

Chairperson Scott Welsh 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 Clare R. Stromlund, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, and six concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as written and distributed from the August 12, 2013 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION made by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to accept the following Treasurer's report dated August 31, 2013.

**Checking 14268 - 14313**

Beginning Balance	\$208,955.67	
Receipts	450.25	
Transfers	\$0.00	
Disbursements	\$-12,964.22	
Ending Balance	\$196,441.70	\$196,441.70

**Money Market**

Beginning Balance	\$ 108,447.72	
Interest/Deposits	\$18.12	
Withdrawals	\$0.00	
Ending Balance	\$108,465.84	\$108,465.84

**Total Accounts \$304,907.54**

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:**

**8/15 Minnesota New Hire Reporting** - Confirmation of submission for new hire Paul Dunaiski. No board action.

**8/15 Kristie Strum, State Program Administrator Intermediate, Minnesota Revenue** – Verification of the type of organization for SVFD. The state has the Solway Township Volunteer Fire Department listed as a town department. The Clerk has contacted Ms. Strum to Inform her that the Solway Fire Department is an independent nonprofit firefighting corporation.

**8/18 Valerie Vegar** - Ditching agreement for South Hanson Road that has been signed by Ms. Vegar and Supervisor Gajewski to remove the needed trees to allow for ditching.

**8/20 Keith Anderson** - Snowplowing quote for 2013 – 2014 winter season. Snowplowing quotes will be addressed under Road.

**8/20 MN Department of Health** - Town Hall water test for bacteria result shows no coliform bacteria present in the town hall drinking water.

**8/27 MN Department of Health** - Town Hall water test for coliform result shows nitrate levels to be within acceptable limits.

**8/28 Miller's Roofing** - Quote for new shingles on recycling shed. Roof shingling quotes will be discussed under Recycling.

**8/28 Perrault Construction** - Quote for new shingles on recycling shed to be discussed under Recycling.

**8/28 University of MN** - Land application of wood ash at 4007 Leiste Rd. No board action.

**8/28 St. Louis County Planning and Community Development** – Copy of Ordinance 60 Amendment. No board action.

**8/30 Northern Door & Hardware** – Quote for automatic door opener on town hall handicapped ramp entrance to be discussed under Hall.

**9/4 LaPorte's General Contracting** - Quote for new shingles on recycling shed to be discussed under Recycling.

**9/6 KTM Snowplowing quote** – Snowplowing quote to be discussed under Road.

**9/9 AJ's Lawn Care** - Snowplowing quote to be discussed under Road.

**9/10 Superior Entrance Systems** - Quote for handicapped ramp entrance door opener to be discussed under Hall.

**OUTSTANDING BILLS:** The following are additional bills presented by the Treasurer:

- Denny's Drilling - \$877.15 for replacement of the pressure tank for the water at the Town Hall.
- Scott Welsh - \$34.04 for cellphone reimbursement and mileage.
- Regena Merritt - \$27.00 for cell phone reimbursement and mileage.
- Nick Priolo - \$11.00 for pressure washing the maintenance garage.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills list and the additional bills from the Town Treasurer for a total amount of \$24,798.02.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:** a) Township resident Bob Stoneman contacted the Town office with a request to use the hall the second Monday of the month for meetings of the Duluth Horse Trail Alliance. This is a community service nonprofit group that is developing riding trails. At this time they are developing a trail on the tracks vacated by the DWP railroad. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to allow the Duluth Horse Trail Alliance to use the Town Hall the second Monday of each month at no charge. The Clerk will contact Mr. Stoneman to schedule these meetings.

**ROAD:** a) Supervisor Gajewski received a quote of \$49.81 for a "soft shoulder" sign from St. Louis County. This sign is for the Stonelake Road. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to order a "soft shoulder" sign from St. Louis County in the amount of \$49.81 to be installed on the Stonelake Road. Supervisor Gajewski will contact St. Louis County Public Works to order the sign.

b) As discussed at the August meeting, the Board has obtained snowplowing quotes from Keith Anderson, A.J.'s Lawncare and KTM Blacktopping. Keith Anderson's quote is the lowest. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to hire Keith Anderson for snowplowing and removal for the 2013 – 2014 winter season. Supervisor Gajewski will notify Mr. Anderson that he is hired.

Supervisor Gajewski mentioned he called KTM because he had not heard from them after contacting them for a snowplowing quote. Ron was told that someone who attended the May Town Board meeting (where the "blacktop sealing bids" were discussed) told KTM that it was said by Supervisor Gajewski that KTM doesn't do as good a job and also that Supervisor Gajewski waited for KTM's bid and let it out to the others bidding. Supervisor Gajewski wanted to make it clear that he has never stated or implied that KTM has not done a good job or does

not do quality work nor did he let anyone else know what the KTM quote was. It was explained to KTM that quotes are requested from service providers and they would not have been approached if the Board thought they didn't do quality work. Information on the quote amounts are not shared with other service vendors and do not become public until the board meeting at which they are considered.

- c) Jim Lindquist has completed the ditching work on the South Hanson Road.
- d) Supervisor Gajewski has a price of \$85 each for the "Additional Parking" signs the board asked him to get. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to purchase two "Additional Parking" signs from Todd Signs in the amount of \$85 each.
- e) Supervisor was asked to contact the State of Minnesota regarding a "Stop" sign with perimeter lighting at the Canosia Road and Hwy #194 intersection due to the amount of accidents at that intersection. State traffic engineer Robert Egge returned his call and mentioned that he is putting together a policy for the lighted stop signs. Mr. Egge will run the numbers on that intersection and type of accidents that have happened to see if it will help to have a lighted stop sign. They run about \$1,800 each. Supervisor Gajewski will report next month.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** a) Firefighter Jeff Nelson reported 74 calls year to date.

- b) The light bar is on back order for the fire truck being constructed at Hansen's Welding. They hope the light bar will arrive by Sept 16<sup>th</sup>. It will take about two-weeks to complete the work after they have the light bar.
- c) The Board would like to host a dinner for the firefighters, Flamettes and employees. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to hold an Appreciation Dinner on October 22<sup>nd</sup> for the fighters, Flamettes, and employees and spend up to \$750 for the event. The Clerk will send out invitations and arrange the catering.
- d) The Board and the firefighters discussed ways to prevent the line from the fire hall floor drains to the cistern from freezing. Supervisor Gajewski looked into a blanket to cover but the cost was more than expected. The Board decided not to plow over the area and to rope it off so no one drives over it, and also to make sure to have the system pumped before winter.
- e) The Board would like to thank the firefighters for their help with the National Night Out celebration.
- f) The Board would also like to thank Nick Priolo for washing the maintenance garage. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to pay Nick Priolo \$25.00 for his work power washing the maintenance garage. This payment will be instead of his bill submitted for \$11.00.
- g) Supervisor Gajewski asked the firefighters if they would be willing to water the shrubs at the cemetery. Firefighter Jeff Nelson will check with the Department at its next meeting.
- h) Firefighter Jim Johnson reported that truck #7 is in need of a fuel pump and/or fuel filter. Also the leaf springs need to be re-enforced on the truck. Jim is not sure of the price of the springs. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to have Jim Johnson get the fuel pump and/or fuel filter and re-enforce the leaf springs on truck #7.
- i) The Department members and the Board discussed the need for a new Rescue vehicle. The Department has found a 2004 with 76,000 miles in Pennsylvania. The Board had planned to look into Public Financing for a new rescue vehicle at the annual conference in November. This sounds like a very nice truck, but it might be too soon to purchase.

**RECYCLING:** a) Supervisor Gajewski has three quotes to replace the shingles on the recycling shed. The \$2,580 quote from Miller's is the lowest and was accepted by the Board. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to have Miller's roofing install new shingles on the recycling shed.

**HALL:** a) The Board has received two quotes for a handicapped accessibility opener for the handicapped ramp door of the hall. The quote from Superior Entrance Systems was lowest at \$1,991.66 and accepted by the Board. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to hire Superior Entrance Systems to install a handicapped door opener at the town hall handicapped ramp door in the amount of \$1,991.66.

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported that Rick Flesvig will repair the outdoor lights on the hall building and upper parking lot.

c) Supervisor Gajewski mentioned that a new flag is needed at the town hall. MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to have Supervisor Gajewski order a new flag from Todd Signs for the town hall.

**PARK:** a) The monthly playground inspection shows no hazards and the parks to be in good condition.

b) The new baseball bases have been installed.

c) The warming house has been painted. A new floor has been installed and the door fixed on the rental center. The rental building will also be painted.

d) The Board has set the ice rink warming house hours the same as last year. Saturdays and Sundays 1:00PM to 6:00PM.

e) The Esko Soccer Program has paid \$700 to the Township for use of the soccer fields this summer.

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

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported that A.J.'s will not be replacing two shrubs that are dead because of the dry summer. They have been watering the three trees they did replace.

**COMMITTEES:** a) A Special Events meeting to plan the Halloween Carnival is set for Monday September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Clerk will send meeting notices to the committee members. The date for the Carnival is Friday October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS:** a) Supervisor Gajewski reported that he has ordered 60 Centennial books from the Proctor Journal. These books are the same as the original books, with all the pages in order and none missing. There will be an article in the newsletter explaining that anyone who purchased a book with the duplicate and missing pages can bring it to the town hall and exchange it for a book with the correct pages.

b) Paul Dunaiski has been hired to help with grounds keeping and maintenance. He has also been trained at the recycling shed.

**NEW BUSINESS:** a) No new business.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting upon the Board completing signing of checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.