

Solway Town Board Meeting Minutes
September 13, 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 were Supervisors Ron Gajewski and Scott Welsh, Clerk Regena Merritt, Treasurer Cindy Moe, four concerned citizens.

MOTION made by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to approve the minutes as written from the August 9, 2011 Town Board Meeting.

MOTION by Welsh seconded by Gajewski and carried to accept the following Treasurer's report dated August 31, 2011.

Checking 13137- 13179

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$238,112.28 | |
| Receipts | \$5,793.45 | |
| Transfers | 0.00 | |
| Disbursements | <u>\$-35,152.52</u> | |
| Ending Balance | \$208,753.21 | \$208,753.21 |

Money Market

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 108,205.72 | |
| Interest/Deposits | \$00 | |
| Withdrawals | <u>\$00</u> | |
| Ending Balance | \$108,205.72 | \$108,205.72 |

Total Accounts \$316,958.93

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

8/17 Couri & Ruppe, PLLP Attorneys at Law – Legal Seminar on October 1, 2011 at the Cotton Town Hall. This seminar is put on free of charge by the Couri & Ruppe law firm. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to allow Town Board members who are able to attend do so at township expense.

8/26 Wells Fargo Bank – Approval in increase in credit limit. No board action.

8/29 Township Attorney John Bray – Court order regarding Northland lawsuit. The judge has ruled against the Township. The Supervisors would like to get more information on what actions to take. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried to contact John Bray with the supervisor's questions.

9/2 St. Louis County Auditor's Office – Final levy certification form. The Clerk will complete the form and return it to the county.

9/6 Proctor Schools, Ashley Winchell, Assistant to the Superintendent – Miscellaneous school board election information and forms.

9/12 St. Louis County Public Works – Letter from St. Louis County informing the township that the county needs all maintenance requests in writing. The Clerk will get the information to contact the county when needed.

OUTSTANDING BILLS:

Treasurer Moe has additional bills as follows:

- Jim Lindquist in the amount of \$4,389.50.00 for grading and roadwork.

- Jan Jackson in the amount of \$14,200 for 2011 assessing work.
- Rental damage deposit return in the amount of \$150.00 to Arrowhead Dog Agility Trials.
- Minnesota Power in the amounts of \$171.00, \$245.00, and 363.00 for street lights, hall and fire.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh, and carried to pay all outstanding bills as listed on the Outstanding Bills List and also the additional bills presented by the Town Treasurer.

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS:

ROAD: a) The Clerk reported that Shelton Excavating will do some “touch up” work to the shoulders on the Jeffrey Road.

b) John Childers has reported that he has to work on the roadside mower each time he uses it. The board would like to begin looking for a replacement mower. The Clerk will contact the Admin Minnesota Cooperative Purchasing Venture to see if there are any used mowers available.

c) Jim Lindquist mentioned that the dust control applied to township roads is helping to maintain the roads.

FIRE: a) No report from the Fire Department. Supervisor Gajewski suggested sending a Thank You to the Fire Department for their help with the Fall Fun Day.

b) The Fire Department will be getting a wheeled trash container from North States Service. The Fire Department will set the container out when it is full for North States to pick up.

RECYCLING: a) Jim Miller reported that everything is going well and attendance has increased. North State Services will leave a wheeled trash container for recycling shed garbage. Jim will put the cart out on Wednesday when the cart is full for North Country to pick up.

HALL: a) The outside light on the northwest corner of the hall is not working. Supervisor Gajewski will call Red-D-Electric.

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported that the hall coffee makers are not working. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to purchase a 55-cup and a 75-cup coffee maker for the town hall.

c) Clerk Merritt mentioned that as the town hall chairs get dirty Veronica Childers has been spot cleaning them. A small upholstery cleaner would work better and be easier to use. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to purchase an upholstery cleaner for use on the town hall chairs.

PARK: a) The monthly playground inspection shows no hazards and that the parks are in good shape. Veronica is continuing to work on completing the painting.

b) Supervisor Gajewski reported that the soccer fields could use fertilizer. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to spend up to \$600 to fertilize the soccer fields.

c) Supervisor Gajewski and Leon Forstrom are planning to make repairs to the Munger bus garage roof.

d) The plaque on the front of the pavilion is missing. The Board would like to replace it with one that has the same wording. The Clerk will try to find information on who made the plaque and what it said. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to replace the missing pavilion sign.

CEMETERY: a) One burial: Lois Schilling September 10, 2011.
b) The Board would like to plant a few new trees in the cemetery. MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried to spend up to \$300 for trees for the cemetery.
c) Supervisor Gajewski completed a cemetery inspection along with the monthly playground inspection. No safety hazards were found.

COMMITTEES: a) The annual Fall Fun Day was well attended. The Fire Department held an open house and rescue demonstration.
b) There will be a Special Events Committee meeting on Monday September 26, 2011 at 6:30 pm to plan the annual Halloween Carnival. The Clerk will send meeting notices to committee members.

OLD BUSINESS: a) There has been no news or correspondence regarding the Welsh Cartway.
b) Aggregate Tax lawsuit was discussed under correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS: a) AFSCME Union has asked for data on township employees. The AFSCME Union will be notified that the Township has only part-time and seasonal positions.
b) There is a Proctor Public Schools Special Election on the same day as the November Town Board Meeting. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried to hold the November Town Board Meeting on November 9th instead of November 8th because of the Proctor Public Schools Special Election.
c) The Minnesota Association of Townships District 10 Meeting will be held at the Carlton Highway Department Building on Thursday September 29, 2011.
d) Supervisor Gajewski will be gone for the September 20, 2011 scheduled ACTS Meeting. Treasurer will try to attend.
e) The Board discussed articles for the upcoming newsletter.

MOTION by Stromlund, seconded by Welsh and carried to adjourn tonight's meeting after the Board completes signing checks. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.