

COTTON TOWN BOARD MEETING

November 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. in the township office, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Supervisor Will Deyo, Supervisor Ken Meinke, Supervisor Jamie Bowden, Treasurer Debbie Leppala, Deputy Clerk Ginger Kinsley, and Clerk Sandi Nelson. Resident and guests present were Shannon Lane, Kyle Young, Laurel Olsen, Linda Tuhkanen, Kim Ericksen, Stephanie Bergum, Don Triebwasser, Jean Magney and Ann Kieffaber.

The clerk read the minutes. Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to accept the October 8th meeting minutes as read. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

The treasurer presented the cash control statement.

GENERAL FUND: receipts \$3,459.04; disbursements \$6,950.96; total (\$-43.93)
NON-LEVY REVENUE: receipts \$1,109.33; disbursements \$0; total \$77,943.28
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: receipts \$2,077.96; disbursements \$7,699.50; total (\$-7,357.18)
CHRONICLE FUND receipts \$1,212.94; disbursements \$1,186.36; total \$9,104.77
CEMETERY\OLD FUND: receipts \$69.17; disbursements \$146.84; total \$6,781.45
CEMETERY\NEW FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$11,417.23
PARKS & REC FUND: receipts \$103.77; disbursements \$1,040.63; total \$6,774.59
FIRE FUND: receipts \$1,060.72; disbursements \$14.94; total \$8,569.85
FIRE TRUCK FUND: receipts \$58.11; disbursements \$0; total \$4,968.97
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND: receipts \$178.34; disbursements \$0; total \$11,991.69
TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$9,329.38
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$17,039.23
BALANCE ON HAND: 10/31/09 \$130,150.72

INVESTMENTS: CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS

NON-LEVY REVENUE FUND: CD current value \$28,408.48

Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Jamie Bowden to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

The Treasurer presented the claims list. Will Deyo motioned, supported by Jamie Bowden to approve and sign the claims list for claim #14366 through #14397 and debit #1109-1 claims totaling \$9,914.59 and approve debit #1109-2 to pay the Bills For Payment. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

Water Access on S. Strand Lake Road: Ann Kieffaber discussed the letter and petition from the residents sent up to Commissioner Keith Nelson's office. Will Deyo read the letter from the town board to Commissioner Keith Nelson regarding water access. Don Triebwasser asked if the township was buying this property. No, the town is not buying property this is a project by the residents of S. Strand Lake road. Ann Kieffaber replied it would be an easement but if the county was willing to sell it it would be bought by residents on the road and then an easement provided

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to the fire department. Kieffaber stated there is no expectation at this point that the town would pay anything. Clerk requested clarification that the town would not become involved in this project financially. Jean Magney and Ann Kieffaber agreed the town is not involved financially.

School Referendum: The St. Louis County ISD 2142 borrowed the town AutoMark voting machine for the election December 8, 2009. Cotton School parents spoke to the Board on their concern that the Town Board did not support the resolution in support of the ISD 2142 school referendum. There was much discussion of the importance of having the support of the town board. Local taxes were discussed. The next informational meeting will be November 16th at 6:00 p.m. at the Cotton School. The Board agreed that, 'As a community, having a school is good for the area.' Will Deyo motioned, supported by Jamie Bowden to compose a letter that 'Cotton Town Board is in support of the St. Louis County Independent School District 2142 restructuring plan.' Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Cotton Town Dump Project: Don Underhill, Coldwell Banker Properties, sent comparables for the town property on the Whiteface River frontage (old dump property) and based on this and the economic times the property should sell in the mid \$40,000 range. Clerk will send this information to DEED – Brownsfields and Redevelopment Unit and get their acceptance. Don Triebwasser informed the Board that the township cost on this project was double the \$40,000. Don also asked about pulling the monitoring wells on the property. The wells are still on the property. Rick Crum at NTS stated they would removed the wells.

Wages: At the October meeting the supervisors received a breakdown for the different positions held in the township and asked to review them and make recommendations. A special meeting is set for Thursday, December 3, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. to go over wages.

CONTINUUM

Community Center: If the senior citizens would have bookshelves in the community center they will have a group that will go through the books and assure they are appropriate. The shelves would be made to match the cabinet in the hall area. Questions include how many books and how many bookshelves are needed. Jamie Bowden motioned, supported by Ken Meinke to purchase four (4) dusk to dawn lights and have them installed by Electric Systems. Three on the community center and one on the garage. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to have Adam's Pest Control, Inc come in twice a year to spray at \$249.00 each time. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. Discussed anyone using the just the kitchen in hall. The cost on the rental agreement is \$30.

Roads: Rodda called last week and said he would be doing Cemetery, Kauppi, Pioneer, Tantt. Rodda called this week to say he has not been out on the roads yet.

PARKS & REC: Will Deyo motioned, supported by Ken Meinke to approve Kate Kinsley, Wynn Kinsley, Brittany Swenson, Jarred Bolin and Jennifer Pectold as rink attendants. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. Jamie Bowden and Debbie Leppala will set up the AWAIR meeting with the rink attendants.

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Meetings: St. Louis Cty. Assoc. of Township Officers Meeting – Ken Meinke, and Sandi Nelson.

Well: Jamie Bowden talked to Rick Helander about getting into Lakeland Rec to run a tracer line to find the hookup for his water and put a shut-off value on the line. Rick Helander will get together with Petersen Well Drilling to get the keys for Lakeland Rec. Electric Systems will come with a locator and work with Peterson Well Drilling also. Ann at Petersen Well Drilling will coordinate everything. Jamie Bowden informed the Board that Helander has sold the trailers and they will be off the property soon and he is planning to put the building on the market.

DonTriebwasser attended the Northeast MN Wind Energy Forum in Virginia. They are looking for local governments and community members to learn more about the opportunities for wind energy development. Cotton does have a JOBZ zone and if there are work groups the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) and Iron Range Resources (IRR) would like to work with them.

NEW BUSINESS

Web Site: Dennis Olsen would like to stop being the web master for the township web page and is willing to train someone for the job. Jamie Bowden, Debbie Leppala and Sandi Nelson will work with Dennis Olsen to learn how to work on the web page.

As there was no further business, Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo that the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk

Approved:

Town Chair

Date