

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, February 7, 2008, 7 p.m.**

Board Chairman Charles Quale called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Ron Smith and Nancy Karjalahti, Treasurer John Brula, Clerk Candace Bartel; road maintenance man Tim Turner, and Don Pearson, Rich Biernat, Winifred Tillman, Terry Roy, Jerry Pawlak, and Pete Ganzen from Aitkin County Planning and Zoning.

Nancy Karjalahti moved to approve the minutes from the January 10th regular board meeting, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried. The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending January 31, 2008: General Revenue Fund, \$31,427.74; Road & Bridge Fund, \$381,954.44; Fire Fund, \$62,777.64; Building Fund, \$184,913.25; Sewer Fund, \$23,657.34; Parks & Rec Fund, \$13,306.58; and the Lease/purchase Fund, \$333,178.26. Building Fund CD is \$31,500.44; Road & Bridge CD s total \$110,600.98; Sewer Fund CD \$51,682.70. Receipts and interest received totaled \$18,438.42, disbursements were \$16,348.98. Total cash and savings balance on hand as of January 31 was \$1,224,999.37. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith to approve the treasurer s report; motion carried. John Brula reported that the building fund CD will mature soon and it will be cashed and put in the building fund. The Aitkin County property tax statement of remittance was distributed. Ron Smith moved to pay the claims and payroll as presented, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. Ron Smith moved to pay the credit card bill when it is received, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

Correspondence: Copies of the Big Sandy Lake Association newsletter, meeting minutes and agenda were distributed; the Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative newsletter and the Lakes and Pines newsletter were received and will be filed for reference. Nancy Karjalahti received the BSLAWMP newsletter; their next meeting will be February 13 at 2 p.m.

Pete Ganzen, Aitkin County Planning and Zoning, updated the board on issues and concerns from his department. The Shoreland Ordinance revision was discussed. A memo from September 25, 2007 with a list of considerations was distributed. Several of those in attendance had attended the September 18, 2007 county board meeting and understood that the issue had been tabled. It was noted that this is an ongoing process and may take up to six months to revise. Shamrock s 2007 building permits were down about 30%; this was average for the county. The subdivision ordinance will be amended to try to stop developments from circumventing the platting process. There will be a public hearing on the ordinance and there will be a review process to determine if platting is necessary. The zoning office has new permitting software. The county has GIS information available on the county website (www.co.aitkin.mn.us).

OLD BUSINESS:

197th Avenue: Jay Smedburg contacted the clerk and requested the vote on the road order be tabled to the March 6 regular board meeting. Winifred Tillman shared concerns about the grade on the proposed road and wanted assurance that owners of lots 1, 2, 3 will be responsible for maintaining the road in the future. Don Pearson, realtor, stated that there is a state law and real estate law that covers this issue. Mrs. Tillman also suggested that Gary Kirt Properties be responsible for moving the utility line; it was noted that the builder of new housing would be responsible for moving the line. Mrs. Tillman will stake the location of the lady slippers in the spring. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti to dismiss the proposal; motion died for lack of a second. Ron Smith moved to table the vote on the road order to the March 6 regular board meeting, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. The clerk was directed to ask the township attorney what the consequences are if the board would move to dismiss the proposal. Ron Smith will get suggested amounts for a performance bond and a security deposit from SEH.

Road Report:

Tim Turner reported they have cut trees from the road right-of-way on 170th Place and 510th Lane; the roads have been plowed once; intersections have been sanded as needed; they have used about half of the salt/sand mix; they worked on the Indian Portage access; they notified the DNR work is needed on the access across from Growlers; they will attend a seminar put on by Brock White on Feb. 12 in Duluth. Tim requested to purchase a smaller air compressor to support the fire truck and move the larger compressor to the new building. Nancy Karjalahti suggested they look for an air compressor and check out backhoes while in Duluth on Feb. 12.

Building Project:

Construction Update: Ron Smith reviewed the new construction schedule. Most of the concrete, metal and masonry work is complete. Painting is currently being done; the wash bay painting is done. The mechanical and plumbing work is in progress. The water proofer came and removed the stains on the outside of the building. All doors are in except one.

The clerk reported the statute relating to petitions to vacate, establish, or alter a road states that once a petition is denied it shall be final for one year from the filing of its order.

No information was presented on resurfacing the tennis courts. It was noted the poles need to be reset. It was suggested to approach the McGregor Lions Club for assistance in funding the project.

In response to our request for funding support for the improvement of the recreation area, the Minnewawa Sportsmen s Club donated \$1000 towards replacement of playground equipment.

Four board members attended the quarterly Aitkin County Association of Townships (ACAT) on January 24th at the Aitkin VFW. Secretary of State Mark Ritchie was the featured speaker. He gave updates on election procedures. The county fair (July 9-12) will high-light the state sesquicentennial by having a county flag design contest, selecting seven wonders of Aitkin County, and having a 150-year category for crafts. The next ACAT meeting will be April 17 at the McGregor VFW. The District 11 MAT meeting will be in Aitkin on September 24.

NEW BUSINESS:

A petition was received to vacate a portion of 508th Lane in Section 8. A public hearing was set for April 14 at 5:30 p.m. James Krebs will be required to provide \$750 for fees associated with the vacation process.

The McGregor Chamber of Commerce requested the township post no parking signs on 487th Street February 15-17. They are hosting a snowmobile race and want to avoid traffic congestion. Motion by Nancy Karjalahti, seconded by Ron Smith, to order 100 no parking signs with by order of the Shamrock Town Board added from McGregor Printing; motion carried. Signs will be posted on 487th Street from Lake Avenue to past the 207th Avenue intersection and also on 207th Avenue.

Nancy Karjalahti moved to appoint the following to serve as election judges at the township election on March 11: Judy Haussner, Richard Cox, and Kathy Laberge, alternates — Karen Reid and Midge Wilson, seconded by Ron Smith; motion carried.

The county assessor s office has set the township board of appeal & equalization meeting for Friday, April 25, at 9 a.m.

Ron Smith moved to order propane for the new building through M.G. Carlson Construction, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried. The fire monitoring system in the new building was discussed. The need for first aid kits for the vehicles and the new building was discussed. Ron Smith moved to have Zee Service Company put first aid kits, as needed, in the new building and in the vehicles, seconded by Nancy Karjalahti; motion carried.

Information was received from the DNR on the adoption of rules relating to drainage projects impacting state-owned lands in consolidated conservation areas. Copies will be available upon request.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Candace Bartel
Shamrock Township Clerk

Charles Quale
Shamrock Township Board Chairman

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE
MARCH 6, 2008 REGULAR BOARD MEETING.**