

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 8, 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 Marvin Turner; property owners Rich Biernat and George Lachinski; Matt Reid from SEH and Amber Lehman from the *Voyageur Press*.

The minutes from the August 25, 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 August 31, 2011: General Revenue Fund, \$45,128.41; Road & Bridge Fund, \$314,433.31, Fire Fund, \$31,668.34; Building Fund, \$68,465.57; Sewer Fund, \$4,679.24; Parks & Rec Fund, \$45,838.95; and the Lease/purchase Fund, \$23,366.12. The Road & Bridge CD's total \$334,455.06; Building final payment CD, \$76,944.43; Sewer Fund CD's \$83,950.07; Kirt Properties escrow CD \$4,668.98. Money market interest received August 31 was \$381.43 and disbursements were \$31,806.42. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of August 31, 2011 was \$1,033,598.48. Liabilities are the building bond at \$520,000. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith 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 \$22,872.42, and to hold the check to Big Sandy Holdings, LLC for \$8,813.51 for discussion later in the meeting; motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: The following was received: Polling Place Accessibility Grant information from the MN Secretary of State, Big Sandy Lake Association minutes and agenda, LTAP snowplow workshop information, John Deere finance information and a letter from Lakes and Pines Community Action Council, Inc. about a no-cost Financial & Life Skills Education program that will be available to all residents in Aitkin, Carlton, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine counties.

George Lachinski asked when Bridge Road would be resurfaced. This was discussed in the long-range comprehensive road plan section.

OLD BUSINESS:

Long-Range Comprehensive Road Plan: Matt Reid from SEH was present to discuss the 2011 Capital Improvement, Plan Roads-Phase I. The plan categorizes the roads inspected into three sections: Category A – roads that are a priority for improvement; Category B – roads that are recommended for improvement but are less of a priority; and Category C – roads not recommended for improvement, just continue with good maintenance practices. Bridge Road is listed in Category A. The plan was discussed in more detail; the board was very satisfied with the plan. The plan will be presented at the annual meeting in March. Matt said that a good paved road should last about 20 years; there are justifications for both gravel and paving of roads. It was suggested to have Matt evaluate some roads in March or April for frost boils and other areas of concern and possibly evaluate the rest of the roads in the township.

188th Ave. Survey: SEH is scheduled to start the survey the week of September 12. This will tie into the long-range plan and be helpful in addressing drainage issues. The survey should be completed by the October 13th board meeting.

Matt will coordinate a presentation on geo grid for late November/early December.

Road report: Marvin Turner reported regular grading of roads, graveling, some mowing and equipment maintenance. They have been working on the ball field. Notice has been placed on 170th PL regarding the culvert replacement.

The public access by Cajun Queen (Lakeview Lane) was inspected; ATV's have been running on one side of it. Marvin suggested that mowing the north side would help. The grate on the top has been covered and needs to be located and cleaned. Nancy Karjalahti will contact Steve Hughes regarding issues on the access.

There is a drainage issue on 202nd PL across the road from 50742. The berm has eroded away. The property owner has not maintained their road and has not done what was recommended by the township in the past. Ron Smith will contact the property owner; the township will not do work on the private road.

The culvert on 200th Avenue can be replaced and set level.

The Rustic HideAway plat has been recorded with the county. Property owners on 189th PL need to petition the township to have the road accepted and maintained by the township. The clerk will contact one of the property owners with information on the procedure.

Road sign replacement plan: The US Department of Transportation has proposed to eliminate the deadlines for replacing traffic signs. There is a 60-day window for public comments. The board's plan will be put on hold for now.

Ball field: The maintenance men have been working on the field. The rock is slowly being removed. The black dirt will be spread soon; some hand work will be needed once that is down. Marvin Turner talked with Thompson's; they will be hauling to the cities later in the fall and they may be able to back-haul the agri lime for the ball field. Marvin will get more information on this. Fencing will be done after the seeding is done.

Townhall remodeling: Nothing new to report.

Clean-up Day: There will not be a tire pickup unless the tire recycling truck is in the area and can add them to another location pickup.

NEW BUSINESS:

Delta Dental notified the township that the dental insurance premium rates will increase by \$.25 effective December 1, 2011.

The certification of the 2012 tax levy is due to the county auditor by September 15. The clerk will submit the certification.

The Big Sandy Lodge deferral/abatement was revisited. It was decided that the township attorney should contact the county auditor to further clarify the tax payment procedure. Charles Quale moved to approve the check to Big Sandy Holdings, LLC for \$8,813.51, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried unanimously. (Total approved for claims and payroll was \$31,685.93)

Ron Smith shared information on handy hitch packers that pull behind the road grader to pack the road after grading. There was discussion on the possibility of replacing one of the dump trucks in the near future.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Nancy Karjalahti
Shamrock Township Board Chairperson

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING