

Shamrock Township Board Meeting
Thursday, May 10, 2007

Chairman Charles Quale called the regular Board meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Nancy Karjalahti and Ron Smith, Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel, Deputy Clerk Karen Reid; residents Terry Roy, John Clasen, Jerry Pawalk, Nancy Eddy; Jay Smedburg representing Gary Kirt Properties; Dennis Hasskamp, Hasskamp Well Drilling, and Mike Heaser from the Voyageur Press (tape recorded the meeting).

Ron Smith moved to approve the minutes from the April 24, 2007 regular board meeting as distributed, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. The minutes from the April 27th Board of Appeal and Equalization were approved on a motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith.

The treasurer's report for the period ending April 30, 2007 gave the following fund balances: General Revenue Fund, (\$382.39); Road & Bridge Fund, \$118,753.05; Fire Fund, \$27,161.27; Building Fund, \$97,579.35; Sewer Fund, \$21,480.40; and the Parks & Rec Fund, \$6,142.41 Building Fund CD's total \$165,372.95; Road & Bridge CD's total 207,000.00; Sewer Fund CD \$50,000.. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of April 30 was \$693,107.04. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti to pay the claims as presented, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried.

Correspondence: Big Sandy Lake Assn. meeting minutes were distributed; the Lakes & Pines newsletter, the Session Weekly, the Mille Lacs Energy Coop newsletter and the Lake Country Power Annual Report were received and will be filed for reference.

Jerry Pawalk shared concerns about damage done to the shoulder of the road near his property. This is a county road and he was advised to contact the county.

Nancy Eddy asked about the board's opinion on the building of cellular phone tower near the Shamrock Store. The board had not received notice of the conditional use permit hearing scheduled for later in the month. The general consensus was that this will be an asset to the area and the board encourages this effort. Nancy requested a letter be sent to the county planning commission stating the board has no objection to the tower. The clerk was directed to write said letter.

John Clasen had questions regarding the application of calcium chloride to several roads on Sheshebe Point. Discussion on this was moved to the end of the agenda.

Dennis Hasskamp, Hasskamp Well Drilling, explained his request to put a well on township property. The well would pump 150 gal./min. and would be for commercial and fire department use. He stated that he currently has to go to Palisade or McGregor to get needed water when drilling a well. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to allow the Hasskamp to install the well; motion carried. The township attorney will be contacted to draw up an agreement. It was noted that other contractors would be able to use the well, a connection thread acceptable to the McGregor Fire Department equipment would be used, and a lock box will be placed on the power supply. The township will supply power to the well.

Jay Smedburg, representing Gary Kirt Properties, requested permission to clear and establish the road platted as Deer Park Road in the Tower Pines/Shoreacres area of

Section 16. They are intending it to be a public road maintained by property owners. The area is being surveyed and flags will be placed for the proposed road. The board will contact with the township attorney for an opinion on this request. He also stated their attorney is preparing a petition to vacate a portion of 197th Avenue.

OLD BUSINESS:

Building Project: Ron Smith, Karen Reid, and Candace Bartel met to discuss an informative article to be published prior to the June 5th reconvened annual meeting. They will meet again with Terry Roy to finalize the article and present it to the board for review at the May 24th board meeting. Ron Smith reported that if a lease/purchase agreement is used for financing the 105% funding is not required. It was pointed out that per 164.02 MS, Subd.2, the board has the authority to construct a maintenance building without elector approval. Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to build a maintenance building only; motion carried. The Grand Timber Bank of McGregor may be able to finance the project; estimated interest rate would be five to six percent. The 2002 -1 resolution will be reviewed with the township attorney to see if it is still binding. John Geissler, DSGW Architects, will be contacted to get a basic foot print of the maintenance portion of the building proposed in August 2006 and get a current cost estimate. CAM will also be contacted for a building cost estimate.

Road Report: Roads were graded, maintenance men assisted with township clean-up day, they attended the culvert maintenance class, blacktops have been swept, trees were cut on 209th Place and 197th Avenue, culverts were ordered, road salt prices will be checked on in two weeks, borings will be done on the bridge approaches on May 11. Matt Eidem, summer employee, started on May 10. Aitkin County safety day training will be May 24 at Long Lake Conservation Center. The road maintenance men will attend.

Cable TV: Discussion on the need for and the amount of a bond to be obtained from New Century Communications. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting. Charles Quale will get an estimate of the cost to remove the cables, hardware, etc., should the need arise.

Clean-up Day: A good turn-out was reported. Total cost for the day is estimated at over \$5000.

Township credit card: Tabled until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Variance Request: Mike Farber requested a variance from the required setback on Horseshoe Lake. No board action was taken; recommended the county follow established ordinances.

Tax-forfeited Land Sale: The list of lots was reviewed. Sight viewing will be done during the road view on May 14 and discussed at the May 24th meeting.

Township Attorney: The possibility of changing attorneys was discussed. Motion by

Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to contact Troy Gilchrist about being the township attorney. Troy was an attorney with the Minnesota Association of Townships before going into private practice. He will be contacted and invited to attend a board meeting.

Fence Inquiry: The clerk received a question from a property owner regarding the placement of a barbed wire fence by an adjoining property owner. The township has no fence ordinance. Motion by Ron Smith, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to refer inquiring property owner to Aitkin County Planning and Zoning for assistance; motion carried.

The DNR will be holding a hearing on June 26 in Aitkin relating to ditches in ConCon land.

Nancy Karjalahti reported the plans for the 493rd Lane (Eklund Sawmill Rd.) access should be here by May 11. BSALWAMP and LMA have grant money to assist with access improvement. BSLA has requested help with putting up neighborhood watch signs. Ron Smith will get more information on this request.

John Clasen's request to apply calcium chloride on two small township roads off Sheshebe Point was approved. His request to treat the township *platted, dedicated to the public*, road that goes to his property was discussed. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to allow calcium chloride to be applied to this section of road at the cost-share rate with the understanding that this does not obligate the township to maintain this section of road; motion carried on the following vote: Karjalahti yes, Smith yes, Quale no. The board clarified that the minimum treatment for any calcium chloride treatment is 400 feet.

Bob Bass, 485th Street, has requested more slow signs be placed on his road. A blind corner sign should also be added at the corner by Burke's property.

The meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk
Chairman

Charles Quale
Shamrock Township Board

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS AMENDED AT THE
MAY 24, 2007 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**