

Shamrock Township Board Meeting Thursday, July 12, 2007

Chairman Charles Quale called the regular Board meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Nancy Karjalahti and Ron Smith, Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel, Marvin Turner, road maintenance man, residents Terry Roy, Jerry Pawleck and Kathy LaBerge, and Luke Carlson from the *Voyageur Press*. The meeting was tape recorded by the clerk and Luke Carlson. Jay Smedburg, Kirt Properties, arrived at 8:15.

Ron Smith moved to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2007 special board meeting as distributed, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. Ron Smith moved to approve the minutes from the June 28, 2007 regular board meeting as corrected, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. Clarification was given on the Moberg road question; one of the supervisors will be contacted if needed.

The treasurer's report for the period ending June 30, 2007 gave the following fund balances: General Revenue Fund, \$28,005.74; Road & Bridge Fund, \$262,392.56; Fire Fund, \$45,456.55; Building Fund, \$129,273.86; Sewer Fund, \$26,836.93; and the Parks & Rec Fund, \$9,300.41. Building Fund CD's total \$167,225.00; Road & Bridge CD's total 209,208.14; Sewer Fund CD \$50,542.53. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of June 30 was \$928,241.72. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried. Motion by Ron Smith to pay the claims as presented, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

Correspondence: Big Sandy Lake Assn. meeting minutes and agenda were distributed; notice was received on a change in the insurance company carrying the employee life insurance policies.

Kathy LaBerge, representing the McGregor Library, requested an additional donation from the township to help pay for blacktopping of the library parking lot and furniture and equipment for the library. She noted that library usage has increased while the state funding has decreased. It was noted that the school district owns the property and the City of McGregor owns the building. The board will check on the legality of donating to improvement funds. It was noted that such requests should be presented at the annual meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Building Committee: Project specifications and a proposed schedule were received from architect John Geissler. After some discussion, a special board meeting was set for Tuesday, July 17, at 4 p.m. to meet with John and finalize the plans. Information from Bruce Kimmel indicated that it will take eight to ten weeks to receive the financed money once the amount needed is determined. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to until further notice have the treasurer cash the building CD's as they come due; motion carried.

Road Report: Marvin Turner reported 470 yards of gravel was spread, grading, and blacktop repair were done. Some road signs were replaced on Ponderosa Point and repaired the road by Cummings. Many trees needed to be removed from the roads due to high winds on July 10. They started mowing ditches with the rental mower. The price for a new backhoe would be between \$60,000 and \$70,000. Used ones are available in Brainerd for between \$30,000 and \$40,000+. The maintenance men were directed to

look into trading the John Deere tractor and mower in on a used tractor and mower.

Bridge: Ron Smith talked with John Welle, Aitkin Co. Engineer. John indicated the county may have to extend the guard rails near the new steps on the island side. John will look into the cost of guard rails for another section of the road. There is concern that not all the debris has been removed from the channel. Erosion control fabric has been put down in several areas.

Ron Smith received an inquiry from a resident asking if the township could provide gravel to Camp New Hope. It was noted that the camp is not in the township. It was the consensus of the board that the township cannot do things like this for private entities.

493rd Lane access project: Bid notices have been published. An effort should be made to save the apple trees in the access. Nancy Karjalahti will contact Mitch to stake the area.

Deer Park Road: It was noted that the road is very narrow and is not open to the existing road to the west as was stated in the resolution approving the road opening. Concern that this is being used as a private road and people are being asked to leave.

188th Avenue: Concern was voiced over the condition of the blacktop near Greenwood and Timbershores. Nancy Karjalahti talked with Lonnie Thomas, Aitkin Co. Soil and Water, and he said the township does not need a permit to replace the culvert. Nancy will contact John Welle about inspecting both areas and offer suggestions for repair.

Cable TV Bond: Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to amend the contract with New Century Communications to require a \$20,000 bond; motion carried.

Credit Card Resolution: Tabled to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A request was received from the Jacobson Fire Department for a letter of support for their FEMA grant request for a new fire truck. The clerk was directed to send a letter of support.

A report from the state demographer lists the township 2006 population estimate at 1,249 and the household estimate at 604. (This refers to permanent residents.)

The zoning variance requested by Kirk Properties for variance from the required easement width of 66 feet to construct a private road to an easement width of 33 feet in an area zoned Shoreland was reviewed. Jay Smedburg was present representing Kirk Properties. The board stated the road needs to be dedicated to the public. After further discussion, a decision was tabled to the next meeting. Mr. Smedburg will share the board's concerns with Gary Kirk.

A special board meeting was set for Thursday, August 2, at 7 p.m. to review the employee work agreement.

The maintenance men were directed to check on the culvert near Trader's Post; it has started to fill in again.

It was requested to install a light for the flag pole. This can be done when power is run to

the new well.

Ron Smith reported that two air-conditioners have been ordered for the building. A local contractor will install a window and the air-conditioners.

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk
Chairman

Charles Quale
Shamrock Township Board

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE JULY 26, 2007 REGULAR BOARD
MEETING.**