

Shamrock Township Board Meeting
Thursday, December 14, 2006

Chairman Ron Smith called the regular Board meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Nancy Karjalahti and Charles Quale; Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel, Marvin Turner, road maintenance man, two residents, Mike Heaser from the *Voyageur Press*. Mr. Heaser tape-recorded the meeting.

Nancy Karjalahti moved to approve the minutes from November 9th meeting as corrected, seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the period ending November 30, 2006 gave the following fund balances: General Revenue Fund, \$33,040.96; Road & Bridge Fund, \$357,949.52; Fire Fund, \$82,100.90; Building Fund, \$142,654.40; Sewer Fund, \$70,283.11; and the Parks & Rec Fund, \$5,495.24. Building Fund CD's total \$113,520.03. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of November 30 was \$805,044.16. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti to amend the BC/BS premium paid in November to \$699.00 (a increase of 70¢), seconded by Charles Quale; motion carried. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Charles Quale, to approve payment of bills and payroll totaling \$21,092.58; motion carried.

Correspondence: The *Minnesota Township Finances: 2005 Revenues, Expenditures, & Debt* for the Arrowhead Region, the Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative's *The Outlet, The Sprngsted Letter*, November 2006 issue, and LTAP program information were received and will be filed for reference. A letter from Lake Country Power regarding automatic meter reading and a billing cycle change was reviewed. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Charles Quale, authorizing a check for \$6.02 for the security light bill if it needs to be paid before the next meeting; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Road Report: Marvin Turner reported brushing was done on 210th Place, 498th Lane, 496th Street and 484th Street. Trees were removed along the Pierce Addition and on 508th Lane. Equipment maintenance was done and two orders of salt have been mixed with sand. Tires have been ordered for the Sterling truck; tires for the grader will be ordered in the spring. Permission has been received to turn around at the same location the school bus uses on 496th Lane.

Ron Smith presented a request from Big Sandy Lodge to purchase salt/sand mixture from the township. After discussion it was suggested they contact local contractors to supply them.

493rd Lane Road View: waiting to hear from Nicole Sternquist for a design and cost estimate.

198th Place Road View: follow-up with the surveyor in the spring

Bridge Report: the deck is down on one side and the guardrail is installed; traffic will be using the new section by late next week; the channel has been cleared to about five feet; rock is in place on the bank and will be grouted in the spring. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to hire an independent company to do soundings to check the compaction on the road before the road is blacktopped in the spring; motion carried. Ron Smith will check with Alan Jensen and Rick Eidem regarding this project.

209th Place: a letter was received from Peter Tiede, township attorney, in response to a letter he received from Shari Larson, attorney for Jerry Maxwell, regarding his request to vacate a portion of 209th Place. Nancy Karjalahti will discuss the issue with Peter and report at the next meeting.

Riparian Land Committee: Neil Ostby sent a listing of parcels on Lake Minnewawa to consider for dock locations. Charles Quale moved to schedule a special board meeting on Tuesday, January 16th, at 7 p.m. to discuss the proposed dock ordinance, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

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

Building/Office Space/Equipment: Ron Smith contacted John Hawkinson and Curt Serfling for quotes for installing a wall and window in the existing townhall. John Hawkinson's was the low bid at \$2150 (Serfling's bid was \$2800) and he will do the work. Freeman electric will do needed electrical work. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to authorize the clerk to purchase needed office supplies/equipment; motion carried. The clerk will check with Bob Nelson, Aitkin Co. Special Projects Assistant, on the availability of surplus office equipment. Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti, to allow up to \$1500 for the purchase of new computer equipment; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

An inquiry from David and Nancy Clausen regarding the possible vacation of a portion of 506th Lane was discussed. Vacating the portion in question would land lock an adjoining parcel. It may be possible for the property owners to move the road. This might be an issue for district court review.

Garbage Service: Quotes were received from Garrison Disposal for \$24.57/month and Lakes Sanitary Service for \$25.60/month. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Charles Quale, to stay with Garrison Disposal for garbage collection service; motion carried.

ANGELS: A letter was received updating the board on the services provided to township residents by the ANGELS program and requesting additional funding. Tabled to next month.

AEOA: Information was received from Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Inc. outlining their services and requesting a donation. No board action was taken.

Minnewawa Sportsmen's Club: Motion by Charles Quale, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the MSC raffle to be held in conjunction with their fishing contest in January; motion carried. The maintenance men will clear the access to the lake by Timbershores for the fishing contest.

Nancy Karjalahti was asked by some residents why the township does not apply for grants to assist low-income households with replacing/updating wells and septic systems. She will look into grant options.

Jack Hooper thanked the board for writing a letter in support of the McGregor Airport's request for federal funding. If the funding is approved, the improvements will be done in 2008. They hope to add a cross-wind landing strip.

Ron Smith was asked to check with the county land office regarding receipts for timber sales in the township that should be paid to the township.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Ron Smith
Shamrock Township Board Chairman

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE
JANUARY 11, 2007 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**