

Solway Section Lines

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 2

APRIL 2011

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Township Election and Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Town Meeting was held as posted and published on Mar. 8 with the weather's cooperation. Scott Welsh ran unopposed for the three year supervisor position which he has held for a number of years. Twenty-nine residents voted unanimously for Scott. Congratulations Scott on your re-election!

The 2012 budget proposed to the electorate at the Annual Meeting was \$306,300. A breakdown is as follows:

Roads	\$83,850	Hall	\$23,100
Fire	\$95,500	Park	\$ 8,800
Recycling	\$1,500	General	\$93,550

The Board approved \$20,055 of aggregate revenue to be used toward the budget. Therefore, the proposed levy was \$286,245 which was approved by the electorate. This levy showed no increase from 2010 and 2011.

Congratulations SVFD

The Solway Town Board wishes to congratulate Wayne Suliin and his FEMA grant writers. The Fire Department was awarded a grant of \$200,000 for a new tanker. This truck was built on an International chassis by Stainless Repair out of Marshfield Wisconsin. The truck was delivered the last week of January 2011.

The total cost of the truck was \$218,875 including some additional equipment purchased with the truck. The Township paid the 5% local match for the FEMA grant of \$10,000 plus the cost of the equipment out of aggregate revenue. The truck and equipment cost to the Township was \$28,875.00.

A second FEMA grant of \$38,620 purchased new hydraulic tools and equipment to improve firefighter and patient safety at car accidents and rescue incidents.

Mr. Suliin hopes to submit new applications this year to replace our second water tanker and for establishment of a water reservoir at the town site. Good luck on these endeavors Wayne!

Annual Township Road Inspection April 29

The Town Board will make its annual inspection of township roads on Friday, April 29th from 9:00 am to noon.

The purpose of the inspection is to determine how much gravel should be applied, condition of ditches and drainage, if brushing is needed, repairs if any, etc.

If you have a special concern on a township road you may report it to the town hall 729-5134 or meet with the Board during the inspection.

SOLWAY TOWN BOARD

Chairperson:
Clare Stromlund

Supervisors:
Ron Gajewski and
Scott Welsh

Clerk: Regena Merritt

Treasurer: Cindy Moe

Office Hours: T, W, Th 9-3

For Hall Rentals call 729-5134, leave your name, number and date wanted.

Phone: 218-729-5134
Fax: 218-729-5651
Township website:
solwaytownship-mn.gov

Email:
solwayclerk@hotmail.com

Larry Shelton—Citizen of the Year

At the Annual Town Meeting on March 8 Larry Shelton was recognized as Solway Township Citizen of the Year for 2011. Larry's nomination was spurred by his volunteer contributions not only to Solway Township but the surrounding communities as well. If a youth project is underway then you'll probably find Larry involved.

The letter of nomination included the following: snowplowing for Solway's Winter Fun Day, generous donations to our Halloween Carnival, lending a hand at our events, establishment of the Pike Lake School Forest, recreational projects for Twig, development of the soccer field at the South SLC Fairgrounds that was dedicated in his honor, playgrounds for preschool and elementary schools, concession building to Edgerdahl Field and many more. Larry is always quick to recognize the contributions of others while minimizing his own.

Congratulations Larry on being recognized as Solway's Citizen of the Year. Your contributions are always appreciated and never taken for granted.

2011 Bookmobile Schedule

The Arrowhead Library System continues to operate it's Bookmobile. The Bookmobile comes to Solway every three weeks on Thursday afternoons at 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm. You're invited to check out books, DVD's, tapes, etc. They are due back at the time of the next Bookmobile visit.

The Bookmobile is scheduled to visit Solway the following Thursdays during the next several months: April 21, May 12, June 2, June 23 and July 14. Look for the Bookmobile in our parking lot.

Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting

The Local Board of Appeal & Equalization meeting for Solway Township will be held at Solway Town Hall on Thursday, April 28 at 5:00 pm. Property valuations and classifications determined by the assessor for this year's assessment, which will be the basis of taxes payable next year, shall be reviewed by the Local Board of Appeal & Equalization. The Board shall make such changes and corrections in valuations and classifications as it shall deem proper to achieve equalization within the jurisdiction. Property owners may appear in person, by representative, or send a letter to this meeting requesting a review of the as-

essment. The local board shall consider the appeal and take appropriate action.

The law requires that property owners shall first appear before the local board, after which the owner may appeal the property valuation or classification to the County Board of Appeal & Equalization if not satisfied by the decision of the Local Board of Appeal & Equalization. The 28th is a tentative date and may be changed like last year. If it is changed the new time will be put on the town posting sites and hall sign.

Cemetery Grave Decorations

With spring we like to remember our deceased loved ones by visiting and decorating their gravesites. At Solway Cemetery baskets/flowers are allowed May 1st through September 30th. Baskets should be of standard design not weighing more than 30 lbs. The care and maintenance of the baskets/flowers are the responsibility of the owner. Artificial flowers and decorations in moveable containers are also permitted. No trees, shrubs, plants or flowers are allowed to be planted at the cemetery.

Following the above helps personnel cutting grass and doing other maintenance work while still allowing our grave sites to be attractively decorated. If you would like a copy of the cemetery rules and regulations contact the town office.

Memorial Day Observance

On May 30, Memorial Day will be observed. Our memorial observance is traditionally held at the Solway Cemetery starting at noon. A non-denominational prayer service is held followed by ceremonies by the Proctor American Legion consisting of laying of a wreath at the veterans memorial cross, 21 gun salute and playing of taps to honor those who served in the United States military.

Recycling Information

The recycling shed is open Wednesdays 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm and Saturday 7:00 am to noon. In 2010 the township received a recycling shed operations grant in the amount of \$7,041.00 from WLSSD.

The total attendance for 2010 was 3,502. July was the busiest month with an attendance of 331. The second busiest month was October with an attendance of 326.

During 2011 the Township may host WLSSD electronic waste and household hazardous waste collection days. Watch for further information on dates and times.

Community Club News...

Munger Goodfellowship Club

In January we played bingo after our meeting. In February we had a Valentine Party and exchanged Secret Pal gifts and revealed who we had during the year. We also drew new names for this year. In March we made a Spring wreath.

We will have an auction in April to raise money for our projects and also serve lunch at the Craft Sale. May will find us at the Recognition Luncheon for Area Homemakers and in June we will do another craft.

If interested in joining, we meet at members homes for lunch and a meeting on the second Thursday of each month at noon. Call Betty at 729-8653 with any questions.

Solway Senior Citizens

During the past 3 months we have had our meeting and had lunch and played bingo. In May we will have an entertainer and our meeting will start at 12:30 that day instead of 1:00 pm.

If interested in joining, call the hall or Betty at 729-8653 with questions. We meet the third Thursday at the Hall at 1:00 pm for a meeting, lunch and bingo or entertainment. Come and join us soon if you are over 55.

Flamettes

Solway Flamettes meet the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. We will have our Pancake Breakfast on April 10 from 8:00 am to noon. Come Hungry! The Bingo will be April 15. All proceeds go to the Solway Volunteer Fire Department for equipment.

June 6 will be our last meeting until Sept. 12 when we start a new year. Come and join us.

Monday Group

We meet every Monday from 12:30 to 4:00 pm. Bring your handiwork and join us. We have pot luck and good conversation. We have our Craft Sale on April 30 from 9:00 am to noon. For tables at this event call Bonnie at 729-8382 now. Tables are filling fast.

Maple Grove 4-H Club

The Maple Grove 4-H Club has enrolled on line for the new year.

The Club will be making invitations to welcome new members. The Club filled out their year calendars for demonstrations and serving snacks.

Come join our Club - we meet the third Monday at 5:30 pm at Solway Town Hall.

Use of Outdoor Facilities

With the promise of Spring we start looking to spend more free time out of doors. The township continues to maintain for your use and enjoyment a number of outdoor recreational facilities. They include our playgrounds, pavilion, basketball and tennis courts, volleyball court, horseshoe pits, baseball and soccer fields.

All of the facilities are free of charge and can be used on a first come first serve basis. Most of them can accommodate more than one group or party at a time.

The baseball and soccer fields can be scheduled by teams for practices and games by contacting Cookie Saline at 624-9217. Cookie keeps scheduling calendars for all teams that have reserved field times to avoid use conflicts. Groups can have pick up baseball, softball, basketball, football or soccer games anytime the fields are free from team practices or games.

Township personnel attempt to keep these facilities well maintained for your safety and convenience. If you have suggestions for improvements let us know. Please help us keep things clean by picking up and using garbage containers. If you bring a dog to the grounds, please make sure it doesn't bother others by keeping it leashed. Properly wrapped droppings can be put in garbage containers.

Minnesota Association of Townships Scholarships

Eligibility

All students currently enrolled in the 11th grade and attending a Minnesota public, private, or parochial high school or a home study program and who plan to further their education at a college, university, or vocational school are eligible for this program. A student cannot be the child, stepchild, grandchild or step-grandchild, brother, stepbrother, sister or stepsister of a MAT director or staff member.

Requirements

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it along with a written essay discussing this year's topic:

Choose a significant challenge facing township government today and defend your choice.

Essays must be between 450 and 500 words, and must be typed with double spacing. Applicants should not name themselves, their school, their town or city, or their local officials in the essay.

Along with the completed application and written essay, students must submit a current high school transcript and a letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor.

Continued on page 4

All items must be submitted in one envelope and mailed to:

Minn. Association of Townships Scholarship Program
P.O. Box 267
St. Michael, MN 55376

Application must be postmarked by May 1, 2011. Incomplete applications or applications postmarked after May 1, 2011 will not be accepted.

Selection

Each essay will be judged by an independent panel based upon originality, knowledge of subject matter in relationship to the title, and supporting statements, as well as correct spelling and punctuation. The judging will be completed by October 1, 2011 at which time four \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. Winners will be notified in writing by mid-October and will be invited to attend the Minnesota Association of Townships annual meeting to be held on November 17-19, 2011 at the Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria, Minnesota. Scholarship awards will be paid to the appropriate financial aid office upon receipt of verification of enrollment at a college, university, or technical school.

Research Tips

- Ask your school to call our office for the Township DVD
- Look around the MAT website
- Ask a township officer
- If you do research on the web or your local library—be sure to look for “Minnesota (or MN) townships” so you are finding relevant information.

Comprehensive Land Use Plan Completed

The CLUP Committee working with our consultant John Powers of Applied Insights North has finished the Township’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The process started last summer with a resident survey. The CLUP committee scheduled a community meeting on Oct. 26, 2010 that around a hundred residents attended to discuss the results of the survey and for residents to offer insights and suggestions for the updated plan. These insights and suggestions were incorporated into a draft plan that was presented to residents at a Public Meeting January 25. About 40 residents attended this public meeting.

The draft plan was brought to your Board of Supervisors at the Feb. 8 Town Board Meeting. After adopting some further corrections the Town Board formally adopted the plan. The plan will define the direction of land use in Solway Township for the next decade.

It was anticipated that the CLUP would have to be reviewed by the St. Louis County Zoning Committee with adoption into the County’s CLUP by the SLC Board. However, this process no longer is necessary as the County no longer formally incorporates Township CLUPs into their plan. However, their decisions will continue to reflect the desires of Solway’s residents as stated in our CLUP.

The Town Board wishes to thank each of the CLUP committee members for their hard work and perseverance in completing our plan. They are as follows: Veronica Childers, Leon Forstrom, Ron Gajewski, Tom Jacobson, Jim Johnson, Barb Kunelius, Ron Kunelius, Chris Langenbrunner, Jason Lenz, Nicole Lenz, Ed Leiste, Butch Lund, Lynn Lund, Olive Rogalla, Cookie Saline, Frank Siiro, Clare Stromlund, Cindy Welsh, Scott Welsh, Valeria Witte.

SLC Annual Tree and Shrub Sale

The tree and shrub sale provides low cost high quality trees to area residents. This year three dozen or more different trees and shrubs and a couple vines are being offered. Various variety packets are also available.

Tree pick up dates are between May 12 and 14 at all locations – Duluth, Two Harbors or Grand Marais. Your pick up location must be specified on your order form. To order call 218-723-4867 or visit www.southstlouisswcd.org for a form. The website is your best source of information: planting instructions, tree and shrub photographs, and more.

ORDER DEADLINE; APRIL 15, 2011.

Winter Fun Day Wrap Up

“What a fun time” or a variation was expressed by many residents who participated in the activities held Saturday, January 29. The weather moderated allowing one to enjoy outdoor activities even with a couple feet of snow on the ground. We thank the Solway Firefighters for flooding our ice rink; Shelton Excavating for snowplowing to make room for our hay rides; the Wargin/McGregor families for providing the tractor and hay rack for the hay rides; the SVFD and Flamette members who helped with the bingo and other activities; the Special Events Committee for organizing and funding the event; and everyone else who made contributions to the success of the day.

South SLC Fair News

- The South St. Louis County Fair July 6–10
- Exhibit entry day July 5 from 1 to 7:30 pm in the Industrial Building
- Animal entry day July 6 from 10 am to 7:30 pm at the barns.
- Mega wristband \$40 advance \$45 at gate good for everyday all day
- Daily wristband \$18 advance \$20 at the gate good for one day 1-5 pm Fri, Sat or Sun.
- Single ride tickets 8 for \$18 in advance or \$20 at the gate
- Fri and Sat Kids Days

Entertainment

- Dock Dogs
- All American Lumberjack Show
- Out Standing Senior Citizen Award Program
- Zerebko Petting Zoo
- Radio Control Car Club
- Variety of Food Concessions
- Tricia and the Toonies
- Tina and Lena
- Magic Village Show — Kelvin Saline
- Local Tractor Pull
- Church Service will be provided Sunday morning
- Kid power petal tractor pull

For additional information and times check the fair web site at proctorduluthfair.com

SVFD Report for 2010

(Excerpts from Fire Chief Wayne Suliin's report presented at the Annual Meeting.)

The Solway Township Volunteer Fire Department responded to a total of 78 calls for assistance in 2010. Of those calls 15 were in-township fire calls, 54 were in-township medical calls, 2 car accidents with injuries within the township, and 12 mutual aid calls to surrounding townships. . .

The past year was one of the most exciting years the department has ever had. We began the year by having two FEMA grants approved. One for \$200,000 to purchase a new water tanker truck and one for \$38,620 to purchase new hydraulic tools and equipment to improve firefighter and patient safety at car accidents and other rescue type situations. We also received a grant from the MN Department of Natural Resources to assist with purchasing hose for the new tanker truck.

During the year department personnel also took part in many township events, plus preparing the ice skating rink. Through the past few years with the assistance of over \$400,000 in grants we have been able to update and modernize most of our firefighter protective equipment and update medical equipment to meet current standards for firefighter safety.

Department personnel also took part in numerous trainings and completed mandatory annual training for members to remain current on mandated state and OSHA training requirements for personnel. This program works in conjunction with an annual stipend program for firefighters to reimburse them for time spent attending meetings, calls, and trainings. Personnel receive the annual stipend based on completing all annual training requirements.

The department currently has 21 members and we are continually looking for new members to join the department. . . If you live in or near the township and like helping other people, working on a team, are at least 18 years of age, and interested in joining the fire department, please contact one of the following members, call the fire hall at 729-6304 and leave a message if we are not in the hall, or come to one of our meetings on a Thursday night. The department meets at the fire hall on Thursday nights at 7:00 pm for training and other activities.

Current List of Department members:

Wayne Suliin—Fire Chief/MFR
 Peter Hildre—Assistant Fire Chief/MFR
 Jim Johnson—Fire Captain/MFR
 Jed Wolf—Fire Capt./EMT-B/Medical Training Officer
 Alan Mitchell—Fire Captain/MFR
 Gordy Jensen—FF/MFR/President
 Leroy Hanson—FF/Vice President
 Jeff Nelson—FF/EMT-B/Treasurer/Fire Training Officer
 Michelle Haltli—FF/MFR/Secretary
 Tim Bakken—FF/MFR
 Josh Hughes—FF/MFR
 Mark Ness—FF/MFR
 Shawn Monson—FF/EMT-B
 Eric Monson—FF/EMT-B
 Jeff Keppers—FF/MFR
 Nick Priolo—FF/MFR
 Chris Tverberg—FF/MFR
 Adam Field—FF/MFR
 Nick Nite—Probationary FF/MFR
 Frank Kermend—Probationary FF/MFR
 Casey Modich—Probationary FF
 FF— Firefighter
 MFR—Medical First Responder
 EMT-B—Emergency Medical Technician—Basic . . .

Following are some things that the fire department would like you to consider throughout this next year. We can't help you if we can't find you! Please display your 911-address sign. . . We would also like you to consider keeping a list of your current medications and any chronic medical problems you have. This can be kept in a sealed envelope on your refrigerator. This will help us if we are called to assist you and you can't remember specific information or can't communicate with us. Thank you for your continued support.

Town Office
4029 Munger Shaw Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

Phone: 218-729-5134
Fax: 218-729-5651
Email: solwayclerk@hotmail.com

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Solway Section Lines

Township Events Calendar

Apr. 9.....Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 pm
Apr. 10 FLAMETTES Pancake Breakfast 8:00 am
Apr. 12 Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Apr. 15 SVFD Bingo 7:00 pm
Apr. 21Bookmobile 3:00 pm
Apr. 30 Craft Sale 9:00 am
May 10..... Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm
May 14.....Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 pm
May 12.....Bookmobile 3:00 pm
June 2Bookmobile 3:00 pm
June 11.....Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 pm
June 14..... Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm
June 23.....Bookmobile 3:00 pm
July 9.....Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 pm
July 12..... Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm
July 14.....Bookmobile 3:00 pm