

SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
Special Board Meeting
Thursday, January 12, 2012

Chairperson Nancy Karjalahti called the special board meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Ron Smith and Charles Quale, Clerk Candace Bartel, Treasurer John Brula, road maintenance employees Tim Turner and Marvin Turner and resident Rich Biernat.

The purpose of the special board meeting was to discuss road related issues to include the comprehensive road plan (2011 Capital Improvement Plan from SEH), culvert/driveway guidelines, utility rules and regulations, the 218th PL drainage proposal, road signs, radio equipment and other road concerns.

There is a foreclosed property now owned by Bremer Bank on Lily Avenue that could possibly be purchased by the township to be used for a gravel pit. It is 38.49 acres and some gravel pit work has been done there. Charles Quale will contact Bremer Bank for more information on the property.

The condition of the township blacktops was reviewed. Trader's Post (520th LN), 201st Ave., 202nd PL are the oldest. Sheshebe (188th Ave.) is older but has been resurfaced. Bridge Road has also had an overlay. When 520th LN is done, the culvert will need to be replaced before any blacktop work is done. John Welle, Aitkin County engineer, will be contacted in regard to the culvert.

Information on grants available from the Minnesota DNR was shared. The grants are available to counties, cities and townships to provide/improve access to state parks and outdoor recreation units (public lakes, rivers and state campgrounds). Possible public accesses that might qualify would be Indian Portage, the 498th LN access and the access on 520th LN. The grant applications would be for the 2013; information for application will be available later in the year.

Gravel road repair projects were discussed. The use of geogrid for certain projects was considered. 473rd St. (dump road) is the heaviest traveled roads and needs more gravel. There is a section (the hill near the satellite dishes) that the geogrid could be used on 473rd St. The erosion on the hill on 483rd St. has been engineered and should be a project for this summer. It should be rocked on the lake side and possibly lay chainlink fence under the rock to prevent muskrat damage; the culvert may need to be replaced. The low area on 483rd St. needs to be engineered or specs written before bids are taken on the project. Areas with frost heaves that could benefit from the use of geogrid are on 490th St. and the 'y' on Bridge Road.

The drainage on 218th PL was discussed. SEH engineered two plans for consideration. There is concern about the standing water and ice at the intersection. This could be a phased project. The property owner (Olson) northeast of the intersection of 218th PL and 482nd LN will need to be contacted to obtain permission to discharge storm water runoff onto their property. Workman Township will need to be consulted before any work is started. Ditch work in the right-of-way could be done now that the survey stakes are in place.

Information to be presented at the annual meeting: the comprehensive plan (copies will be available for review), repair of the blacktops priorities are on 201st Ave., 202nd PL, and 520th LN.

Bridge Road from Maple LN to the end of the blacktop and extended to the 'y' – this will be a multi-year project with the blacktop removed, the frost boils/holes repaired and the road left to sit for a year; 188th Ave. should also be resurfaced, these projects will be done at a point in time yet to be determined. Gravel road repairs planned for 2012 include frost boil heaves on 490th St. and near the Bridge Road 'y', geogrid on 473rd St. near the satellite dishes, 483rd St. erosion control and riprap project. Future gravel road repairs will include repair of the low area on 483rd St. Cost estimates are outlined in the comprehensive plan. 2013 DNR grant applications will be submitted for the Indian Portage access, 520th LN access and 498th LN.

The driveway access guidelines were reviewed and revised. Permits will not be required. Once the guidelines are finalized they will be sent to area realtors, area contractors, the county zoning office and the county engineer's office.

Guidelines for utilities on township roads were reviewed. Some revisions were made and will the guidelines will be further reviewed at the January 12 regular board meeting. When the guidelines are finalized copies will be sent to the power company, the phone company, the cable company and gas companies with a request for a copy of any work orders relating to underground utility installation under township roads. A copy will also be sent to Aitkin County Zoning.

Tim Turner gave the monthly road report: they have been sanding and scraping roads as needed, tree trimming has been done, equipment maintenance has been done, there is plenty of salt/sand on hand, and ice ridges at the public accesses have been cleared.

Maintenance men will start work on replacing the signs in sections one through twelve. A list of signs recommended for removal will be started. Charles Quale checked with John Welle and the county is not willing to help with the township's sign replacement installation.

The radio system and radio upgrade were discussed. This will be discussed further at the January 12 regular board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Town Clerk

Nancy Karjalahti
Shamrock Town Board Chairperson

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE JANUARY 12, 2012 REGULAR BOARD MEETING