

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, June 14, 2011**

Board Chairperson Nancy Karjalahti called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisor Charles Quale; Treasurer John Brula; Clerk Candace Bartel; road maintenance employee Tim Turner; residents/property owners Sue Westberg, Jerry Pawlak, Rich Biernat, Candi Kral; and Amber Lehman from the *Voyageur Press*. Supervisor Ron Smith did not attend the meeting.

The minutes from the May 3, 2011 regular board meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti. The minutes from the May 16, 2011 Board of Appeal and Equalization were unanimously approved on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending May 31, 2011: General Revenue Fund, \$4,448.35; Road & Bridge Fund, \$242,287.74, Fire Fund, \$13,459.81; Building Fund, \$92,131.18; Sewer Fund, \$4,660.80; Parks & Rec Fund, \$39,006.94; and the Lease/purchase Fund, \$(6,014.02). The Road & Bridge CD's total \$332,582.21; Building final payment CD, \$76,632.15; Sewer Fund CD's \$83,472.63; Kirt Properties escrow CD \$4,661.66. Money market interest received May 31 was \$264.86; other receipts were \$8,337.50, and disbursements were \$23,750.88. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of May 31, 2011 was \$887,329.45. Liabilities are the building bond at \$520,000. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried unanimously. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti to approve payment of claims and payroll (totaling \$23,550.85); motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: The following was received: Board of Appeal & Equalization training schedule, DNR Turtle Safety information, Radio licensing information, *Technology Exchange* newsletter, Towmaster training & education expo, Land Stewardship Project newsletter, Lake Country Power annual meeting information, Lake Country Power *Strictly Business* newsletter, Big Sandy Water Institute summer brochure, Ford Credit Municipal Finance Program information, Senator Saxhaug's newsletter, Rep. McElfrick's newsletters, OSHA Compliance seminar information, thank you from ANGELS, and the USDA Rural Development newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS:

Road report: Tim Turner reported 400 yards of gravel have been put on roads, the calcium chloride was applied, a large rock was removed from the middle of 170th PL and some ditch work was done, a stump was removed from Long Point PL, a couple of loads of pit run were taken to the LMA weed dump site, a couple of danger trees were removed from the Traders Post area, storm damaged trees were removed, met with Impact 6, noxious weeds will be sprayed as needed, the McGregor Fire Department watered down the construction area on 188th Ave. to help control the dust, a spray bar was made to be used if road areas need to be watered down, and ditch mowing will begin this week. Class 5 inventory was discussed; a gravel crush will be needed either late this summer or early next summer. The county will be working on County 6; it may be possible to piggy back on their project for our gravel crush needs.

188th Avenue: The blacktop surface has been put down. Shouldering will be done in the near future. A change order of \$3185.00 was approved on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti. This was for additional Class 5 and pit run for the project. The engineer

notified the board that a fog line will not be put on the eastern edge of the road near the swamp (this is on the south section).

486th Street: A road view was done on May 23, 2011. Sue Westberg (property owner) voiced objection to a swale and would prefer to divert the water to the other side. It was noted on the Impact 6/TSA3 design that drainage in this area is from a nine acre watershed area. There may be some BSLWAMP funding available for a rain garden. Charles Quale noted that this is the low point, it is a natural waterway and water does run down hill. He is not in favor of spending township money on private property; only spending township money on improvements within the road right-of-way and possibly assisting with facilitating the engineering. The new culvert under the township road was put in the same size and depth as the old one; Mrs. Westberg feels the new culvert is causing problems with water backing up in her sewer system. The culvert (pipe) running on the Westberg property is probably filled in or collapsed and contributing to the water drainage problem. After much discussion, it was suggested that Mrs. Westberg contact Aitkin Co. Planning & Zoning, Aitkin Co. Soil and Water or Brian Napstad, Aitkin Co. Commissioner for assistance.

218th PL: Tim Turner, Marvin Turner, Nancy Karjalahti, and Nicole Sternquist (Impact6/TSA3 engineer) looked at the drainage issue near Ron Clasen's property. It was suggested to do some ditching in the road right-of-way from the Clasen's driveway to the corner and put a rain garden in the low section. Property owners should be contacted to find the survey pins and discuss options for handling the water runoff/drainage issues. BSLWAMP may have funds of cost share on this project.

508th LN: Nothing new to report.

483rd Street: The erosion control design from TSA3 was received. Before any work is done, the property owner will need to be contacted. The town maintenance men will plan to do this project this fall.

190th Place: The court hearing on the requested partial vacation of a section of a dedicated to the public has been changed to June 29 at 10:30 a.m. at the Aitkin Co. courthouse. Charles Quale received a call from a neighboring property owner who plans to attend the hearing and voice opposition to the vacation. Nancy Karjalahti will contact the property owner.

Calcium Chloride: Application was on May 19. There was a little over a mile less coverage applied this year from last year. One check did not clear the bank; the property owner had died after submitting his check. The clerk will check into this.

Long-range Road Plan: Plan from SEH was reviewed. Discussion was tabled to the next meeting.

Maintenance Building: The petition to the court requesting the court accept the remaining amount on the project (\$36,956.92 less town's expenses of \$14,540.63 = \$22,416.29 remaining funds) pursuant to Rule 67.02 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure was submitted to Aitkin Co. District Court by the township attorney's firm on June 9, 2011. The township attorney did provide a copy of the petition to an attorney for one of the subcontractors who is preparing a suit relating to non-payment by M.G. Carlson; the MAT office has been advised in case the township is listed in the suit.

Townhall remodeling: Nothing new to report.

Resolution on recording of meetings: Charles Quale moved to approve Resolution 2011-4 regarding the recordings of board meetings; motion approved on the following vote, Quale, yes; Karjalahti, yes. (See discussion from May 3, 2011)

Ball field: Roth Construction worked on the ball field. It is roughed in fairly well; needs to have some shaping done.

Employee Work Agreement: Will be reviewed at the next meeting.

ACAT: The township's resolution was presented to the MAT Legislation & Research (L&R) committee and will be included in their recommendation for legislation to remove all HAVA equipment from township elections.

NEW BUSINESS:

The variance requested by John Mielke, heard at the Aitkin Co. Board of Adjustment on June 1, 2011, was denied.

The list of tax-forfeited land classification received from the Aitkin County Board was distributed. The public hearing will be August 2, 2011 at 10 a.m. at the Aitkin Co. Court House. The board will review the list at the next meeting.

Renewal of the towline road agreements with Workman Township will be discussed at the next meeting.

A thank you note will be sent to the McGregor Fire Department for watering the section on 188th Avenue.

An inquiry was received from a resident near the intersection of Lily Avenue and 166th Avenue regarding water in her yard. This was viewed in the past; the lot has been filled causing the water problem.

A resident had asked to purchase weed killer from the township. It should be purchased from a retail supplier. If weeds are in the township road right-of-way the road maintenance will spray them if they are marked or location identified.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Nancy Karjalahti
Shamrock Township Board Chairperson

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON JULY 14, 2011.