

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

MOTION by Welsh, seconded by Gajewski and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the Town Board Meeting of August 18, 2020 as presented.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to accept the Treasurer's report dated August 31, 2020.

Checking:18052-18089

Beginning Balance	\$292,440.47	
Receipts	\$8,574.86	
Disbursements	<u>\$-17,271.84</u>	
Ending Balance	\$283,743.49	\$283,743.49

Money Market

Beginning Balance	\$ 109,227.90	
Interest/Deposits	\$0.00	
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Ending Balance	\$109,227.90	<u>\$109,227.90</u>

Total Accounts **\$392,971.39**

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

8/18 Billy Shelton – An informational letter from Mr. Shelton updating the Board on the progress of dba The Birchwood Event Center. No Board action.

8/25 Shelton Excavating, Inc. – Aggregate tax reporting form and payment.

09/1 Dolores Johnson – Email request to put additional senior care resource links on the township website. Clerk Marquardt will verify that the links are legitimate before posting them on the website.

09/2 Minnesota Department of Health. – Report of Analytical Results for the Section of Drinking Water Protection. There is no chloroform bacteria detected in the Town Hall water.

09/2 St. Louis County Public Works – St. Louis County Maintenance Programs for 2021. These services include aggregate crushing, chip/scrub sealing, crack sealing and maintenance striping. The board has not used these services in the past, some of these services are not needed. If crack sealing is needed the Board uses Sinnott Blacktop. The Cost to utilize these services is also high. No Board Action.

09/3 Pipeline Association for Public Awareness – Pipeline Awareness Newsletter and informational letter advising the township of pipelines that run through the township. No Board action.

09/3 Minnesota Association of Townships – MAT 2020 Fall Legislative and Research Committee Meetings. There is no cost to attend these meetings. It was noted that any Township Official that is a member of the Minnesota Association of Townships that attends

these meetings can vote on whether to pass resolutions or not. Clerk Marquardt will attend these meetings and bring information back to the Board.

Clerk Marquardt sent out the Final Town Levy Certification form to the St. Louis County Auditor on 8/20.

Clerk Marquardt sent in the Coronavirus Relief Fund Certification form to receive the CARES Act funds to help the township with any Covid-19 related expenses on 9/3.

OUTSTANDING BILLS: a) Treasurer Moe has five additional bill not listed on the outstanding bills list:

- James Lindquist in the amount of \$1,567.50 for grading roads.
- Menards in the amount of \$8.47 for hall cleaning supplies.
- Scott Welsh in the amount of \$22.50 for election judge training.
- Game time in the amount of \$5,547.96 for new playground equipment.
- Kim Kuehl Cleaning in the amount of \$447.50 for hall cleaning.

Treasurer Moe noted that claim #9975 is to be changed from Melansons to Menards.

MOTION by Gajewski, 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 \$16,172.08

CITIZEN REQUESTS/CONCERNS: a) Nothing to report
b)

ROAD: a) The Bailey Rd. turn around will be complete in the next couple of weeks.

b) Doug Vanderweyst contacted Supervisor Gajewski regarding an extension of a culvert on a property he just purchased on Woodgate Rd. Supervisor Gajewski inspected the property and noted that there are no issues with the ditch. Supervisor Gajewski advised Mr. Vanderweyst to put on the extension of the culvert and that initial work to culverts is the responsibility of the homeowners. The township repairs any culverts in the future. Mr. Vanderweyst was satisfied with this arrangement.

c) Supervisor Gajewski advised that 8 to 10 roads have trees down in the right of ways that could interfere with snowplowing. Leon Forstrom and Butch Lund will take care of clearing out anything in the roadways and turn arounds.

d)

FIRE: a) Chief Nick Priolo provided a report via telephone that stated there have been 93 calls to date.

b) Chief Priolo advised that when out on a grass fire call, the booster reel on tanker 3 was leaking. Chief priolo advised that he tried to tighten it himself, but it did not work. Chairperson Stromlund questioned if Chief Priolo knew what the price would be to fix the booster reel. Chief Priolo advised he does not know how much it would cost and that he is unsure if EAM would fix it. There are 2 other trucks to use for brush fires. Chairperson Stromlund suggested that Chief Priolo have someone come look and give them an estimate. Chief Priolo stated that he is waiting to hear from Great Plains Fire. Supervisor Gajewski questioned if this is something that must be certified. Chief Prolo advised that all booster reels get tested. It was suggested that

Greg Bottila could do that work but Chief Priolo believes that this must be fixed by a fire certified company. Chief Priolo will provide an estimate at the next meeting for repairs.

c) the ball valve on tanker #7 is cracked and needs to be replaced. Chief Priolo stated that it is one of the shut off valves on the back of utility #7 and that he can fix this issue himself.

d) Chairperson Stromlund asked if the members who were taking classes passed ok. Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, all classes are online. The Fire Department currently has 14 members. Supervisor Gajewski noted that Grand Lake Township has it set up so people can just be first responders. Chief Priolo has not heard anything about that and noted that first responders do not get retirement. Chairperson Stromlund suggested that Chief Priolo speak to the Grand Lake Fire Department. Chief Priolo stated that he will look into this and speak with the members of the Fire Department. Supervisor Gajewski suggested using the selling of tickets for Bingos to recruit members and putting an article in the newsletter.

e) Jim Perrault Construction has completed the flashing repair on the Fire Hall. They did not find anything else when looking through the attic. There was some discoloration of the area over the boiler room, but they think this was just some flashing caulking that melted and dripped down. They also went along the west side of the fire hall and put in new screws, washers, and caulking around the screws. They also caulked around the chimney stacks. \$10,000 was approved for repairs previously.

f) The new extraction gear should come within the next week. This new equipment involves spreaders and cutters that do not have to attach to hydraulics. This equipment will work faster in situations that need to be quickly accessed.

g) Chief Priolo noted that the Fire Department is working with the community for children who have had some medical issues. They have held 2 vehicle parades.

RECYCLING: a) Lorilee Blais emailed Clerk Marquardt to advise that 1/3 of the lowest bid was accepted for the site improvement grant. Supervisor Gajewski explained that there was a difference in quotes due to Morins having additional work on their quote. The approved grant was for the amount of \$1,600.

SOLWAY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #2020-4

WHEREAS, Solway Township, St. Louis county, operates a recycling program in agreement with WLSSD; and

WHEREAS, WLSSD may have funds available for communities for site improvement of buildings being used for recycling; and

WHEREAS, Solway Township submitted a grant application on July 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, WLSSD approved \$1,600 in funding on August 28,2020;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Solway Town Board accepts the WLSSD grant of \$1,600 on September 8, 2020.

Supervisor Gajewski moved the adoption of the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Welsh, and it was declared adopted on the 8th day of September, 2020 upon the following votes: Yeas – Scott Welsh, Ronald Gajewski, and Clare Stromlund Nays – None

b) Morins has been working on the replacement of the siding on the recycling shed. It was noted that the south wall was loose, concrete fasteners were put in to pull the wall back in place. The east side was deteriorated on the bottom and the man door framing was not worth recovering. Morins is donating a new man door. The replacing the south wall sheeting had to

go up 2-3 feet. It was discovered that the west overhead door is not in alignment. The siding has been delivered and they are working on getting the siding on.

c) The carpet in the recycling shed office has been ripped out. Leon Forstrom put paint on the floor. Horst Blumerich stated that he is not too concerned about putting a carpet runner in there right now. Mr. Forstrom stated that there is an old rug in the town hall that can be cut down to size if needed.

d)

HALL: a) Supervisor Gajewski reminded the Board that Morin's will be fixing the rain gutter in October.

d)

PARK: a) Supervisor Gajewski completed the monthly Township Properties Safety Inspection Report and stated that there are no safety issues with the park. The maintenance personnel keep things in good shape.

b) The playground equipment has been delivered. There is 1 structure for the handicap swings and 1 tire swing structure. James Lindquist will remove the existing frame and concrete. The equipment will be installed in the coming weeks. An auger will need to be rented as there will be eight 3ft holes that will need to be dug. Supervisor Gajewski noted that the equipment is heavy and that they may call Paul Dunaiski to help with installation.

c) The John Deere tractor has stopped working. Greg Bottila replaced the voltage regulator on the tractor. The voltage regulator costs \$30 and the tractor will be fixed in the next couple of weeks.

d)

CEMETERY: a) 1 burial: Shirley (Makela) Kolenda on August 20th.

b) Decorations need to be removed by September 30th. An article regarding this will be placed in the newsletter. The items removed will be placed by the fence along the Van Gassler Rd. for a short period before being discarded.

c)

COMMITTEES: a) The Halloween Carnival will be cancelled this year. An article will be placed in the newsletter and a letter will be sent to the members of the special events committee notifying them of the decision.

b)

OLD BUSINESS: a) Clerk Marquardt sent a letter to DeCaigny Excavating, Inc. advising them that Minn Stat. 298.75 states that is required for importers to send an aggregate tax reporting form even if they do not do business in the township during a certain quarter.

b) James Madigan is not working for the Township any longer. Mr. Madigan advised Supervisor Gajewski that he enjoyed his time working for the township. The Board does not feel that he will need to be replaced for the remainder of the year but possibly in the spring. Mr. Madigan's keys will be given to Butch Lund as he is helping with the maintenance and groundskeeping.

c)

NEW BUSINESS: a) 8 Election Judges need to be chosen for the General Election on November 3rd. Clerk Marquardt believes that the township should utilize the full list of trained judges that she has. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to hire Bonnie Siiro, Ron Gajewski, Amy Johnson, Leon Forstrom, Mary Busch, Clare Stromlund,

Scott Welsh, Kareen Nelson, and Butch Lund as judges with Sharen VanDenHeuvel and Autumn Marquardt as alternates. Clare Stromlund and Scott Welsh will split a shift. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to utilize all trained judges for the November 3rd General Election.

b) Pit 56, Inc. has not turned in their 2nd quarter aggregate tax reporting form. Clerk Marquardt spoke with Sarah Rogalla on Tuesday morning and was advised that the form would be turned in that day but did not received it. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to pursue the help of John Bray with collecting the reporting form and payment if Clerk Marquardt does not receive the form by Thursday Sept. 10.

c) The board does not have any additional information they would like added into the newsletter.

d) Treasurer Moe advised the Board that if the Township does not use all the extra CARES Act funds that they were granted that they can give them to the county or the school district. The Township does not have a lot of Covid-19 related expenses. MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Stromlund and carried unanimously to table the movement of CARES Act funds to the school district until the October meeting.

Butch Lund noted that his granddaughter is running the virtual Boston Marathon this year. This is a 26 mile run and she will be doing part of her run through Solway Township.

MOTION by Gajewski, seconded by Welsh and carried unanimously to adjourn tonight's meeting with the signing of checks. The meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Date Approved

Town Board Chair

Town Clerk