

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, July 22, 2010**

Board Chairman Charles Quale called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Nancy Karjalahti and Ron Smith, Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel, road maintenance employee Tim Turner, and residents Rich Biernat and John Nystuen and Amber Lehman representing the *Voyageur Press*.

The minutes from the July 8, 2010, regular board meeting were approved on a motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith. The minutes from the special board meeting July 14, 2010, were amended to include attachment of the July 14, 2010 draft of the snowplowing policy, on a motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

Correspondence: The following were received: LTAP workshop schedule, Lakes & Pines newsletter, notice of capital credit allocation from Lake Country Power, and an invitation to the Springsted 2010 Upper Midwest Regional Symposium to be held November 4 in St. Paul.

John Nystuen shared concerns about a possible culvert placement on 218th Place. He feels this will divert more water onto his property. Charles Quale stated there is concern over standing water in this area that freezes in the winter and causes a hazard. Several options for managing water runoff were discussed. A road view was scheduled for Wednesday, July 28, at 4 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

188th Avenue: Matt Reid, SEH, presented an overview of the proposed blacktop improvement project on two sections of 188th Avenue. The culvert will be replaced by the township in conjunction with the improvement. A DNR permit will be needed and the project will need to be approved by the Army Corps of Engineers. The time involved in getting the permit may delay the project. Matt recommended going ahead with advertising for bids, schedule the bid opening and plan to award the bid at the August 24 board meeting; an alternate for the 2011 construction season will be included in case the project is delayed. An option to have the road base repaired this fall and the paving done in the spring of 2011 was considered. The north section (just past Greenwood) will involve repairing damage to the shore done by muskrats and to repair the blacktop and shoulder in that section. The south section (near Timbershores) will be realigned more towards the lake. Matt verified that the south section improvements will not encroach on private property. Fog lines will be put down. Matt recommended doing the full project this fall if it can be completed by mid-October. He said AET will be verifying the compaction on the project. The cost estimate is \$114,000. Nancy Karjalahti moved to accept the plans and specifications to authorize the blacktop improvement project as designed by SEH and to authorize SEH to advertise with the intension of moving forward with no construction past the middle of October, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried. Ron Smith moved to authorize the signing of the DNR permit request and issuance of the \$100 check for the permit fee, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. The bids will be opened on August 17 at 10 a.m. and they will be reviewed and the bid awarded at the regular board meeting on August 24. The township has been doing traffic counts on this section of road and they will be available for the contractor's reference.

Road Report: They have been blading roads, cutting some trees, the class 6 pile has been used up, straightened a section of 218th Place, the Challenger tractor and mower has arrived, will be working on the turnaround on Wotring Road next week, and shouldering has been done on a section of 490th Street.

484th Street: (Channel shaping project) Youngren's were sent a copy of the specs. Signed agreements have been received from Nelson's and Youngren's. Discussion was held on the

cost-share; this needs to be clarified with Janet Smude, BSALWMP. The state cost-share assistance contract needs to be signed. Tabled to the end of the meeting.

472nd Street: The section of road at 19806 was viewed on July 14. It was suggested to pull the shoulder back out, get the sand out, and put the crown back in the road. A culvert may need to be installed. Mr. Steinmueller should be consulted. This is a 66-foot road. There may be a possibility of cutting into the bank to put a basin to hold water. Ron Smith moved to hire a surveyor to survey a section of the road (check with Tim for exact location), seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

Charles Quale reported that Lake Country Power Company would like to cut trees and plow cable along a platted, undeveloped road (Blueberry Road in section 27). The board saw no problem with the power company clearing the trees and plowing cable as long as it's put in along the edge of the road right-of-way. It was noted that the township has no plans to open this road in the near future.

Election Assistance Grant/Building remodeling: The building materials will be delivered on July 23. Per the contract, the delivery payment of \$10,500 will need to be made to the delivery driver. Ron Smith will be at the townhall at the time of delivery. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve issuing a check to Morton Buildings for \$10,500; motion carried. Craig Nelson informed the township that he received an extension from the Secretary of State's office on our grant reimbursement to August 9.

Maintenance Building: A letter written by the township attorney to M.G. Carlson Construction was reviewed; no questions or concerns were voiced. The board will wait until the next board meeting before starting any action on finishing work on the building.

Ball field: The contractor that submitted the rejected quote said he'd like to take elevations and refigure his quote; nothing has been received.

Snowplowing Policy: The draft copy from July 14 was sent to the township attorney for review. He sent back a copy with a comment on Section III on the road list priority. The township's priorities are the school bus routes and the blacktop roads. After much discussion, this was tabled to the next meeting.

Cable System: The township attorney had provided information to the board on process of transferring the cable franchise from one company to another. Nancy Karjalahti moved to have the township attorney contact the company (SCI) and require an FCC form 394 be filed and the existing franchise agreement be followed and that a replacement bond is issued as per the existing agreement, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried.

The building variance requested by J. Stevens has been continued to the next county board of adjustment meeting. A plan to be compliant with the Aitkin Co. engineer regarding waste water management must be submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

A variance requesting the setback from the required 100 feet from the ordinary high water level on Sandy River Lake to a setback distance of 68 feet was received from Veronica Chock, 48298 218th Place, to construct a residence and a covered porch. The board recommended following the existing county ordinances.

A request was received from Kristine Kral for approval of a driveway located on 186th Avenue. This approval was required on the application request for a new E-911 address from the Aitkin County GIS Office. The board had no problem with the location of the driveway.

Information received from the MN State Demographer gives the township 2009 population estimate to be 1,217 and the household estimate to be 596. It was noted that the 2008 population estimate was 1,267 and the household estimate was 618.

Ron Smith reported on the Big Sandy Lake Association meeting relating to "Star Lake" status. Eight areas of lake management were discussed. Another meeting will be held in the near future.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Charles Quale
Shamrock Township Board Chairman

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE AUGUST 12, 2010 REGULAR BOARD MEETING.