

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, March 8, 2012**

Board Chairperson Nancy Karjalahti called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Charles Quale and Ron Smith; Treasurer John Brula; Clerk Candace Bartel, road maintenance employee Marvin Turner, residents Richard Biernat, Jerry Pawlak, Candi Kral and Amber Lehman from the Voyageur Press.

The minutes from the February 9, 2012 regular board meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Charles Quale. The minutes from the February 13 (continued from February 9) regular board were unanimously approved on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith. The minutes from the February 15 (continued from February 13) regular board meeting were Ron Smith, seconded by Charles Quale.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending February 29, 2012: General Revenue Fund, \$66,224.67; Road & Bridge Fund, \$377,308.59, Fire Fund, \$42,170.84; Building Fund, \$68,959.14; Sewer Fund, \$4,709.13; Parks & Rec Fund, \$51,903.49; and the Lease/purchase Fund, (\$9,592.60). The Road & Bridge CD's total \$338,309.24; Building final payment CD, \$77,572.81; Sewer Fund CD's \$84,933.65; Kirt Properties escrow CD \$4,681.09. Money market interest received February 29 was \$215.60, gas tax and other receipts totaled \$35,324.94 and disbursements were \$89,559.51. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of February 29 was \$1,107,180.05 (checking account, \$601,683.26; savings, \$505,496.79). Liabilities are the building bond at \$465,000. Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Charles Quale to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried unanimously. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the amended February claims and payroll total to \$89,559.51 (the \$5000 earnest money for the property purchase was added); motion carried unanimously. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith to pay the March claims and payroll (totaling \$86,388.17); motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: The following was received: Minnesota Association of Townships Legislative & Research meeting minutes, Big Sandy Lake Association meeting agenda, MN Dept. of Health well report, Rep. McElPatrick's newsletters, Central Applicators information on roadside rights-of-way vegetation management, Edina Realty insurance information, LTAP Technology Exchange newsletter, and the signed copy of the DNR pit lease.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Road report: All roads were snowplowed twice, intersections were sanded and cleaned up as needed, finished work on the front blade for the grader, brush was trimmed, repaired ice ridges on the public accesses at the Indian Portage and Timbershores accesses, new road signs for the sections 1-12 have been ordered, stickers will be ordered for the backside of the signs, approximately one third of the salt/sand is left, checked on the gravel drilling done by AET and an air leak on the Sterling dump truck needs to be repaired.
- 218<sup>th</sup> Place: Charles Quale attended the Workman Township February board meeting to share information on the drainage control proposals for 218<sup>th</sup> PL/482<sup>nd</sup> LN. The Workman board had no objections to the continuation of the project.
- Purchase of property (29-0-024400) on Lily Avenue: Borings on the property were done by AET on March 1 and 2. A preliminary report was reviewed and the findings look good; a more in-depth report will be sent in the near future. The certification of indebtedness procedure was discussed. The purchase agreement was reviewed and okayed by Sarah Sonsalla, township attorney, on February 24. Nancy Karjalahti & Candace Bartel met with Troy Gilchrist, township attorney, and Tony Bodway, Edina Real Estate, at 5 p.m. on February 24 to sign the purchase

agreement. Two copies were signed and were to be taken to the seller (Wayne Alden) to sign. One signed copy was to be returned to the township. Tony notified the clerk and Charles Quale on February 26 that the seller had signed the purchase agreement and the township could proceed with the borings. Sarah Sonsalla notified the township that the seller does not have an abstract for the property. Because there is no abstract, it is the seller's responsibility to pay for the title commitment and for the Town's title insurance. The seller does not want to start the title work until he knows if the bank is going to approve the sale. Sarah was to check with Bremer Bank to see if they are reviewing the purchase agreement. The closing date (March 30) may need to be changed. According to Troy Gilchrist, if the purchase is approved at the annual meeting, that approval also approves any financing needed. Ron Smith discussed the potential property purchase with an adjacent property owner and answered questions concerning the township's use of the property. Joe Pierce left a note informing the township that he has a 40 acre parcel for sale.

- Townhall remodeling: No further changes were recommended, the plans will be given to Davey Johnson for updating.

- Maintenance building update: Attorney Ken Bayliss notified the township that all that remains on the court case is for the court to close the file. The court will decide the manner in which the funds (the balance due on the project was sent to the court last year), will be distributed.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The assessment fees charged by the Aitkin County Assessor were discussed. The current fee is \$23,206; next year the fee will be \$24,045.

The Board of Appeal and Equalization will be held on Monday, May 7, at 9 a.m.

The McGregor Fire Department assessment and annual report were reviewed. This year's amount is \$47,017.04; next year's amount will be \$52,944.85. The fire fund levy will need to be increased for 2013.

The sub-station agreement between the McGregor Fire Department and the township was approved on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith. This agreement is for one year.

The annual bridge report was received from the Aitkin County Engineer. The Long Point Place bridge and the large culvert on 520<sup>th</sup> LN were evaluated and meet the legal load requirements. John Welle, Aitkin County Engineer, will be consulted regarding the replacement of the 520<sup>th</sup> LN culvert.

Redistricting information was received from Kirk Peysar, Aitkin County Auditor. Aitkin County will remain in the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. On the State Legislative level, Aitkin County will be part of State Senate District 10 and State House District 10B. Ron Smith moved by resolution (2012-3) to reestablish the precinct boundaries as they currently exist, seconded by Charles Quale; resolution approved on the following vote: Quale, aye; Smith, aye; Karjalahti, aye.

Information was received from the Lake Minnewawa Association regarding their proposal to establish a Lake Improvement District for Lake Minnewawa. If implemented, all lakeshore property owners (451) would be assessed approximately \$65 on their property taxes to provide a sustaining and equitable source of funds for LMA to meet their mission to maintain and improve the conditions of the lake. A petition with signatures from a majority of the lakeshore property owners will be required. The petition will be presented to the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners for approval.

The agenda for the annual meeting to be held on March 13 was reviewed.

A regular board meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 29, at 1 p.m. This will include the reorganization meeting.

Spring clean-up day was set for Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the town hall site only.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Candace Bartel  
Shamrock Township Clerk

Nancy Karjalahti  
Shamrock Township Board Chairperson

**MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE MARCH 29, 2012 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**