

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 Stromlund, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and seven concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the Town Board Meeting of July 10, 2018 as presented.

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

**Checking:17011-17060**

Beginning Balance	\$216,446.79	
Receipts	179,268.14	
Disbursements	<u>\$-57,928.33</u>	
Ending Balance	\$337,786.60	<b>\$337,786.60</b>

**Money Market**

Beginning Balance	<b>\$ 108,982.05</b>	
Interest/Deposits	\$27.48	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$109,009.53	<b><u>\$109,009.53</u></b>

**Total Accounts** **\$446,796.13**

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

**7/20 St. Louis County Planning & Community Development** - First half 2018 permits issued. Informational, no board action.

**7/23 Couri & Ruppe Law Office** - Legal Seminar at Cotton Town Hall on October 6, 2018. This is a free seminar put on by the Couri and Ruppe Law Firm. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously that the Board will consider the Couri and Ruppe Law Firm for some of the Township legal work. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to allow any township officers who would like to attend do so at Township expense.

**7/23 Minnesota Association of Townships** - Notice of District 10 meeting and election on August 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at Grand Lake Town Hall. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to allow any township officers who would like to attend do so at Townships expense.

**7/26 WLSSD** - Notice of Public Hearing on Capital Budget on September 10, 2018 at 4PM. Paul Dunaiski is interested in attending this meeting. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously for Paul Dunaiski to attend the Public Hearing on Capital Budget for Western Lake Superior Sanitary District at Township expense.

**7/27 Minnesota Dept of Revenue** - 2019 Certified town aid notice in the amount of \$664.

**8/1 WLSSD** - Update on WLSSD generator bonding request. They were successful in getting language included in the bonding bill that will allow WLSSD to compete for partial grant funds for the project. This is not a guarantee of funding.

**8/2 Proctor Journal/Duluth News Tribune** - Affidavit of Publication for public testing of voting equipment.

**8/7 Gobel Aggregate** - Agg Tax reporting form. The Clerk was previously contacted by Gobel Aggregate asking for aggregate tax relief for the second quarter as the construction on Maple Grove has negatively affected their business. After some discussion the Board decided to allow Gobel Aggregate to make monthly installments. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to allow Gobel Aggregate DBA Minnesota Aggregate to divide the amount owed to make three monthly installments of the tax owed. The Clerk will contact Gobel Aggregate to let them know about the arrangements.

**8/20 Vic Lund/St. Louis County Public Works** - The Township needs two additional signs at the railroad crossing on the Jeffrey Road, one "Blind Crossing" and one "Look for Trains". MOTION from Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to accept St. Louis County's quote of \$625 to furnish and install two additional signs on the Jeffrey Road at the railroad crossing.

**8/21 John Engelking/Proctor Public Schools** - An invitation to the Solway Town Board to attend the Proctor Public Schools welcome back administrators grill out. This event will be held at the new event center in Proctor on August 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to allow any Town Board member who wishes to attend the Proctor Public School Administrator's Grill Out at township expense.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:** a) Treasurer Moe has two bills in addition to the Outstanding Bills List. The first is to Fire Safety USA for a butterfly valve for truck #6 in the amount of \$919.13, and the second to Karen Nelson for election judge training in the amount of \$20.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to pay all bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list presented by the Town Treasurer and the additional bills for a total amount of \$57,928.33.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:** a) Dawn Lind from Proctor Youth Soccer and Dave Geary from the Arrowhead Youth Soccer Association addressed the Board with concerns regarding the size of the goals/nets on the larger soccer field at the Town Hall Site. The recommended sizes for goals/nets was changed 3 years ago. The larger field at the town hall site is U-10/U-12 size field, but the goals/nets are sized for older players. The Arrowhead Youth Association would like to start next season with the correct sized goals/nets on the field. They will furnish the correct size goals/nets and take the ones they are replacing to the Munger School Site field. The ones from the Munger School Site field can be used at the Shelton Field in Proctor. The Soccer Association thanked the Board for use of the fields and appreciates the maintenance done on the fields. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have AYSA and Proctor Soccer correct the goal size on the large field at the Town Hall Site by supplying new goals and nets and installing them, and removing the larger goals from U-10 field and bringing them to the Munger School Site field. They will also take the old goals from the Munger School Site and bring them to the Shelton Field in Proctor. This work will be completed after this soccer season. The goals taken to the Shelton Field were previously provided by the Proctor School District.

**ROAD:** a) Jim Lindquist has removed the hedge on the Heine Road and ditched the area where the hedge was.

b) Chairperson Gajewski has been working on finding a way to construct a pathway in the Park area where ADA playground equipment is to be installed. Sinnott Blacktop has access to machinery that will excavate sod and prepare a base of recycled concrete. They will also add blacktop on top of the concrete base. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried

unanimously to have Sinnott Blacktop excavate and construct a pathway in the park area for the amount of \$4,180.

**c)** St. Louis County has installed 30 MPH speed signs on Sandberg Road as the road had increased traffic during the Maple Grove and Midway Road roundabout. Chairperson Gajewski had received complaints from Sandberg Road residents regarding the amount of traffic and the speed. The Board discussed keeping the signs in place indefinitely to keep the traffic slowed. The Board does understand that this is advisory and no tickets can be issued for speeding. The Board directed the Clerk to contact Vic Lund asking to leave the signs up.

**d)** After the Annual Road inspection in April it was discussed to remove trees and ditch the east side of Sandberg Road south of Morris Thomas. Jim Lindquist has a quote of \$4,000 for this work. We will need permission from the landowner for removal of some of the trees. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have Jim Lindquist remove trees and ditch the east side of the Sandberg Road south of Morris Thomas for the amount of \$4,000. This work will be done later this fall and will require written permission from the landowner for the tree removal.

**e)** St. Louis County has done some ditching in front of the Fire Hall along Munger Shaw Road up to the soccer field to allow water to flow into the culvert in front of the Fire Hall. This has seemed to help, but the Board is wondering if the culvert still needs to be cleaned out. Chairperson Gajewski will contact Gordy Halvorson at St. Louis County Public Works about this.

**f)** Paul Dunaiski continues with the roadside mowing.

**Fire:** Chief Nick Priolo reported a total of 72 calls year-to-date: 42 medical, 24 fires and 6 vehicle accidents.

**b)** Como Oil and Propane has reset the propane tank that had been sinking by the Fire Hall

**c)** The Department has one new member bringing the total membership to 12.

**d)** The Board thanked the Fire Department for their work at the National Night Out.

**e)** Chief Priolo has not received any information on air conditioning for the Fire Hall.

**RECYCLING:** **a)** The new dumpsters from WLSSD have not yet arrived.

**b)** Paul Dunaiski stated that the attendance at the recycling shed is low Saturday mornings the first hour and is wondering if we should open at 8:00 AM instead of 7:00 AM. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to change the recycling shed hours to 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday's effective October 1, 2018. Notice of the change will be in the October newsletter.

**c)** Paul Dunaiski reported that the event with the Boy Scouts helping was very well received.

**HALL:** **a)** The Board would like to hire a cleaning company for hall cleaning. Deputy Clerk Paulette Barnard will contact a couple of cleaning companies to get quotes and report at the next Board meeting.

**b)** Installing some type of non-skid edging on the front steps to help with depth perception when using the stairs has been discussed. Chris Ellian suggested a type of paint for the edges of the steps. The Board would like Chris to look into options and the price for this installation.

**c)** As previously authorized new hall vacuum that is used by renters has been purchased. It was reported that the hall vacuum is broken. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to purchase a vacuum for the Town Hall cleaning personnel to use not to exceed \$150.

**d)** Chairperson Gajewski noticed that some of the tables that we lend out to residents are in poor shape. There are additional tables in the furnace room that could be used. The Board decided to take the tables from the furnace room and put them into the rental shed.

e) The Township received a donation from the Harbor Squares Dancers for use of the town hall for their dances. The Board needs to accept any donations by Resolution. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #117 as follows:

**Solway Township Resolution 117**

**St. Louis County Minnesota**

**Resolution accepting donations**

WHEREAS, The Town of Solway is authorized to accept and maintain donations of real and personal property pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 465.03 for the benefit of its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, The Harbor Squares Square Dancers have offered to contribute the donation of \$1,000.00; and,

WHEREAS, There are no terms or conditions for the donation; and,

WHEREAS, All such donations have been contributed to the Township for the benefit of its citizens, as allowed by law; and,

WHEREAS, The Township Board finds that it is appropriate to accept the donation offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Town Board of Solway Township, St. Louis County, Minnesota as follows:

The donation described above is accepted and shall be used as allowed by law.

**PARK:** a) Rick Flesvig from Red D Electric has informed Chairperson Gajewski that the new lighting for the basketball court has been ordered.

b) Soccer Goals were discussed under Citizen Request.

c) It was noticed that the wheels on the tennis net are broken. The Board directed Kerbie Merritt and Paul Dunaiski to find something to replace them with.

d) Sinnott Blacktop quote for park walkway has been discussed under Road.

e) The warming house by the basketball court/skating rink is in need of repairs or replacement. There is water damage to the walls of the building and they are soft and crumbling part of the way up from the floor. The Board discussed replacing the building or trying to repair and replace some of the walls. It was mentioned that there is mildew in the building and might be better to replace. The Board directed Chairperson Gajewski to get quotes from a couple of contractors for this work.

f) As previously authorized a weed whip has been purchased at Menards to replace the older one that was not working..

Chairperson Gajewski reported all looks good on the properties safety report.

**CEMETERY:** a) One burial: Ken Fremling July 29<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMITTEES:** a) All went well at the National Night Out. It was suggested to have signs directing to where the dog show and other events are taking place. Val Fox's husband has volunteered to make them. Supervisor Stromlund will contact Val Fox. It was also suggested to have pictures from past years events posted for residents to review.

b) Nothing to report. Chris Elian is not at tonight's meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** a) The Clerk has sent a letter to DeCaigny explaining the Aggregate Tax to them and that they will need to report beginning the third quarter of 2018. There has been no response from DeCaigny. If there is no report submitted for the third quarter the Board has directed the Clerk to have Township Attorney John Bray contact Mr. DeCaigny. MOTION by

Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously for the Clerk to have Township Attorney John Bray contact DeCaigny Excavating if they do not report for the third quarter Aggregate Tax.

**b)** A complaint was received regarding a sport shooting event held earlier this summer at the Saginaw Union Station outdoor horse arena. The resident stated they didn't realize it would be a two day event and if it was for a few hours he would not mind. The Clerk notified the owner and she said she will report it to the event sponsor. The Saginaw Union Station is just the venue and does not run the event.

**c)** Mr. Harvey has been in contact with Sean Worthington regarding his concern about his assessed property value.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **a)** It was suggested that a bike rack by the playground would be a good idea. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to purchase a bike rack for the park area not to exceed \$1000 and explore if the Proctor School referendum money can be used for this.

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 9:20 pm.