

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, February 14, 2013**

Board Chairperson Ron Smith called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present was Supervisors Charles Quale and Jerry Pawlak; Treasurer John Brula; Clerk Candace Kral, Tim Turner, road maintenance employee; and James Carr and Rick Jormen, McGregor Fire Department; Scott Turner, Aitkin County Sherriff; and residents Nancy Eddy, Dave and Pat Warwick, Tisa Lawrence and Jeff Boelter.

The minutes from the January 10, 2013, regular board meeting were approved on a motion by Jerry Pawlak, seconded by Ron Smith, motion carried unanimously.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending January 31, 2013: General Revenue Fund, \$102,793.67; Road & Bridge Fund, \$270,370.28, Fire Fund, \$44,341.21 Building Fund, \$84,163.46; Sewer Fund, \$4,775.50; FEMA, 45,719.62; Road Repair, \$98,963.45; Parks & Rec Fund, \$77,744.35; and the Lease/purchase Fund, \$59,819.00; Bond Principle \$465,000 for a total cash \$788,690.54. The Road & Bridge CD's total \$344,287.62; Building final payment CD, \$78,237.94; Sewer Fund CD's \$86,460.44; Kirt Properties escrow CD \$4,702.84. Money market interest received January 2013 was \$231.43. Receipts for the month were \$16,841.73 and disbursements for last month were \$16,108.52. Motion by Jerry Pawlak, seconded by Charles Quale to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried unanimously. Motion made by Jerry Pawlak, seconded by Charles Quale, to approve the February 2013 claims and payroll totaling \$152,808.32, motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: Lake County Power Newslines January Issue; Lake Country Power Member meeting invitation; Election Integrity Task Force Report; Aitkin County Historical Society Newsletter; Lakes and Pines Newsletter; Flyer from Swing Safe with mailbox and support costs

Concerns from Residents Not on Agenda: Dave Warwick discussed a desired variance to build a second story onto his garage. The board observed that the garage currently sits on the property/road line and requested that Mr. Warwick get bids for different options, such as moving the whole structure back due to required setbacks, snowplowing, etc., for the board to review before they agree or disagree with the variance as requested. Mr. Warwick also stated concern regarding the road washing out on hill by garage. The township fixes the washed-out area, the concern is that the buildup in front of his driveway where the road keeps washing out to is making it difficult for cars to get into and out of his driveway. He wanted to know if the road could be lowered back where it use to be. That area is a project that the board had started, but was put on hold due to the flooding last summer, and wants to complete this year.

Scott Turner, Sherriff's Department, informed the board that the sheriff's department has changed thier radio system and that our maintenance employees could no longer communicate with them. Our radios should be able to be programmed with the Aitkin County emergency frequencies. Different solutions to enable the maintenance employees to communicate with the fire department and the sheriff department were discussed including the township purchasing hand-held radios, VHS Narrowband, that the fire and sheriff's departments carry to enhance their ability to help the sheriff and fire departments. The department is working on an emergency system that will call all home/property owners in the county in case of emergencies in the area. Scott also mentioned that the emergency siren system needs feedback from the different townships and areas when the system is tested. Ron asked Scott Turner how large of an area Life Flight needed for a landing site for medical emergencies. 200 feet by 200 feet

is what is required for a minimum landing pad. Different locations for a helipad were discussed and the board agreed that during the winter, Shamrock maintenance department could plow a location within or near the township.

James Carr, McGregor Fire Department informed the board that the fire department is looking at upgrading trucks. They would like to park a pickup, second truck, at the townhall. Different options to fit two trucks in the garage were discussed. The remodeling of the building, clerk's office, and adding a second garage door, making room for the two trucks was discussed.

Obtaining a dry-hydrant was discussed. The fire department stated that they don't like to use them due to damage to the pumps from rocks. In Shamrock Township it works better to get water from the lakes.

Scott Turner commended and thanked the township for their work and help during the flood last summer. Ron Smith informed Scott that Shamrock Township has purchased extra road signs, for road closures, water over road, etc. in case of another emergency such as last year's flood. Different ideas were discussed of what could be done different to make things more helpful for the public if anything like this should happen again.

FEMA- The clerk reported that Eklund Excavating has completed the repair on 189<sup>th</sup> Place

Ball Field – the fence is completed. A 6 month report needs to be completed with the progress of the ball field, copy of fence invoice and pictures of the fence and plaque that was provided by the Twins.

CYC (Catholic Youth Camp) survey – Ron Smith reported that to survey that area would be about \$10,000. The County, Mark Jacobs, has set aside about \$10,000 for this project. Ron does not know how much we could be able to use for the survey. Ron will talk to Bob Moore, Trails and Water Way, Grand Rapids, to see if the DNR will allow us to group the township lots that are by the CYC together to make a more usable public area on the lake. Different ideas were discussed what the area would be used for such as boat launch; pier for fishing, handicap accessible; swimming beach, etc., in conjunction with the DNR and/or county. Ron will also talk to the Big Sandy Lake Association.

Road report – Tim Turner reported that they have plowed all roads four times plus they have been doing a lot of sanding, scraping and winging of the roads; he ordered salt and mixed it with the sand; he has received two quotes for replacement road signs, with freight charges they are very close; maintenance has fixed ice ridges on Dollar Lake and Indian Portage Access; they have ordered new bristles for the brush on the sweeper, should be here soon; cut some branches on 214<sup>th</sup> Place and 216<sup>th</sup> Place; they are plowing around the pines by Mary Streeter's that are in the right-of-way, Tim is very leery to trim them. Trees by LaSalls' look like they are dead and in the right-of-way also; Tim stated that the work done by Ecklund Excavating is complete and for what he can tell looks good, however, he cannot officially inspect it because of the snow.

Town Hall Remodeling – the board requested that this subject be put on the Annual Meeting Agenda

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

The board discussed the issues concerning various areas on Long Point Place and 508<sup>th</sup> Lane where trees, shrubbery and fencing that are in the road or road right-of way that are causing dangerous conditions when snow plowing. The road width and right-of-way by LaSalles property (one of the problem areas) was discussed and the garage and plants that are in the right-of-way. It was decided that the township would get a survey of the area. Also the pines and shrubs at Ed Swanson's and his neighbor's are also a problem. Ron spoke with Ed Swanson last spring and was told that he would cut

the trees after the nesting birds were gone. The trees have never been cut. Having surveys completed in those areas were also talked about. The board decided to discuss the issue with the township attorney regarding composing a letter stating that the trees/shrubs need to be removed because of the hazards of plowing around them or the township will do it. Ron Smith will work with the clerk in contacting the attorney.

A motion was made by Jerry Pawlak, seconded by Charles Quale, to purchase the new road signs from Thompson Signs: motion carried unanimously.

Appointed as election judges for March election were Richard Cox, Judy Haussner, Kathy Laberge and Loiose Ortell with alternates Barb Greifzu and Candace Bartel on a motion made by Charles Quale, seconded by Jerry Pawlak; motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2013-01 Appointing the 2013 Absentee Ballot Board passed unanimously.

Short Course Attendance – the board will attend the Short Course at Breezy Point on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The board approved the attendance of the Deputy Clerk, Candace Bartel.

The Board of Audit meeting date has been set for February 25 at 9:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Charles Quale, seconded by Jerry Pawlak, to increase the board life insurance from the Silver Plan to the Gold Plan as provided by Minnesota Benefit Association. Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Candace Kral  
Shamrock Township Clerk

Ronald Smith  
Shamrock Township Board Chairperson

**MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE March 7, 2013 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**