

COTTON TOWN BOARD MEETING

September 15, 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 and Clerk Sandi Nelson. Residents and guest present were Norm Peterson, Jean Magney, Ann Kieffaber, MnDOT Rob Egge and Brian Larson.

The clerk read the minutes. Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to accept the August 13th meeting minutes with the correction that the dump grant was in excess of \$200,000. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

The treasurer presented the cash control statement.

GENERAL FUND: receipts \$459.23; disbursements \$6,011.76; total \$6,863.93
NON-LEVY REVENUE: receipts \$10,000.20; disbursements \$0; total \$75,421.72
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$14,551.35; total \$2,215.86
CHRONICLE FUND receipts \$266.00; disbursements \$1,308.98; total \$9,829.06
CEMETERY\OLD FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$288.24; total \$7,078.70
CEMETERY\NEW FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$11,417.23
PARKS & REC FUND: receipts \$784.20; disbursements \$373.86; total \$8,410.43
FIRE FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$12,071.31; total \$7,546.40
FIRE TRUCK FUND: receipts \$58.73; disbursements \$0; total \$4,854.72
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND: receipts \$150.00; disbursements \$0; total \$11,733.35
TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$11,718.36
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$34,605.50
BALANCE ON HAND: 8/31/09 \$145,371.40

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. Will Deyo motioned, supported by Ken Meinke to approve and sign the claims list for claim #14306 through #14334 and debit #909-1 and #909-2, claims totaling \$9,890.75 to pay the Bills For Payment. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Norm Peterson discussed some of the old gardens in the park area with mulch that must be removed, cement pieces that need to be removed and black dirt need to fill the areas. The Board said this could be included in the ice rink project with Tracy Excavating and Debbie Leppala should call Charlie's Black Dirt to have him deliver a load of dirt.

MnDOT District Traffic Engineer Rob Egge and project coordinator Brian Larson arrived at the meeting to discuss the state highway 53 and county highway 52 intersection. Rob Egge informed Board funding is scheduled for March 2011. Safety audit has been done and the J-turn intersection will eliminate the cross traffic. The J-turn has been 80-90% effective in other states. Diagrams of the proposed J-turn intersection were displayed. Egge also discussed a new sensor (3" x

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3”) MnDOT is getting prices for that would be installed on the east/west county highway 52 section. The sensor would send a signal to the flashers when vehicles enter highway 53 intersection from east and west. The existing flashers would be used and a sign stating “Vehicles entering when flashing.” MnDOT is trying to get the sensors in this fall. Will Deyo motioned, supported by Ken Meinke to write a resolution in support of the MnDOT J-turn project at state highway 53 and county highway 52 intersection. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Ann Kieffaber presented information to install a dry hydrant on S. Strand Lake road. Information included description, background, proposal, design, site, land ownership, permits, funding, issues, and next steps. The Board suggested Ann and Jean contact St. Louis County regarding the land issue of where the dry hydrant would be placed. Ann and Jean are looking for the support of the Town Board to pursue the dry hydrant. Meinke suggested underground tank holding 1000 gallons or more at the turnaround on S. Strand. The Board suggested talking to the DNR, St. Louis County and write up project plan. Meinke would be willing to contact St. Louis County Commissioner Keith Nelson. Meinke motioned, supported by Jamie Bowden that Ann Kieffaber and Jean Magney check both options of an underground tank or dry hydrant to serve S. Strand Lake road. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Jamie Bowden to accept correspondence as received. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Lakeland Recreation: The Cotton Area Senior Citizens sent letter and list of signatures to let the Board know that they would like to see action taken with regard to the abandoned mobile home situation. Discussed nonpayment of the bill for the use of the well and its repairs. Ken Keinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to contact the attorney regarding the default on paying the bill for the use of the well and to get the stipulation for that property to use the well off the deed. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. Larry Peterson, MN Dept. of Health, was here for the 3 year inspection of the community center and had concerns regarding the water line going to Lakeland Rec if it is not being used. Leppala will contact Petersen Well Drilling to check on finding out the cost to shutoff and drain the line and/or disconnect Lakeland Rec from the well. Jamie Bowden said we could ask the attorney for their legal opinion on the abandoned mobile homes.

Post Office lease: Still have not heard back from the U. S. Postal Service.

Cotton School: The Board approved to send the letter to Dr. Rick, Superintendent, St. Louis County School District #2142 to keep communications open on the what will happen to the school building and the playground equipment.

Cotton Town Dump Project: The Board approved to send the letter to DEED – Brownsfields and Redevelopment Unit regarding the new challenges in these economic conditions in developing the land in the grant project.

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CONTINUUM

Community Center: There were vandals in the park again. They ripped a section of the tarp on the tower. The foyer weather stripping around the windows is shrinking and the metal strip is coming off. Leppala will talk to Norm and see if he has any suggestions. The dusk to dawn light has been installed.

Roads: Deyo has driven Kauppi Lake Road thought it looks great. If the town put a good amount of gravel on the road for the next few years it will be a better investment then tearing it up. Now that the town has been able to get gravel crushed, it will be able to put more on the roads as suggested by Rodda. S. Strand Lake looks good where Rodda has worked on the washouts.

Meetings: St. Louis Cty. Assoc. of Township Officers Board of Director Meeting - Sandi Nelson. Township Officers will start regular meeting again September 23 at Cotton and the MAT District Meeting will be September 30 at Canosia Town Hall.

NEW BUSINESS

Will Deyo motioned, supported by Ken Meinke to approve Dave Forneris as the security person for the wedding September 19, 2009. All paper work has been submitted. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

As there was no further business, Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo that the meeting be adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. Jamie Bowden aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk

Approved:

Town Chair

Date