18</u>	
Ending Balance	\$255,188.98	<b>\$255,188.98</b>

**Money Market**

Beginning Balance	\$ 109,347.08	
Interest/Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$109,357.08	<b><u>\$109,357.08</u></b>

**Total Accounts** **\$364,546.06**

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

**6/10 SLC Planning Community Development-** Public Hearing on July 14, 2022 about chronic wasting disease. No board action.

**6/14 Industrial By Products** – Notice that wood ash will be applied at 6789 W. Arrowhead. No board action.

**6/15 SLC Election Division** – Election judges will need to be trained every two years to be eligible to work at the elections. The training opportunities will be in person at the town hall and online. The online training, through St. Louis County will cost \$11.00 per/person. **Motion by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to pay \$11.00 per/person to do online election training.**

**6/27 MN Association of Townships** – June 2022 Newsletter available.

**6/30 ARPA** – Funds have been received on July 1, 2022 for the amount of \$212,000.00.

**7/5 Kim Kuehl** – The township has received a Certificate of Liability Insurance from our cleaning person.

**7/5 Lake County Power** – Notice of capital credit allocation. No board action.

**7/6 Mediacom** – Theresa Sunde from Mediacom was asking for a letter of support for a broadband grant that would be used in our Township. **Motion by Gajewski and seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to support Mediacom with a letter to support a grant.**

**7/7 Kivi Aggregate-** Aggregate tax reporting form was received.

**7/11 MN Dept of Health** – Does not pertain to our township and no board action.

**7/11 Menards** – Authorized user form to be signed and mailed back.

**7/11 Duluth Area Townships** – Invitation to the Annual BBQ on August 11, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.  
**7/11 Pit 56 & Northland Constructors** – Aggregate tax reporting form was received.

### **OUTGOING COORESPONDENCE**

**6/12 Lori Blais, WLSSD** – Recycling tracking forms- 6/1, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/9  
**6/14 Sinnott Contracting-** Accepted and signed quote for the Jerry Rd. R.R. crossing.  
**6/14 MN Dept of Revenue** – 2021 Aggregate Tax Information Report.  
**6/16 Special Events Committee** – Send out meeting notice to take place on July 5, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.  
**6/21 Linda Barleau-** Requested a letter from the town hall stating that there was a funeral at the Solway Town Hall. The letter is to be used for receiving COVID funds.  
**6/21 One North LLC** – Letters to the new owners of the gravel pit.  
**6/21 Aggregate tax mailing list** – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter tax reporting form and memo were sent out.  
**6/30 MN Association of Township Insurance Trust** – Received notice of incident.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:** a) Treasurer Moe has several additional bills not listed on the Outstanding Bills List.

- Paul Zieroth for (4) Beavers @ \$125.00 each = \$500.00
- Craig Johnson for \$125.00 for hall rental deposit return.

**MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to pay all bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills List and the additional bills presented by the Town Treasurer for a total amount of \$71,087.35**

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:** a) There are no concerns brought to the board.

**ROAD:** a) David Larson notified the Town Hall that there was garbage on the Van Gassler Road. When Leon Forstrom went to remove the garbage, he found nothing along the road.  
b) Paul Zieroth trapped four beavers along the Jerry Road. He also took care of the beaver dam that was there.  
c) Andy Olson from the St. Louis County stated that it maybe a couple of weeks before the potholes are filled due to a machine breakdown.  
d) Calcium Chloride is getting on the roads s little later this year. Hopefully in the next week we can finish applying the Chloride.  
e) Gordy Halvorson from the St. Louis County was asked if the County would be available to work on the Township Roads during the summer – grading, culverts and gravel applications ect.... Mr. Halvorson stated that they are in no position to take on any new townships.  
f) The Tondryk Road cleanup and new gravel have been completed.  
g) Supervisor Gajewski met with Vic Lund, St. Louis County traffic engineer, to discuss a possible sign on Munger Shaw Road to indicate to the public when the fire trucks are exiting the area. Mr. Lund said some fire halls have used a sign with a strobe light along the side of the road that would go off when the Fire Department Trucks left to notify the drivers. This system would be \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00 to install.  
h) Mr. Rodda puts so many hours on each road that it cost the township \$22,690.00 so far this year. In 2021 the township spent \$29,275.00 on the roads. Comparing the last two years to what we paid Jim Lindquist in 2020, the township spent \$30,868.00 in 2020. Supervisor Stromlund is concerned that the township can't keeping paying this amount of money every month. Chairperson Welsh has looked at what Mr. Rodda has done and agrees but also our

roads are looking great. The budget is set for \$25,000.00 and we are almost there and there are still a few months of possible work to be done. **Motion by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to talk with Mr. Rodda about the work he still has to do and about how much our budget is.**

i) Intersection improvements for 2023 will be Canosia and Hwy 194. In 2024 Munger Shaw and Hwy 2. Supervisor Gajewski informed the Board that they are starting to have meetings for these projects, and they are looking at closing our Hwy 2 entrance to the town hall parking lot. Supervisor Gajewski is concerned that the other entrance will get too congested if we only have one. The Munger Shaw Road entrance also enters into an area of pedestrian traffic.

**FIRE: a)** Keith Dahl, a township financial consultant, from Ehler's & Associates came to speak to the board about a pre-sale report. The report lays out the proposal, the authority, time and structure for purchasing a new fire truck. Ehler's will ask for a minimum of three banks that the township would want to go through. The loan would be a max of 10 years and the township would pay the interest every 6 months. The interest rates are at 3.8% today but that could change. Over the 10-year period of the loan the interest paid would be estimated to be \$68,000.00. The interest would be locked in for the whole duration of the loan. The township would pay one principal payment a year, starting February 1, 2024 and two annual interest payments in February and August. Mr. Dahl stated that this was a good price for the fire truck. For a new fire truck, they are around \$500,000. The price of a new fire truck will never go down only increase. Chief Porter stated that the fire truck will come with all maintenance records, the pumps will be certified, and the price also includes bumper to bumper included on this deal. There is only 12,000 miles on the 2012 Cummins Diesel. Chairman Stromlund stated the longer we wait the more it will be. We are not going to be able to afford \$700,000.000 fire truck down the road. Supervisor Gajewski and Chairperson Welsh also agreed that we will never see a deal like this. **Motion by Stromlund and seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to purchase a new fire truck and pursue financing through Ehler's.** The Board also discussed the down payment would be \$25,000.00 and that would be paid at the end of August. **Motion by Gajewski seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to put a down payment of \$25,000.00 on the new fire truck.** Ehler's has a resolution for providing the sale that needs to be signed and approved by the board. Resolution 2022-5. **Motions by Welsh and second by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept the resolution 2022-5.**

b) The Toyne tanker/tanker #3 was purchased in 2012. Johns Mid America in Missouri is willing to take the tanker on a trade for \$30,000.00. The chassis is in good condition and minimal rust on the body. **Motion by Stromlund and seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to sell tanker #3 for \$30,000.00 for a trade in on the new fire truck.** With the trade in of \$30,000.00 the total for the new fire truck would be \$240,000.00.

c) The floor epoxy coating in the fire hall is peeling and will need attention in the near future. It has been over 20 years since it was installed. The fire department is planning on buffing the floors for National Night Out.

d) Chief Porter is trying to get an estimate for the damage on Engine #6 so far, he has not had any luck finding someone to give an estimate.

e) Chief Porter has requested to have signage on the Fire Hall. Arrowhead Printing have not come out yet. The Township has used TODD Signs for our other signage. Chief Porter is hoping to have some visibility on the outside of the fire department.

f) AED for the town hall has been purchased for \$850.00. It will be in a cabinet with a strobe/alarm when the cabinet is opened. The AED has not arrived.

g) The Stryker Lucas3 lifesaving machine has been purchased but has not arrived.

h) Interior lights inside the fire hall will need to be updated to LED. Butch Lund said he was too busy to do the project. Kerbie Merritt will be asked if he is available.

- i) State Gear grant will help with providing a complete set for the fire fighters, boots helmets and jackets.
- j) Fire Hall maintenance on interior painting is completed.
- k) The Fire Hall has an aluminum collection trailer just outside the fire hall to raise money.
- l) Fire Hall staffing update: 12 active members.
- m) Vehicle accident, 3 grass fires, medical calls.
- n) Hwy 2 & 194 intersection safety plan to put in a round- a- bout
- o) Fire Chief Porter requested a township map to help assist them on runs.
- p) Cenovus Energy partnership with the Solway Fire Department. Cenovus would pay for all the training in Texas at the industrial firefighting school. They would also pay for all the supplies. Once our fire fighters are trained the equipment is also provided and donated to the fire department. This is a great thing for our township because we are provided with extra equipment that can be used here.
- q) EAM is at the hall right now going through the neglected equipment. Rescue #5 had a mass flow sensor that needs to be repaired. Everything is up to par and maintained.
- r) Tanker #6 fuel tanks being replaced; Tanker #2 pump service is done. The department would like to remove #4 from the fleet because only three members are able to drive a manual transmission and the pump is no longer usable. By removing the truck from service, the insurance cost will decrease and maintaining a 94/98 truck is also costly. **Motion by Welsh and second by Stromlund carried unanimous to sell tanker #4 on Do Bid.**
- S) For National Night Out tanker #2 will be out for kids to spray the water onto the grass. Ice cream cups will also be in the fire hall during the event.

**RECYCLING:** a) The 96 gal bags are working well. Nothing else to report.

- HALL:**
- a) Kitchen sink was leaking. Pipe has been tightened and no longer leaking.
  - b) The wood floors will be refinished next month. They were last done in February 2019.
  - c) The new air conditioners are working well. The Air exchange installation is not complete.

- PARK:**
- a) Park report: The township is looking for a new electric message insert to put into our sign by the road. We'll check with Todd Signs.
  - b) Butch Lund requested the board to purchase a new self-propelled mower. Butch Lund has found a new mower that he would like the township to purchase but it is more than the \$300.00 that was allotted. **Motion by Gajewski, second by Stromlund and carried unanimously to allow up to \$400.00 to be spent on a self-propelled lawn mower.**
  - c) Leon Forstrom has requested that there be an additional grounds keeper to help in the township. Mr. Forstrom would like to step down and not do as much work. We'll check to see if Horst Blumerich is available for additional maintenance work.

**CEMETERY:** a)

- b) Willow River group leveled headstones and footstones. The group did a great job.
- c) Shrubs were planted from Grussendorf's. The Maple tree will be replaced in the fall.

**COMMITTEES:** a) The National Night Out Committee meet and a flyer invitation was sent out from the Proctor Journal to all the Solway Township residents.

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

**NEW BUSINESS: a) Appoint Election Judges for the Primary Election. Motion by Gajewski and second by Welsh and carried unanimously to appoint election judges for the Primary on August 9, 2022:**

- **Bonnie Siiro – Head Judge**
- **Ron Gajewski**
- **Leon Forstrom**
- **Theresa Johnston**
- **Mary Busch**
- **Butch Lund / Scott Welsh**
- **Clare Stromlund - Alternate**

**MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting with the signing of checks. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM**