

COTTON TOWN BOARD MEETING

January 8, 2009

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:00 p.m. in the township office, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Supervisor Terry Nelson, Supervisor Will Deyo, Supervisor Ken Meinke, Treasurer Debbie Leppala and Clerk Sandi Nelson. Resident Jean Magney was present.

The clerk read the minutes. Will Deyo motioned, supported by Ken Meinke to accept the December 11th meeting minutes as read. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

The treasurer presented the cash control statement.

GENERAL FUND: receipts \$36,809.66; disbursements \$4,562.54; total \$19,025.50
NON-LEVY REVENUE: receipts \$1,481.63; disbursements \$0; total \$120,690.59
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: receipts \$19,896.78; disbursements \$2,736.00; total \$9,534.70
CHRONICLE FUND receipts \$4,248.36; disbursements \$1,233.27; total \$11,929.84
CEMETERY\OLD FUND: receipts \$910.15; disbursements \$68.65; total \$7,026.40
CEMETERY\NEW FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$11,417.23
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND: receipts \$682.61; disbursements \$0; total \$2,349.93
PARKS & REC FUND: receipts \$682.61; disbursements \$0; total \$5,631.35
FIRE FUND: receipts \$10,956.00; disbursements \$23,462.98; total \$6,555.43
FIRE TRUCK FUND: receipts \$3,031.62; disbursements \$0; total \$19,483.26
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND: receipts \$1,940.32; disbursements \$0; total \$8,849.39
CPSSD FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total (\$-50,246.74)
TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$80,639.74
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$32,063.44
BALANCE ON HAND: 12/31/08 \$172,246.88

INVESTMENTS: CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS

NON-LEVY REVENUE FUND: CD current value \$27,841.14
FIRE TRUCK FUND: CD current value \$25,613.86
TOTAL INVESTMENTS: CD current value \$53,455.00

Discussed if the Chronicle could stand on its own without levy money or cutting the levy amount. Ken Meinke motioned, supported by Will Deyo to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke 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 #14037 through #14067 and debit #109-1, claims totaling \$11,432.57 and approve debit #109-2 to pay the Bills For Payment. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Jean Magney inquired about the Cotton tax assessor. Jean property was assessed two years in a row. Clerk gave Magney the phone number and email of Andy Plesha. She will contact Andy.

Correspondence was reviewed.

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OLD BUSINESS

Road sign plan – 911 signs: Leppala talked to the DNR regarding Firewise, grants are 50/50. In-kind time may be used for the towns 50%. A survey must be done and an assessment as to fire dangers on all property, and installing the 911 signs. Must work with Gopher One to mark the properties and 911 Communications to make sure addresses are correct. It entails a lot of work to get this grant. Leppala talked to the Ellsburg Fire Dept. and Cotton Fire Chief. Leppala talked to St. Louis County 911 Communications and was told Cotton can write a letter requesting new 911 sign for the residents of Cotton Township. 911 would come up and check the addresses and let us know how many we need for \$11 apiece. Leppala will check to see if there is a fee for 911 Communications to come and check the addresses.

History Books: there are three boxes of rejects which have small mistakes in the history book. We have 300 videos left. Could we give out a video to the first 300 people that come to pick up their 911 signs.

Certificates of Deposit: Leppala contacted a few banks and the best rate for CD's is still at American Bank. The rates now range from 1.5% to 1.7% and American Bank quoted 2.65%. The interest rates fell since the quote last month of 3.4% and the CD's did come up for renewal on January 2, 2009. Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Will Deyo to rollover the CD's for 2.65% for 6 months at American Bank. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Jean Magney inquired about the fencing that was stolen from the gravel pit last spring. The St. Louis County Sheriff's Dept did not have any leads. The fencing was not covered by the town insurance because it was not installed yet.

CONTINUUM

Community Center: Leppala requested a water filter for the kitchen faucet. Leppala will pick up a Brita or Pur water filter.

Roads: Crushing: Discussed going through St. Louis County Public Works for gravel crushing or if Ulland Brothers will be coming into the town gravel pit and crush for the town. Ulland Bros. will come to the town pit if they get the bid to fix Highway 52. With the economy the way it is – will Hwy 52 be done in 2009. Ken Meinke will check with Commissioner Nelson to see if the work on Hwy 52 is still going to be done. Terry Nelson will contact Ulland Bros. to see if they have any more information on the bid. Gravel crushing through Public Works will be tabled.

Rink: Discussed the cost of keeping the ice rink going. With all the snow we received this year and the snowblower breaking down we had to hire Tracy Excavating to clear the rink. The rink attendants have been asked to write down how many people come to skate. How much does it cost for the groundskeeper to flood and keep the rink cleared.

Meetings: St. Louis County Association of Township Officers Meeting; Will Deyo, Sandi Nelson.

NEW BUSINESS

Classification of Tax Forfeit Lands: The Board feels this can be left to the county.

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Septic System Ordinance Revisions: Asked for feedback on the revisions.

Reducing Energy Costs in Local Government workshop information was presented.

The Board of Audit and Budget meetings were set for February 18, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. consecutively.

Jean Magney asked why the meeting time was changed to 3:00 p.m. It is on a trial bases because all the town board members are available earlier in the day.

As there was no further business, Will Deyo motioned, supported by Ken Meinke that the meeting be adjourned at 4:14 p.m. Terry Nelson aye. Will Deyo aye. Ken Meinke aye. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk

Approved:

Town Chair

Date