

# MINUTES

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
New Independence Town Hall  
February 6, 2017**

Chairman: Kurt Johnson  
Vice Chairman: Jon Olson  
Supervisor: Mike Ruhland  
Treasurer: Peter Olson  
Clerk: Sandra Lee Olson

---

The February 6, 2017, Board of Supervisors' Meeting was called to order by its chair, Kurt Johnson, at 7:02 pm. Kurt noted that all officers were present.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Jon Olson made a motion, which was seconded by Mike Ruhland, to allow Mr. and Mrs. Wally Kucza to speak to the board at the beginning of the meeting and the proceed as outlined by the agenda. The motion carried with unanimous support.

Mr, Wally Kucza addressed the board about North Johnson Road. He has been in contact with the County to determine where the town road ends and private property begins. He has discovered that the road was vacated but there appears to be a discrepancy between the County records and township records. Mr. Kucza's contact at the County has been Mary Anderson, who is located in Hibbing. In addition, Mr. Kucza has hired a surveyor and submitted a copy of the results to the Town Board for their review. A motion was made by Jon Olson and seconded by Kurt Johnson to authorize the Clerk to meet with the County Representative to clarify the matter. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. The Clerk will make an appointment to meet with Ms. Anderson and report back to the Board. Mr. Kucza (729-6541) will be informed once the Board has clarified the situation.

Clerk Sandra Lee Olson read the minutes of the January Board of Supervisors' Meeting, which were subsequently approved by a motion by Mike Ruhland, a second by Jon Olson, and a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

Treasurer Peter Olson presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending on January 31, 2017. Jon Olson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report—subject to audit. Following a second by Mike Ruhland, the motion was accepted by a unanimous vote. The first page of the report is shown below and included with other meeting documents, which were placed on file with the clerk.

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
February 6, 2017**

Cash Accounts						
		Statement Date	Interest	Previous Balances	Current Balances	
Wells Fargo Business Checking xxxxxx1054 (EFT)		Online Balance as of January 31, 2017		\$22,923.06	\$24,645.58	
Wells Fargo Business Checking xxxxxx3050 (Primary)		Online Balance as of January 31, 2017		\$ 16,749.01	\$ 3,464.82	
<b>Total Balance for Checking Accounts</b>				<b>\$39,672.07</b>	<b>\$28,110.40</b>	
Wells Fargo Business Savings xxxxxx6624		Online Balance as of January 31, 2017	\$ 0.36	\$ 14,192.85	\$ 14,193.21	
<b>Total Balance for Cash Accounts</b>				<b>\$ 0.36</b>	<b>\$ 53,864.92</b>	<b>\$ 42,303.61</b>
Investments-CDs						
		Statement Date	Interest/ Penalty	Current Balance	Current Balance	
WF CD1 xxxxxx8954 (matures 8/20/2018)	0.17%	Online Balance as of January 31, 2017	\$ 9.95	\$ 26,033.30	\$ 26,043.25	
WF CD2 xxxxxx8962 (matures 8/20/2018)	0.17%	Online Balance as of January 31, 2017	\$ 9.95	\$ 26,033.30	\$ 26,043.25	
WF CD6 xxxxxx0876 (matures 11/28/2017)	0.55%	Online Balance as of January 31, 2017	\$ 11.94	\$ 25,568.03	\$ 25,579.97	
<b>Total of All CDs</b>				<b>\$ 31.84</b>	<b>\$ 77,634.63</b>	<b>\$ 77,666.47</b>
Total of CDs and Savings				\$ 32.20	\$ 91,827.48	\$ 91,859.68
<b>Total of all accounts with checks outstanding (Cash Accounts and CDs)</b>						<b>\$ 119,970.08</b>
Receipts						
1/6/2017	State of Minnesota Ag MV		\$146.00			
1/6/2017	State of Minnesota Town Aid		\$560.00			
1/26/2017	St. Louis County Tax Apportionment		\$1,016.52			

In addition to the financial component of her report, Sandra Lee Olson reported that she completed the following tasks since the last meeting:

- January 12, 2017
  - Monthly bills were mailed
  - Report of Outstanding Indebtedness was completed and mailed (due date is February 6, 2017)
  - 2016 Annual Township Report/Noxious Weed Control was mailed (due date is January 15, 2017)
  - State of Minnesota Withholding Report completed online (due date is January 31, 2017)
  - State of Minnesota Withholding Payment mailed (due January 31, 2017)
  - Form 941 and 941-V completed and mailed for Federal fourth quarter reporting period (due January 31, 2017)
  - Local Board of Appeal and Equalization Trained Membership Certification Form completed and mailed (due February 1, 2017)
- January 21, 2017
  - Public Employees Retirement Association's Annual Exclusion Report was completed and mailed (due February 1, 2017)
- January 22, 2017
  - Federal Social Security (W3) and Individual W2s were e-filed (due by January 31, 2017)
  - 1099s to independent contractors were completed and mailed (due by January 31, 2017) Federal filing not yet completed because special forms need to be obtained
  - State W2s and 1099 were e-filed (due by January 31, 2017)
- January 24, 2017
  - Workmen's Comp Audit was completed and mailed (due by January 31, 2017)
  - 1099s were completed for submission to the IRS (due by January 31, 2017)
- February 3, 2017
  - Verified Workmen's Comp Audit with MATIT
- February 5, 2017

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
February 6, 2017**

- 
- Submitted CTAS Report (due March 31, 2017)
  - Submitted Financial Report to State (due March 31, 2017)
  - February 5, 2017
    - Transferred \$20,000 from EFT to Regular Checking

The financial component of the Clerk's Report agreed with the Treasurer's Report. While the entire report is on file with the clerk, the fund balances as of January 31, 2017, are shown below:

General Fund.....	\$12,177.58
Road and Bridge Fund .....	\$14,376.82
<u>Sowle Fund .....</u>	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Total of Cash Accounts.....	\$27,054.40

Kurt Johnson made a motion to accept the Clerk's Report—subject to audit. The motion was seconded by Jon Olson and passed by unanimous vote of the supervisors.

Incoming Correspondence

1. St. Louis County Association of Townships (SLCAT)
  - Minutes of the December 2016 meeting
  - Dues statement
    - SLCAT .....\$149.10
    - Minnesota Association of Townships.....\$433.12

\$582.22
2. Lake Country Power...monthly statement showing a balance due of \$75.98 (a check for \$300 was sent last month and must have crossed in the mail)
3. Land Stewardship Project...information on the Keep Rural Minnesota Strong/Keep Township Rights Strong
4. Federated Co-ops, Inc. ...delivery of LP (326.89 gallons)
5. Rinke Noonan, attorney at law...information on a conference
  - Drainage and Wetland Conference
  - Monday, February 13, 2017
  - St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center
  - \$95 fee per attendee
6. Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA)...reminder to submit Exclusion Report by February 28, 2017. New Independence has already submitted the report
7. Federated Co-ops, Inc. ...statement dated 12/3/2016 shows a balance of unused prepaid credits of \$1,226.86
8. University of Minnesota Extension/Carlton County...notice of application and acceptance to apply wood ash and/or lime on property operated by Scott Collver. The acreage is 30 acres.
9. US Postal Service...notice of PO Box renewal (\$52 for one year)
10. Frontier Communications...monthly phone and internet service (\$65.74)
11. PERA...monthly reporting form
12. SLC...aggregate crushing and striping program
13. Chuck Christenson...leadership program
14. Alborn Fire Department...minutes of the 2016 December and 2017 January meetings

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
February 6, 2017**

---

15. Gary Fredricksen...South Schelin concern

The following Payroll claims were presented and read into the record by Kurt Johnson. Following the motion by Mike Ruhland, second by Jon Olson, and a unanimous approval to pay the payroll, the claims were submitted to the treasurer.

3915. Payroll -----	\$74.84
3916. Payroll -----	\$74.84
3917. Payroll -----	\$145.00
3918. Payroll -----	\$322.55
3919. Payroll -----	\$74.84
3920. Payroll -----	\$46.17

Claims: Jon Olson made a motion to pay the claims. Mike Ruhland seconded the motion. A unanimous vote in favor of the motion followed.

3921. St. Louis County Association of Townships -----	\$582.22
3922. US Postal Service -----	\$52.00
3923. Frontier Communications -----	\$65.74
3924. Public Employee Retirement Association -----	\$96.90
3925. Sandra Lee Olson -----	\$395.14
3926. Peter Olson -----	\$13.38

Unfinished Business

1. Cemetery: nothing to report
2. Roads
  - Wally Kucza spoke to the Board at the beginning of the meeting.
  - Gary Fredricksen was invited to the meeting to discuss his concerns about installing a dead-end sign on South Schelin Road. He declined to attend. A discussion was held related to the signage. Jon Olson made a motion, which was seconded by Mike Ruhland, to put in a dead-end sign on South Schelin Road. The motion carried unanimously, and contact with the County will be made by Road Foreman, Peter Olson.
3. Town Hall
  - There has been no word from Kyle Karpinnen about the record storage area. Sandra Lee Olson is going to be talking with Kyle and will ask him about the project.
4. Weed Control: nothing to report
5. Keys and combination for safe have not been obtained.
6. ECSU will be contacted about the fiber optic project
7. Virus Protection for the Treasurer's computer has not been purchased yet.

New Business

1. The Town Board developed a preliminary budget. The clerk will type it and present it at the March meeting

Officer Reports

- Next SLCAT is February 22, 2017, at Cotton, 6:30 PM, Phillip Lobb will speak

Kurt Johnson asked for a motion for adjournment. After Mike Ruhland offered the motion and Jon Olson seconded the motion. Kurt adjourned the meeting at 8:59 pm

Minutes submitted for approval on \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Chair of the Board of supervisors' Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**Board of Supervisors' Meetings for 2017**

March 6	July 10	November 1
April 3	August 7	December 4
May 8	September 11	
June 5	October 2	

**2017 SLCAT Calendar**

February 22, 2017	Cotton Community Center	6:30 pm	(Philip Lobb-Speaker)
March 22, 2017	Cotton Community Center	6:30 pm	(Sue H. – Speaker)
April 26, 2017	<i>WHITE TWP.</i>	6:30 PM	(White Twp – Speaker)
May 24, 2017	Cotton Community Center	5:30 pm	Socializing
		6:00 pm	Meeting & Election of Officers
		6:30 pm	Dinner
		7:00 pm	Speaker