

**COTTON TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**November 8, 2007**

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 Dennis Olsen, Supervisor Terry Nelson, Supervisor Will Deyo, Treasurer Debbie Leppala and Clerk Sandi Nelson. Residents present were Ginger, Kate and Wynn Kinsley, Melody and Brittany Swenson.

The clerk read the minutes. Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Will Deyo to accept the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes with the correction that the VFW Bingo is November 16<sup>th</sup>. Dennis Olsen aye. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

The treasurer presented the cash control statement.

GENERAL FUND: receipts \$2,671.02; disbursements \$3,493.58; total \$(-7,844.48)  
NON-LEVY REVENUE: receipts \$1,126.05; disbursements \$12.27; total \$123,921.95  
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: receipts \$3,263.20; disbursements \$1,979.92; total \$6,687.46  
CHRONICLE FUND receipts \$1,102.67; disbursements \$1,016.86; total \$11,795.33  
CEMETERY\OLD FUND: receipts \$531.07; disbursements \$49.58; total \$5,379.45  
CEMETERY\NEW FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$11,417.23  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND: receipts \$60.80; disbursements \$0; total \$6,310.30  
PARKS & REC FUND: receipts \$60.80; disbursements \$0; total \$4,958.75  
FIRE FUND: receipts \$1,243.11; disbursements \$5.04; total \$8,209.40  
FIRE TRUCK FUND: receipts \$21.41; disbursements \$0; total \$10,102.43  
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND: receipts \$162.13; disbursements \$22.10; total \$3,009.71  
CPSSD FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total (\$-87,873.71)  
TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$10,242.26  
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$6,579.35  
BALANCE ON HAND: 10/31/07 \$96,073.82

INVESTMENTS: CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS

NON-LEVY REVENUE FUND: CD \$26,358.05; interest \$342.15, total \$26,700.20  
FIRE TRUCK FUND: CD \$24,249.42; interest \$314.78; total \$24,564.20  
TOTAL INVESTMENTS: CD \$50,607.47; total \$ \$656.93; total \$51,264.40

Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Will Deyo to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Dennis Olsen aye. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. Clerk stated that the first half of the Market Value Credit funds were received from the State and are waiting for the PILT funds from St. Louis County.

Dennis Olsen motioned, supported by Terry Nelson to approve and sign the claims list for claim #13570 through #13602, claims totaling \$15,303.56 to pay the Bills For Payment. Dennis Olsen aye. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence was reviewed. The Cotton Chronicle had a request to send 30 papers to Gary Peterson, Stan Peterson's nephew, in Arizona. The Early Days article was about Gary Peterson's grandmother. Gary Peterson was sent a bill for \$15 for postage and handling and Peterson returned a check for \$250 to the Chronicle.

Cotton Music Boosters: Due to school budget constraints, the music program is in desperate need of instruments and other items for the students in elementary school through senior high. Would the township be able to contribute to the music program? Dennis Olsen motioned, supported by

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Will Deyo to donate \$1,000 to the Music Boosters and to issue check #13603 and take it out of the Non-Levy Revenue Fund. Dennis Olsen aye. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Assessor: A letter from Mel Hintz, St. Louis County Assessor's Dept., states Cotton's town assessor has assessment deficiencies and sets a deadline of November 5<sup>th</sup> for resolving this problem. Rick Vidmar has not sent the county any sales verifications for current sales. If Vidmar does not get his work to the St. Louis County Assessor's Dept. the assessor's department will do the work and bill the township.

Electricians: Electric Systems will be at the community center to do the electrical work on December 18-21.

Community Center: Terry Nelson stated the kitchen needs supplies such as towels, hot pads, serving bowls, measuring spoons and cups. Debbie Leppala has put all the old files in plastic containers. The heat will need to be turned on in the garage. Discussed putting heat tape in the valley of the roof. Leppala will ask Jim Lippitt.

Roads: Tracy Excavating has shaped the corner that was staked on S. Strand Lake road. Roads are in pretty good shape. The dock at the Strand Lake public access has been removed.

Chronicle: Dennis Olsen motioned, supported by Will Deyo to increase the Chronicle editor and staff wages by \$2.00 an hour. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. Terry Nelson abstain. MOTION CARRIED.

Meetings: St. Louis Cty Assoc. of Township Officers: Debbie Leppala. MAT Legal Seminar: Debbie Leppala, Terry Nelson and Will Deyo.

Computer: Discussed a new computer for the clerk and Chronicle. Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Will Deyo to purchase a new computer etc. for the Chronicle with a spending max of \$2,500. Dennis Olsen aye. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Insurance: Leppala will inform MAT Insurance to put replacement value for contents of garage. Discussed the graffiti on the community center, damage estimate was \$700. St. Louis County Sheriff's Dept. needs to know if the town board is pressing charges. Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Will Deyo to press charges for the graffiti for restitution for the damage to the community center. Dennis Olsen aye. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. Leppala will contact the St. Louis County Sheriff's Dept.

Rink Attendants: Leppala will put a notice for applications for rink attendants at the school and in the Chronicle. Applications are available at the school, post office, and town office. Ask the groundskeeper to attend the December board meeting.

Dennis Olsen motioned, supported by Will Deyo to place a full-page black & white ad in the Cotton yearbook for \$125.00. Dennis Olsen aye. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

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Leppala was presented a petition at the St. Louis Cty. Assoc. of Township Officer meeting from St. Louis Cty Land Dept. Agricultural Inspector. The petition is to add the spotted knapweed to the noxious weed list for St. Louis Cty. The Board recommended no action.

As there was no further business, Dennis Olsen motioned, supported by Terry Nelson that the meeting be adjourned at 7:02 p.m. Dennis Olsen aye. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

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Town Clerk

Approved:

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Town Chair

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Date