

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, December 11, 2008, 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, resident Richard Biernat, Chris Struwve from the *Voyageur Press*, Ben Pezaro and Matt Jeschke from Kennecott Exploration Company, and Jay Smedburg representing Kirt Properties.

The minutes from the November 13, 2008 regular board meeting were approved on a motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending November 30, 2008: General Revenue Fund, \$25,381.70; Road & Bridge Fund, \$401,286.20; Fire Fund, \$61,474.59; Building Fund, \$208,472.81; Sewer Fund, \$28,867.93; Parks & Rec Fund, \$15,700.06; and the Lease/purchase Fund, \$0.00. The Road & Bridge CD's total \$114,389.21; Sewer Fund CD \$53,452.90; Kirt Properties escrow CD \$5,502.20. Interest received November 30 was \$901.47, other receipts totaled \$206,259.13; disbursements were \$19,172.91. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of November 30 was \$914,527.60. Liabilities are the backhoe lease at \$34,649.20 and the building bond at \$625,000. Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Charles Quale to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith to approve payment of claims and payroll in the amount of \$32,834.72; motion carried

Correspondence: The Lake Minnewawa Association (LMA) newsletter and thank you letter were distributed; the Brock White Update, the Mille Lacs Energy newsletter, River City Data (document retention information) and the LTAP Work-Zone Traffic Seminar information were received and will be filed for reference. Nancy Karjalahti reviewed a waste water issues in small communities survey received from the MPCA/University of Minnesota; the survey was completed and will be submitted.

KENNECOTT UPDATE: Matt Jeschke, Regional Community Relations Manager, and Ben Pezaro, project geologist, from Kennecott Exploration Co. gave an overview of the ongoing exploration for nickel and copper in Aitkin County. Most of their efforts have been in the Tamarack area. They are still in the information gathering process; no decision has been made as to actual mining. Tours of the drilling sites can be arranged and the core shed in Tamarack is open to the public. Brochures on the project are available at the townhall.

OLD BUSINESS:

Road Report: Marvin Turner reported roads were plowed once with additional sanding and scraping as needed, the wing was installed on the grader, truck and equipment maintenance involved a lot of time, and trees and brush were cut on 204th Avenue.

187th Avenue access (near Trudy Bunge): Seed and matting will be put down in the spring. BSALWMP will reimburse the township \$3356.26 for expenses incurred in repairing the public access.

197th Avenue (Kirt Properties project): The SEH engineer inspected the road and found that it appears all in order with the exception of the turf establishment. The berm put in place by Hegman-Kern Excavating was moved by the township road maintenance men. Charles Quale, Tim Turner and Marvin Turner discussed the relocation of the berm dirt with property owner John Daine. John would like the ingress/egress near his property the same as in past winters. It was stated that the board intended for the old portion of the road to remain open through a freeze/thaw cycle before being closed to ensure safe travel. This was not clearly outlined in the road order. After discussion with Jay Smedburg, Charles Quale moved to table the issue to the

next meeting and have the township attorney attend the meeting, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried.

198th Place (public access in sec. 21): Nancy Karjalahti reported that BSALWMP will reimburse the township \$750 towards the cost of the survey. Ron Smith and Charles Quale will inspect the area prior to the next meeting.

486th Street (Westberg property); 484th Street (Nelson property): Nancy Karjalahti talked with Steve Hughes and Janet Smude, Aitkin Co. Soil & Water regarding the issues in these two areas. It was also discussed at the BSALWMP meeting; BSALWMP will cost share with the township on engineering fees for both sites.

Building: Gartner Temperature Control installed the electric boiler part and adjusted the thermostat. The painting contractor contacted Nancy Karjalahti and requested the board sign off on the painting; they indicated they would attend this meeting. Mensing Construction requested a copy of the general contractor's bond. Ron Smith talked with architect John Geissler regarding the items yet to be finished on the building. In reference to the November 11, 2008 letter from MG Carlson, John Geissler agreed on change orders for the wall extension in the secure storage room, the plate extension on the lentil above the large door between the two sections of the building (the township should only pay for the cost of materials) and moving the waste tank and line location (there should be no charge to the township for this change). He noted that paperwork was sent to MG Carlson on December 12, 2008. He has not received the as build drawings from MG Carlson. Some warranties have not been received by the architect and he wants the issue with the painter resolved with MG Carlson. John will approve two payments to MG Carlson; there will still be the hold back amount to be paid once everything has been completed. A special board meeting was set for Thursday, December 18, 2008 at 9 a.m. to meet with John Geissler. The lien waver list was updated and distributed for review. It was noted that two tanks of propane have been used already.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ron Smith moved by resolution to approve the liquor licenses requested by Lisa Enderle and Christine Pierce, doing business as Bann's Bar & Café, Inc., seconded by Charles Quale; approved on the following vote: Smith, aye; Quale, aye; Karjalahti, aye.

The board reviewed an after-the-fact variance requested by Richard Peck, Jr., 19656 469th Street. The hearing was December 3; the board did not meet prior to the hearing so no opinion was offered.

The clerk presented information on the census boundary and annexation survey received from the US Census Bureau. She was directed to check with the county to clarify the township boundary lines on the map provided with the survey.

The township radio system will need to be upgraded by January 1, 2013 to comply with new FCC guidelines. Sheriff Scott Turner is conducting a study for the county and will present information to the board after he presents the information to the county board early in 2009.

The road maintenance men requested vacation days for December 26 and January 2. This was approved, weather permitting.

Ron Smith moved to allow the payment of the VISA bill prior to the next board meeting to avoid interest charges, seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried.

There was further discussion on the 197th Avenue issue. Motion was made by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith, to rescind the motion to have the township attorney attend the next meeting; motion carried. Nancy Karjalahti will discuss the situation with the attorney.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Nancy Karjalahti
Shamrock Township Board Chairperson

**MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE
JANUARY 8, 2009 REGULAR BOARD MEETING.**