

COTTON TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 12, 2008

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the township office, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Supervisor Terry Nelson, Supervisor Dennis Olsen, Supervisor Will Deyo, Treasurer Debbie Leppala and Clerk Sandi Nelson. Residents and guests were Paulette Warren, Ken & Sally Meinke, Peg Wallin, Doug & Lois Rosenthal, Jean Magney, Mark & Janice Magney, Reese Richards, Fred Zorn and Chris Magney.

The clerk read the minutes. Dennis Olsen motioned, supported by Will Deyo to approve the May 8th meeting minutes. Terry Nelson aye, Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

The treasurer presented the cash control statement.

GENERAL FUND: receipts \$148.42; disbursements \$3,904.46; total \$(-12,374.67)
NON-LEVY REVENUE: receipts \$2,134.43; disbursements \$0; total \$92,221.95
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$80.29; total \$31,965.96
CHRONICLE FUND receipts \$1,080.40; disbursements \$1,280.15; total \$10,426.92
CEMETERY\OLD FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$60.12; total \$6,259.82
CEMETERY\NEW FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$11,417.23
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$6,878.17
PARKS & REC FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$52.13; total \$4,551.13
FIRE FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$6,863.92
FIRE TRUCK FUND: receipts \$25.32; disbursements \$0; total \$13,274.46
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND: receipts \$80.00; disbursements \$0; total \$5,005.40
CPSSD FUND: receipts \$0; disbursements \$0; total \$(-50,246.74)
TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$3,468.57
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$5,377.15
BALANCE ON HAND: 5/31/08 \$126,243.55

INVESTMENTS: CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS

NON-LEVY REVENUE FUND: CD current value \$27,339.25
FIRE TRUCK FUND: CD current value \$25,152.12
TOTAL INVESTMENTS: CD current value \$52,491.37

Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Will Deyo to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Terry Nelson aye. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Dennis Olsen motioned, supported by Will Deyo to approve and sign the claims list for claim #13800 through #13830 and debit #3336, claims totaling \$17,341.21 to pay the Bills For Payment. Terry Nelson aye. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence was reviewed.

South Strand Lake Road: Residents came to discuss future plans for the road. It was their understanding that the work being done was to make the road safer. Now that the trees are gone the drop off on the road in some areas is very steep. Paulette Warren would like it to go on record that the road is truly unsafe, someone is going to die; it is not as safe as it was before the clearing of the right of way. Ken Meinke asked if the town could get help from St. Louis Cty on the road. As there are no shoulders on the road could 'No Parking' signs be put up? Reese Richards said

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he felt that taking the high spots and putting the material in the low spots should help and would improve the look. Maybe road barriers could be put up. People drive faster because visibility is better so it is not safer.

The town board explained that the road was cleared to make visibility better for the snow plows in the winter. The town is not done with the work on the road. The St. Louis County Land Dept. will allow material to be pushed into the ditches as long as it is not wetlands. The town would not be able to place no parking signs on S. Strand lake road. Will Deyo suggested that 2-3 people from the group meet with the town board to review S. Strand Lake road. St. Louis Cty. will help the town by making suggestions and have given the town the road improvement permit to work on the right of way but they can't help the town monetarily on the road. Terry Nelson, Will Deyo and Sandi Nelson will meet with Paulette Warren and Ken Meinke at the Y on S. Strand Lake road on July 7th at 6:00 p.m. Once work is done in the right of way the town must maintain it.

Chris Magney discussed he is developing land off Evergreen Lane on Strand Lake. He has been working with the St. Louis Cty Planning Dept. One of the comments he received was that the intersection of Evergreen Lane and S. Strand Lake Road was not meeting at right angle and they had concerns that it was not safe for increased traffic. The burden may fall on Chris to correct the intersection. If the town board is going to be out on S. Strand Lake Road with a contractor, could the town get a quote from the contractor to fix the intersection at Evergreen Lane and communicate it to him. Terry Nelson informed Chris that he should discuss this with a contractor not the town as Evergreen Lane is a private road intersecting with a township road. Chris wants the town board to know that this work could be done.

OLD BUSINESS

Road vacation: The clerk informed Paul Preston that it was his responsibility to send the certified letter to the DNR Commissioner and the regional office. Kate Gunderson, DNR, contacted the clerk and said they received the Order Setting Hearing Date but they did not get a copy of the petition or the maps included in the petition. Clerk sent a copy to the DNR and they received it within the 60 days. Kate Gunderson will get back to the town if they have any suggestions on the road vacation.

Discussed having the gravel pit open for a Saturday in July and August for residents to get pit run gravel. Will set up the dates with a contractor and pit attendant and get the information in the Chronicle. The Scheer's Lumberjack Shows will not be at the Fiddle Festival.

Paulette Warren was at the public hearing for the Strand Lake Properties of Chris Magney's. What is the process the township goes through to state they have no problem with this development. The township follows the St. Louis Cty. Planning and Zoning regulations.

CONTINUUM

Community Center: Discussed the roof of the community center. Debbie Leppala got three estimates to repair and/or replacement of the roof. Discussed insulating the inside of the roof with foam. Debbie will get estimates on foam insulation. Gardens: Ginger Kinsley and Bethany Harpster plan is to keep the Heritage Garden, Arbor Garden, Freedom Garden, and Butterfly Garden. The other gardens will go back to grass. The red bench in Lynn Randall's memory will be moved to the Cotton School. Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Will Deyo to approve Tom Pearson

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as security person for the July 13th memorial service. Terry Nelson aye. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Roads: Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Dennis Olsen to approve the 2008 Road Review and send it to the contractor. Terry Nelson aye. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Material for dust control should arrive after June 7th. A copy of the map for dust control is on the clerks desk for Clay Hage. Discussed culverts Terry Nelson motioned, supported by Will Deyo to purchase two 15" X 24' and two 15" X 30' steel culverts from Carlson Concrete Products. Terry Nelson aye. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Dennis Olsen will order the culverts.

Meetings: Arrlette Krog, Civic Club called to ask if a town board representative could come to the CC Riders meeting on Monday, June 16th at 7:30 p.m. at the Wilbert. Will Deyo and T. Nelson will attend. St. Louis Cty. Township Officers Meeting; Sandi Nelson.

NEW BUSINESS

Groundskeeper: Terry Nelson has sent two letters to Steve Grey regarding work not getting done at the community center, fire hall and cemetery and the town felt the rumor that he has quit the ground keeping job for the town must be true. Steve check will be held until he turns in the town keys. Terry Nelson motioned, supported Will Deyo that Norm and Sirley Peterson be hired as groundskeepers. Terry Nelson aye. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

MAT Short Course is August 1st in Grand Rapids, will pre-register for 2 people. The clerk is planning election training for August 15th.

Will Deyo has made a proposal to raise the janitor \$1.50 an hour and next year \$1.25 raise. Dennis Olsen stated he would like to see all wages for town be approached at an annual meeting. Will Deyo motioned, supported by Terry Nelson to increase the janitor wage by \$1.50 an hour. Terry Nelson aye. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Sandi Nelson would like to bring up the clerk and treasurer's position being appointed rather than elected at the annual meeting.

Dennis Olsen would like to resign the town board and would like to let the board have a little time to find someone.

As there was no further business, Dennis Olsen motioned, supported by Terry Nelson that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Terry Nelson aye. Dennis Olsen aye. Will Deyo aye. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Town Clerk

Approved:

Town Chair

Date