

Shamrock Township Board Meeting
Thursday, January 11, 2007

Chairman Ron Smith called the regular Board meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Nancy Karjalahti and Charles Quale, Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel, Tim Turner, road maintenance man, and Mike Heaser from the *Voyageur Press*. Mr. Heaser tape-recorded the meeting.

Nancy Karjalahti moved to approve the minutes from December 14th special board meeting, seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried. Nancy Karjalahti moved to approve the minutes from the December 14th regular board meeting, seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the period ending December 31, 2006 gave the following fund balances: General Revenue Fund, \$31,300.36; Road & Bridge Fund, \$347,723.45; Fire Fund, \$82,979.10; Building Fund, \$144,317.75; Sewer Fund, \$70,680.13; and the Parks & Rec Fund, \$5,725.38. Building Fund CD's total \$114,081.71. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of December 31 was \$796,807.88. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried. Market value credit was received from the state department of finance in the amount of \$10,431.84; distribution to the different accounts was explained by the treasurer. PERA rate increase aid of \$87.50 was also received from the state. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to approve payment of bills and payroll totaling \$18,648.23; motion carried.

Correspondence: Copies of the Aitkin Co. Assn. of Townships (ACAT) meeting minutes and agenda and the Big Sandy Lake Assn. meeting minutes and agenda were distributed; the Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative's *The Outlet* was received and will be filed for reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cable TV Franchise: After discussion on a request from New Century Communications Co. to add three parts to section 9.2, Nancy Karjalahti moved to accept Ordinance 2007-1 granting a franchise to New Century Communications Co. to construct, operate and maintain a cable television system in the Township of Shamrock; setting forth conditions accompanying the grant of the franchise; providing for regulation and the use of the system; and prescribing penalties for the violation of its provisions as reviewed and agreed to at the public hearing on December 14, 2006 (this does not include the requested additions to section 9.2), seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried on the following vote: Karjalahti, aye; Quale, aye; Smith, aye. Nancy Karjalahti moved to pass Resolution 2007-1, Ordinance Change, seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried on the following vote: Karjalahti, aye; Quale, aye; Smith, aye. A copy of franchise related expenses incurred thus far was reviewed and will be sent to the cable company for reimbursement.

Road Report: Tim Turner reported most time was spent plowing and sanding; brushing was done on 510th Lane (section 2). Mechanical problems with the road maintenance equipment hampered road work. The Sterling truck is being repaired at Miles in Brainerd. There was discussion on the condition of the Sterling and possible replacement options; no decision was made. Tim requested permission for the maintenance men to attend two road maintenance courses offered through the University of Minnesota's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP); permission was granted.

Dick Salo had contacted two supervisors with concerns about a water problem on 165th Place (Barrett Road); nothing can be done until spring.

The bridge top is complete and should be open for two-way traffic on January 12. JO Construction will be hauling fill to bring up the approach level. A sample of the fill will be taken for testing. A discussion was held on the compaction of the roadbed. Ron Smith will contact John Welle, county engineer, and Rick Eidem to attend the February meeting in regards to the roadbed compaction. Some materials from the old bridge have been saved and will be used for steps down to the lake. A bridge opening ceremony was

discussed; no decision was made.

Nancy Karjalahti talked with Peter Tiede, township attorney, regarding the letter he wrote to attorney Shari Larson (re: 209th road vacation request). It was decided that since the board did not authorize the response, the township should not be charged. Nancy will follow up on this. After a discussion on how the board works with the township attorney it was decided that the board chairman or designated person will contact the township attorney on issues.

Ron Smith will talk with David and Nancy Claussen regarding their inquiry on the possibility of vacating or abandoning a section of 506th Lane.

Motion by Ron Smith to plow 496th Lane to where it was done last year died for lack of a second.

Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to plow the unaccepted portion of 496th Lane and turn around in the townhome's area until March 1 and to get a statement from the Eagle Nest Townhome association releasing the township from any liability for any damage to that section of the road; motion carried. This will be reviewed at the March board meeting. Ron Smith will contact the townhome association.

Riparian Land: Special board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 16, to review the draft dock ordinance. Mark Jacobs, Aitkin Co. Land Commissioner, may attend the meeting.

Ron Smith talked with Mark Jacobs about the survey on the 198th Place (DeMars) access. The county is going to have a better map of this area. Nancy reported that BSALWMP has designated funds to repair the public access and survey the area, if necessary.

Ron Smith reported that proceeds from timber sales on public land in the township depend on what kind of land the timber is taken from. Ron will check with the county treasurer for further clarification.

Urban Township Task Force: No report from the task force.

Mining Report: Nancy Karjalahti attended an informational meeting in Tamarack regarding the proposed mining in the Tamarack area. It is being promoted as a boom to the local economy. There are strong concerns about the contamination to the Big Sandy watershed. The township needs to be kept informed on this issue.

Office Equipment: The clerk reported that there is an office workstation available from the county; she will request transfer to the township. Sentence-to-serve will be contacted to deliver it. The board authorized painting of the floor and the beige metal wall.

Building Committee: Meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 29, at 7 p.m.

Requests for Funds: Requests for funding from ANGELS, Kinship and any other not-for-profit organizations will be addressed at the annual meeting. The guidelines for contributions will be reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Gravel: Tri-City Paving has a small pile of gravel at the DNR pit that they are willing to sell to the township for \$4/cu. Yard. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to have the county engineer's office measure the pile and to purchase gravel from Tri-City Paving at \$4 per cu. yard; motion carried. Ron Smith will contact the co. engineer's office and request the measurement.

Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Request: Jim Kruta's request for a CUP to operate an auto body collision/repair shop (51208 Lake Avenue) and to make prototypes for various inventions was reviewed. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to follow the same stipulations as required for Brian Lang's body shop; motion carried.

Variance Request: A variance request by Peter Fausch, 20512 508th Lane, was reviewed. No board action was taken.

2007 Mileage Rate: The clerk advised the board that the mileage rate set by the IRS for 2007 business mileage will be 48.5¢ per mile.

Board of Audit: Date for the board of audit and budget meeting was set for Tuesday, February 13, at 7 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Ron Smith
Shamrock Township Board Chairman

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE
FEBRUARY 8, 2007 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**