

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, April 9, 2009 7 p.m.**

Board Chairperson Nancy Karjalahti called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Ron Smith and Charles Quale, Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel, road maintenance employee Marvin Turner, Conservation Officer Brent Speldrich, Sheriff Scott Turner, property owners Gordon Howe and Jerry Jurek, and Chris Struwve, Voyageur Press .

The minutes from the March 5, 2009 regular board meeting were approved on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith. The minutes from the March 5, 2009 special board meeting were approved on a motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Charles Quale.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending March 31, 2009: General Revenue Fund, \$(6,588.26); Road & Bridge Fund, \$236,989.07; Fire Fund, \$27,799.72; Building Fund, \$188,989.13; Sewer Fund, \$4,302.92; Parks & Rec Fund, \$15,663.81; and the Lease/purchase Fund, \$0.00. The Road & Bridge CD's total \$220,239.92; Sewer Fund CD's \$78,850.43; Kirt Properties escrow CD \$5,564.11. Interest received March 31 was \$751.43. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of March 31, 2009 was \$771,810.85. Liabilities are the building bond at \$625,000. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith to approve payment of claims and payroll totaling \$29,000.39; motion carried

Correspondence: Big Sandy Lake Association agenda and meeting minutes were distributed. Information was received from Central Applicators, Inc. on right-of-way management; well testing results were received from the MN Dept. of Health; the Aitkin Co. Historical Society newsletter was received; notice of the Lake Country Power annual meeting was received; the Northspan Group newsletter was received and information on pipeline safety and emergency response program was received. All will be filed for reference.

Conservation Officer Brent Speldrich and Sheriff Scott Turner were present to answer questions regarding hunting and target shooting near residential buildings. After considerable discussion, it was recommended that the conservation officer and/or the sheriff's office be contacted at the time of an incident. The Ekelund wildlife management area was discussed; this has been signed as an aquatic management area. Sheriff Turner suggested that the townships pursue a state law to address the discharge of firearms in rural residential areas. Brent expressed his appreciation for the township's support in maintaining the public accesses.

Sheriff Turner discussed the upgrades needed on radio systems. The FCC required changes will take effect in January 2013. The state will be putting up six towers in Aitkin County for 800 MHz systems. The county is still exploring options and Sheriff Turner will keep the township informed as to what they decide and what they recommend for the township.

REORGANIZATION:

Motion was made by Nancy Karjalahti to appoint Ron Smith as board chairman for the coming year, seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried. Nancy Karjalahti moved to appoint Charles Quale as vice chairman, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried.

The following regular board meeting schedule was adopted on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti: Thursday, May 14 & 28, Thursday, June 11 & 25, Thursday, July 9 & 30, Thursday, August 13 & 27, Thursday, September 10 & 24, Thursday, October 8 & 22, Thursday, November 12, Thursday, December 10, Thursday, January 14, Thursday, February 11, Thursday, March 4 and Thursday April 8. All meetings will begin at 7 p.m.

Charles Quale moved to designate the *Voyageur Press* as the official township newspaper for the publishing of legal notices, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. The posting places for township notices will be the same as last year (the townhall, Sather's Store, Willey's Bait Shop and Whispering Pines). Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Charles Quale, to designate Grand Timber Bank as the township's bank; motion carried. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to allow the board members to attend training courses during the year; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Building: A special board meeting has been scheduled at 2:30 p.m. on April 15 with the township attorney and the building architect to discuss the steps needed to finalization the building project.

Road Report: Marvin Turner reported roads were plowed and sanded as needed. They worked on cleaning and unplugging culverts; filled and graded washouts; patched blacktops with cold mix and started grading roads. Maintenance has been done on the road sweeper. It was noted that blacktop crack sealing and striping should be done. Ditch mowing options were discussed; no decision was made. Culverts will be ordered from the county. County safety day will be May 19.

Gravel Pit: The DNR will be having a meeting to discuss the future of the gravel pit. The township will be notified so a representative can attend. The clerk was directed to send information on the potential pit closing to Senators Metzen and Saxhaug and Representative Solberg.

506th LN: Nancy Karjalahti moved that there appears to be no evidence that the town has a road easement over the properties listed in the 506th Lane quiet title action and so has no basis on which to object to the quiet title action since it has no interest in the properties to protect, seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried.

198th Place access (Sheshebe public access): no action needed at this time.

486th Street (Westberg)/484th Street (Nelson): Impact 6 will do the survey work as soon as the weather permits. No work will be done until an engineering plan is approved.

Town Road View: Viewing of the town roads was scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, beginning at 9 a.m. Additional time will be scheduled as needed.

Calcium Chloride application: Motion by Charles Quale to cost share with property owners on application of calcium chloride to town roads at the same rate as last year if allowable, on an individual basis on platted roads; seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

Tennis courts: Anderson Brothers will repair the cracks. The new nets have arrived.

Election results: Results from the March 10, 2009 annual election were as follows: Supervisor: Richard Biernat, 26; Nancy Karjalahti, 74; Treasurer: John Brula, 94; write-ins, 2. One hundred people voted.

Organizations requesting funding: Tabled to the end of the meeting.

Clean-up Day: Motion by Charles Quale to set the fees the same as last year, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. Jeff Hooper (Jeff's Roll-Off Service) will provide the dumpsters.

Port-a-Potty: Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith to have the summer port-a-potty service start May 1 with weekly cleaning, Nancy Karjalahti will order the port-a-potty; motion carried.

Walk way between buildings: The paving of a walk way between the buildings was discussed. The clerk will check with the MAT office on ADA requirements.

NEW BUSINESS:

The long distance telephone service was discussed. Charles Quale moved to switch the service to Frontier, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

A conditional use permit requested by James Kruta for operating a commercial business (collision repair facility) on Lake Avenue was reviewed. This is a re-application; the board's response is the same as from the January 2007 request.

A conditional use permit requested by JCAT LLC to re-plat on a 19-lot preliminary subdivision/plat (Rustic Hide-a-way) was reviewed. The board recommends following the established county ordinances and considering the input from adjacent property owners.

Stephen Cook/Savanna Investments LLC has requested an 8-unit planned unit development (Savanna Ridge III). The board recommends following the established county ordinances.

Four board members plan to attend the MAT Urban Short Course on April 23 in Otsego.

9:20 p.m. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Charles Quale, to continue the meeting to immediately following the special board meeting on April 15, 2009; motion carried

April 15, 2009, 3:30 p.m.

Board Chairman Ron Smith reconvened the April 9th board regular meeting. Present were Supervisors Charles Quale and Nancy Karjalahti, Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel and township attorney Troy Gilchrist.

An issue with Jim Henderson's landscaping rock was discussed. Ron Smith will contact Mr. Henderson; the rock needs to be placed away from the road area that is cleared by the road maintenance equipment.

The list of organizations requesting funding was reviewed. Troy Gilchrist clarified some issues. Funding decisions will be made at the next board meeting.

Fire service coverage was discussed. Troy will be giving a fire service presentation at the MAT Urban Short Course on April 23.

There will be a meeting at the DNR office and gravel pit on Thursday, April 17, at 10:30 a.m. Nancy Karjalahti, Candace Bartel and one of the road maintenance employees will attend.

The minimum width for the sidewalk between the buildings is five feet per ADA guidelines.

Road maintenance employees will go to 10-hour days effective June 1. Authorization was given for the purchase a leaf blower.

Information about an ARDC Regional Transportation Advisory Committee In-Kind Grant was distributed. A motion was made by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Charles Quale, to apply for funding for a township-wide non-motorized trail grant; motion carried.

Darlow's will provide the port-a-potty for the summer beginning May 1. Weekly service will be provided.

Board members will attend the ACAT meeting on April 16 and the MAT Urban Township Short Course on April 23 in Otsego.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. (Troy left at 4:25 p.m.)

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Ronald Smith
Shamrock Township Board Chairman

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE MAY 14, 2009 REGULAR BOARD MEETING