

COTTON TOWN BOARD MEETING

January 14, 2010

The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:00 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. Residents and guests present were Jean Magney, Dick Wallin, Tim Randall, Commissioner Keith Nelson and Bob Rodda.

Ken Mienke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to accept the December 10th meeting minutes as mailed. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. Jean Magney requested a copy of the minutes be sent to her.

The treasurer presented the cash control statement.

GENERAL FUND: receipts \$35,415.33; disbursements \$4,516.60; total \$24,208.93

NON-LEVY REVENUE: receipts \$229.27; disbursements \$0; total \$79,276.25

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: receipts \$20,395.69; disbursements \$3,817.50; total \$7,622.93

CHRONICLE FUND receipts \$2,376.92; disbursements \$1,196.68; total \$9,865.47

CEMETERY\OLD FUND: receipts \$883.55; disbursements \$161.28; total \$7,564.10

CEMETERY\NEW FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$11,417.23

PARKS & REC FUND: receipts \$1,325.31; disbursements \$0; total \$7,624.90

FIRE FUND: receipts \$10,548.19; disbursements \$12,016.40; total \$7,092.53

FIRE TRUCK FUND: receipts \$3,058.33; disbursements \$0; total \$8,083.65

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND: receipts \$1,767.11; disbursements \$0; total \$13,798.80

TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$75,999.70

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$21,708.46

BALANCE ON HAND: 12/31/09 \$176,554.79

INVESTMENTS: CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS

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

Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo 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. Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to approve and sign the claims list for claim #14426 through #14461 and debit #110-1 claims totaling \$12,760.31 and approve debit #110-2 to pay the Bills For Payment. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Residents and guests: Commission Keith Nelson has not arrived. Jean Magney stated she would assume Keith Nelson is coming to discuss the water access issue and she was wondering if the Cotton Volunteer Fire Dept was invited to this meeting. There is an issue of the length of pipe for a dry hydrant. Tim Randall asked where the dry hydrant was planned for. Jean Magney explained it would be on S. Strand Lake. Tim Randall said they use dry hydrants in Kelsey Township, they have to backflush them at times but there is not much maintenance to them.

Correspondence was reviewed. Copy on file in the township office.

Discussed the letter from American Bank cutting the CD rate to 1%. The towns CD will not be up until March and will have to discuss it then. Should it be put in a money market account.

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OLD BUSINESS

Monitoring wells: Received an email from Mark Elliot, MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), stating that the monitoring wells can be removed. Northeast Technical Services (NTS), placed the wells and will have to be contacted to remove them. Town is now paying \$50.00 per well (4 wells) for a yearly permit.

Post Office lease was just received by email. The price is \$6,850.00 a year. Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Jamie Bowden to approve the \$6,850.00 a year and review the lease terms and sign at the February meeting. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.** Jean Magney asked what the post office costs, is there a way to compare the cost for the section of the post office.

CONTINUUM

Community Center: Will Deyo discussed the bookcases at the Senior Citizen lunch. The seniors has a committee that want to shop around for bookcases and will report back to the seniors in February. Electric Systems has installed the dusk to dawn lights on the community center and garage.

Chronicle: There will be a report presented at the annual meeting in March.

Parks & Rec: The rink is being used and the ice looks good.

Roads: Bob Rodda stopped at Jamie Bowden's and discussed going on the town road review with the Board. Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to send the letter requesting St. Louis Cty. Public Works scraping icy township roads. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. **ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

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

NEW BUSINESS

**RESOLUTION # 10-64
AUTHORIZING WORK PROJECT WITH INTERESTED OFFICER
UNDER M.S. § 471.88, subd. 5**

WHEREAS, Cotton Township, St. Louis County, Minnesota is seeking the performance of the following services: Writing, Editing, and Publishing the Cotton Chronicle and Writing and Updating the township web site www.cottontownship.org

WHEREAS, Sandi Nelson is the clerk of Cotton Township and will be financially interested in the project for the following reason: She is directly providing the service as an employee of the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the town board, upon a unanimous vote of the supervisors, finds that the project price is lower than the price at which the services could be obtained elsewhere at this time;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the town board, pursuant to M.S. §§ 365.37; 471.88, subd. 5; and 471.89, does hereby authorize Sandi Nelson, Clerk to perform this work project.

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Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to approve and sign said resolution 10-64. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION # 10-65
AUTHORIZING WORK PROJECT WITH INTERESTED OFFICER
UNDER M.S. § 471.88, subd. 5

WHEREAS, Cotton Township, St. Louis County, Minnesota is seeking the performance of the following services: Writing, Editing, and Publishing the Cotton Chronicle and Writing and Updating the township web site www.cottontownship.org

WHEREAS, Debbie Leppala is the treasurer of Cotton Township and will be financially interested in the project for the following reason: She is directly providing the service as an employee of the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the town board, upon a unanimous vote of the supervisors, finds that the project price is lower than the price at which the services could be obtained elsewhere at this time;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the town board, pursuant to M.S. §§ 365.37; 471.88, subd. 5; and 471.89, does hereby authorize Debbie Leppala, Treasurer to perform this work project.

Jamie Bowden motioned, supported by Ken Meinke to approve and sign said resolution 10-65. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION # 10-66
AUTHORIZING WORK PROJECT WITH INTERESTED OFFICER
UNDER M.S. § 471.88, subd. 5

WHEREAS, Cotton Township, St. Louis County, Minnesota is seeking the performance of the following services: Writing and Updating the township web site www.cottontownship.org

WHEREAS, Jamie Bowden is the supervisor of Cotton Township and will be financially interested in the project for the following reason: She is directly providing the service as an employee of the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the town board, upon a vote of the supervisors with the interested officer abstaining, finds that the project price is lower than the price at which the services could be obtained elsewhere at this time;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the town board, pursuant to M.S. §§ 365.37; 471.88, subd. 5; and 471.89, does hereby authorize Jamie Bowden, Supervisor to perform this work project.

Will Deyo motioned, supported by Ken Meinke to approve and sign said resolution 10-66. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden abstain. MOTION CARRIED.

Jamie Bowden has been working on the Cotton township web site and making a few changes. There is a place for town board agenda and people can add events to the calendar.

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Commissioner Keith Nelson arrived at the meeting to discuss the water access and the land sale of property on Strand Lake. For clarification Jamie Bowden stated that this is a private citizen project not township project. Commissioner Nelson presented a copy of a letter received from Jean Magney and a copy of the St. Louis Cty Land Dept. Tax Forfeited Land Sale List.

Commissioner Nelson stated that all planning dept. rules, all the DNR rules, all the safeguards for the lakes are in place. If the sale goes through on the parcels, the county will not be placing any deed restrictions. By selling the property the parcels will be put back on the tax rolls. The township and the school district gains from this sale. St. Louis County will look for alternatives for water access for this area. Jean Magney discussed problems with people following the rules when developing their property. Dick Wallin stated there have been 4 major fires in the last decade in his area and he would like to know if Commissioner Nelson can help get water access for fires. There was much more discussion on suitable water access for the fire departments and DNR. Dry hydrants work in some areas but not all. On lake property it may work better to drop a pump in the water and pump directly out of the lake. Commissioner Nelson said he will bring in resources of the St. Louis Cty. Land Dept. to work with the fire department to identify water sources throughout Cotton Township. There are options for Fire Wise grants. Commissioner Nelson said he would report back to this Town Board in 6 months.

Bob Rodda will make changes for the clerk to write his contract. Rodda would like to make some changes to the schedule also.

As there was no further business, Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Jamie Bowden that the meeting be adjourned at 5:23 p.m. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk

Approved:

Town Chair

_____ Date