

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, August 11, 2011**

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 Tim Turner; Matt Reid representing SEH, and Amber Lehman from the *Voyageur Press*.

The minutes from the July 28, 2011 regular board meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending July 31, 2011: General Revenue Fund, \$48,194.15; Road & Bridge Fund, \$328,251.35, Fire Fund, \$31,752.29; Building Fund, \$69,911.64; Sewer Fund, \$4,676.89; Parks & Rec Fund, \$46,124.18; and the Lease/purchase Fund, \$36,191.94. 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 \$4,668.98. Money market interest received July 31 was \$381.43; other receipts were \$856.00, and disbursements were \$100,544.51. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of July 31, 2011 was \$1,062,458.41. Liabilities are the building bond at \$520,000. 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 payment of claims and payroll totaling \$31,806.42; motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: The following was received: the Big Sandy Lake Association meeting agenda, the Lakes & Pines newsletter, Lake Country Power *Strictly Business* newsletter, the Aitkin Co. Historical Society newsletter and Rep. McElpatrick's newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS:

Long-Range Comprehensive Road Plan: Matt Reid from SEH reported that he has inspected the roads on the original list again. He presented a summary of existing road conditions on the original list plus some additional roads; this is a draft document. Also presented were a preliminary prioritization schedule, criteria for rating road surface conditions, estimated costs to rehabilitate existing gravel roads and estimated cost to pave existing gravel roads. He received assurance from the board that this is the information they are looking for. He will continue to work on the plan and present more information by the September 8th meeting. It was noted that there are road issues that are not visible in the summer, such as frost boils, that will need to be considered. Drainage correction was not evaluated. Overall the gravel roads are in very good condition. Twenty-three miles of road have been evaluated.

Road report: Tim Turner reported regular grading of roads, patching was done on some sections of the blacktops and they have started mowing ditches. The culvert for south 170th PL has been ordered. After discussion on the culvert replacement it was decided to get quotes from several area contractors to do the work. The culvert will be placed at the same level as the old culvert. A notice will be posted to inform the residents on the road that work will be done. The road will need to be closed during the culvert replacement. A drag has been built to use on the ball field. Black dirt may be spread on the field yet this fall. The garage door opener on the fire truck door has not been working properly. If it continues to be a problem, a new opener will be ordered.

508th LN: A request to remove the no parking sign was received; this was approved.

186th Ave. (WaWa Road): The power company will be running a line along the right-of-way in one area of this road. There was no opposition to this.

218th PL: No one attended the recent BSWALMP meeting so the erosion control plans were not shared with that group. It was recommended that the property owner follow through on this.

188th Ave. Survey: Marv Kohout will not be able to survey this until sometime in October. The board decided to contact Northstar Surveying to see if they can survey the area in the near future.

Nyberg vacation: The board received a copy of the court's findings of fact in the Nyberg petition to vacate a section of a public road to the lake. (off of 190th PL in Sec. 3). The court approved the petition as presented.

Road sign replacement plan: A draft plan was presented by the clerk. Matt Reid will review the plan and make suggestions.

Maintenance Building: The township attorney's office has sent the subcontractors notice as required by the court. Nancy Karjalahti suggested that the remaining funds from the project (\$14,540.63) be earmarked for use in the maintenance building.

Townhall remodeling: Davey Johnson (Serenity Design & Build) stopped in and did some measuring.

Lake Country Power capital credit allocation: LCP District 8 Director, Jim Huhta, will be invited to a board meeting to explain the capital credit allocation/distribution program. Representatives from area churches will be invited to attend.

Central MN Jobs & Training Services: The area coordinator notified the clerk that due to funding restrictions they will not be adding new sites or new people to the program. She will contact the township if this changes in the future.

Kennecott Mining: Matt Jeschke, Regional Communities Manager, will contact the township after the first of the year about attending a meeting.

Employee Work Agreement: No additional changes were made.

Leaf site use: Grace Lutheran Church will be clearing an area to make room for a playground on their property. It was recommended that the debris should not be hauled to the leaf site. It may include items not acceptable at the leaf site. Other disposal options should be explored.

Survey of MN Townships: The Office of the Legislative Auditor sent a survey to townships relating to the consolidation of local governments. Board members had reviewed the survey and group input was used to complete the survey.

NEW BUSINESS:

Big Sandy Lodge Tax Abatement: The county auditor notified the board that the township's portion of the tax abatement for the last half of last year and the first half of this year are now payable to Big Sandy Holdings, LLC. After discussing the tax abatement agreement, it was decided to discuss this at the next meeting and to invite Kirk Peysar, Ross Wagner, Brian Napstad, and Don Proulx to attend and clarify the agreement/payment procedure.

Charles Quale moved to approve the Minnewawa Sportsmen's Club's request for a permit for the ice fishing contest to be held February 11, 2012, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Nancy Karjalahti
Shamrock Township Board Chairperson

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE AUGUST 25, 2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING