

# MINUTES

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
New Independence Town Hall  
March 7, 2016**

Chairman: Michael Maish  
Vice Chairman: Kurt Johnson  
Supervisor: Jon Olson  
Treasurer: Peter Olson  
Clerk: Sandra Lee Olson

At 7:02 pm, Chair Mike Maish called the March Board of Supervisors' Meeting to order and noted that all board members were in attendance.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Clerk Sandra Lee Olson read the minutes of the February 2016 meeting. Supervisor Kurt Johnson made a motion, which was seconded by Mike Maish, to approve the minutes as read. A unanimous vote followed, and the minutes were placed on file with other documents from the meeting.

Supervisor Jon Olson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit, as presented by Treasurer Peter Olson. A second by Mike Maish, and a unanimous vote in favor of the motion followed. The complete report was placed on file with other documents from the meeting. The first page is shown below:

**New Independence  
Treasurer's Report  
Presented to Board at the February 2016 Meeting  
February 1, 2016**

Cash Accounts		Statement Date	Interest	Previous Balances	Current Balances
Wells Fargo Business Checking xxxxxx3050 (Primary)		Online Balance as of January 31, 2016	\$ 0.67	\$ 114,900.74	\$ 8,406.25
Wells Fargo Business Checking xxxxxx1054 (EFT)		Online Balance as of January 31, 2016	\$ -	\$ 10,510.10	\$ 10,984.99
<b>Total Balance for Checking Accounts</b>			<b>\$ 0.67</b>	<b>\$ 125,410.84</b>	<b>\$ 19,391.24</b>
Wells Fargo Business Savings xxxxxx6624		Online Balance as of January 31, 2016	\$ 0.73	\$ 53,609.20	\$ 28,901.39
<b>Total Balance for Cash Accounts</b>			<b>\$ 1.40</b>	<b>\$ 179,080.04</b>	<b>\$ 48,292.63</b>

  

Investments-CDs		Statement Date	Interest/ Penalty	Previous Balance	Current Balance
WF CD1 xxxxxx8954 (matures 8/20/2018)	0.17%	Online Balance as of January 31, 2016	\$ 9.90	\$ 25,916.10	\$ 25,926.00
WF CD2 xxxxxx8962 (matures 8/20/2018)	0.17%	Online Balance as of January 31, 2016	\$ 9.90	\$ 25,916.10	\$ 25,926.00
WF CD6 xxxxxx0876 (matures 11/28/2017)	0.55%	Online Balance as of January 31, 2016	\$ 11.88	\$ 25,427.41	\$ 25,439.29
<b>Total of All CDs</b>			<b>\$ 31.68</b>	<b>\$ 77,259.61</b>	<b>\$ 77,291.29</b>
<b>Total of CDs and Savings</b>				<b>\$ 130,928.81</b>	<b>\$ 106,192.68</b>
<b>Total of all accounts with checks outstanding (Cash Accounts and CDs)</b>					<b>\$ 125,583.92</b>

The following deposits were made during January 2016  
Saint Louis County  
Tax Apportionment \$474.89

Following the Treasurer's Report being accepted, Clerk Sandra Lee Olson presented her Clerk's Report for the month ending February 29, 2016. As part of her report, she included a list of reports and requests that had been completed since the February meeting:

- February 1, 2016: Sent email to Voyageur Press addressing the Annual Meeting
- February 1, 2016: Completed and sent corrected W2 and W3
- February 2, 2016: Updated parts of the website
- February 13, 2016: Submitted Statement of Indebtedness to County
- February 29, 2016: Sent Corrected W2 and W3 to Social Security
- March 3, 2016: Resubmitted Statement of Indebtedness to County

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
March 7, 2015**

The second portion of her report included a summary of finances and fund balances. Although the complete report is included with other documents from the meeting, an abbreviated summary of fund balances is shown below:

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Cash Balance (2/29/2016)</b>	<b>Investment Balance (2/29/2016)</b>	<b>Total Balance (2/29/2016)</b>
General Fund	\$(4,383.54)	\$99,305.14	\$94,92.60
Road & Bridge Fund	\$30,066.22	\$6,919.93	\$36,986.15
Sowle Cartway Bond Fund	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Balances</b>	<b>\$26,182,68</b>	<b>\$106,225.07</b>	<b>\$132,407.75</b>

**Incoming Correspondence**

1. SLCAT...minutes of the January 27, 2016 meeting and information on SLCATO Lobby Day
2. South Ridge School Band...request for donation
3. South Ridge Panthers Soccer...request for donation
4. Brookston American Legion Baseball...request for donation
5. Alborn Fire Department...
  - Minutes of the December 30, 2015, meeting
  - Minutes of the January 27, 2016, meeting
6. Minnesota Association of Townships...information on the 2016 Short Course
  - Grand Rapids...March 31, 2016
  - Carlton...April 1, 2016
7. Lake Country Power...statement showing a credit of \$126.96
8. South Ridge PTSO...request for donation
9. Frontier Communications...monthly phone service (\$63.70)
10. South Ridge Nature Club...request for donation of \$349.50
11. St. Louis County Assessor...tentative date for Local Board of Appeal and Equalization to be scheduled for April 20, 2016, 6-7 pm
12. Federated Co-ops...invoice for propane (\$424.89) and tank lease (\$10.69)
13. PERA...*PERAgraph* newsletter
14. PERA...monthly reporting form
15. Lake Country Power...*Strictly Business* newsletter
16. US Postmaster...annual payment for PO Box due by February 29
17. Brookston Baseball...request for donation
18. Lake Country Power...notice of Annual Meeting to be held on March 10, South Ridge School, 5:00-7:00 pm
19. PERA...acknowledgment of receipt for 2015 Exclusion Report
20. Century Link...notice of construction plans for 2016
21. SLC Auditor-Treasurer...election certification for 2016-2017 for Sandra Lee Olson

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
March 7, 2015**

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- 22. Email: Phil Chapman...online judge training info
  - 23. Email: SLC...deposit of \$2,628.10 for Town Road Aid 2015
  - 24. Email: Margaret Dunsmore...info on catch-up training for LBAE
  - 25. Email: SLC...deposit of \$6351.00 for '15 Taconite Production Tax—2016 Distribution
  - 26. Received by Mike: United Realty and Premier Realty...information on two parcels and question about commercial status
  - 27. Received by Mike: DNR...conservation
  - 28. Received by Mike: Westerman Law Offices...new contact information: (218) 879-3355; 1604 Cloquet Avenue, Cloquet, MN
  - 29. Received by Mike: US Dept of Commerce...survey to be completed
  - 30. Received by Mike: Floodwood Forum...notice of rates and classification as an official newspaper status

**Approval of Payroll/Claims**

Payroll claims were read into the record by Mike Maish. After the reading of the claims Kurt Johnson made a motion, which was seconded by Jon Olson. A unanimous vote was cast in favor of the motion and the payroll was submitted to the treasurer for payment,

3699. Payroll -----	\$149.68
3700. Payroll -----	\$149.68
3701. Payroll -----	\$74.84
3702. Payroll -----	\$722.30

Claims were read into the record by Mike Maish. Kurt Johnson made a motion to pay the claims. Following a second to the motion by Mike Maish and a unanimous vote in favor of the motion, the claims were submitted to the treasurer for payment. A change was made in the claims to be paid because there were not enough checks for all the claims.

The decision was made not to send the prepayment to Lake Country Power.

3703. Mike Maish -----	\$17.01
3704. Sandra Lee Olson -----	\$192.51
3705. PERA -----	\$175.80
3706. Frontier -----	\$63.70
3707. Federated Co-ops-----	\$10.69

**Unfinished Business**

- 1. Cemetery
  - Jay Tremblay has plowed the cemetery as agreed
  - A tree is over the driveway and will need to be trimmed. A motion was made by Mike Maish, seconded by Jon Olson, was made to remove parts of the tree that are making the area unsafe. The motion carried; Kurt Johnson will see that the work is completed.

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
March 7, 2015**

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- John and Diana Bonneville have requested lots in the cemetery.
  - Kurt Johnson made a motion, seconded by Jon Olson, to offer lots 1A and 1B to the Bonneville's. The motion carried.
  - The clerk was directed to send certificates to:  
John and Diana Bonneville  
6248 Lake Drive  
Culver, MN 55779
- 2. Roads
  - It is possible that road restriction might go on tomorrow, March 8, 2016
  - A motion was made by Kurt Johnson, seconded by Jon Olson, to authorize Mike to obtain quotes for gravel and brushing (Townline and North Schelin). The motion carried with Mike abstaining.
  - The plan for road signs will be to replace two roads a year with new stop signs and curve signs.
- 3. Town Hall
  - Storage unit at Dunham seems to meet the needs of the township. Mike will arrange for delivery
- 4. Fire Hall Addition
  - A meeting has been scheduled/cancelled/rescheduled to meet with the architect. If Kurt is available, he will attend. Otherwise, Mike will attend on behalf of the township.
- 5. Deputy-clerk position
  - The position has not been filled.
- 6. Agenda for Annual Meeting
  - Items on the agenda were reviewed
  - Mike Maish made a motion, seconded by Kurt Johnson, to recommend a 3% levy increase to Annual Meeting. The motion carried.
- 7. Virus Protection
  - The treasurer's computer continues to have issues with viruses. Mike Maish made a suggestion to contact Frontier for the protection offered by them before purchasing a virus protection program. The clerk will contact Frontier.
- 8. NESC Border-to-border program
  - Nothing has been received from NESC regarding the program.

New Business

1. Board of Audit
  - The Board of Audit was conducted by the supervisors and fund the books of the treasurer and clerk to be in order. Because the numbers from both officers matched, the books were signed.
2. Short Course
  - Mike Maish made a motion, seconded by Kurt Johnson, to pay registration, mileage, and meeting rate to any officer attending the upcoming short course. The motion carried unanimously.

**Town of New Independence  
Board of Supervisors' Meeting  
March 7, 2015**

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3. SLCATO Lobby Day on April 5, 2016
    - Kurt Johnson made a motion, seconded by Jon Olson, to pay the meeting rate for any officer attending the Lobby Day. The motion carried unanimously.
  4. Election module
    - St. Louis County is investigating the option of offering an electronic version of election judge training. The cost will be about \$9.90 per participant and will meet the State Auditors criteria.
    - Mike Maish made a motion, seconded by Jon Olson, to sign up for the program. The motion carried with all supervisors voting in the affirmative.
  5. Lawn mowing
    - A motion was made by Mike Maish and seconded by Jon Olson to post for the lawn mowing contract for the town hall and cemetery. The motion carried unanimously.

**Officer Reports**

- SLCATO: Mike Maish and Sandra Lee Olson
- Joint Powers: Kurt Johnson

Kurt Johnson made a motion for adjournment which was seconded by Jon Olson. Following a unanimous vote, Mike Maish declared the meeting closed at 8:52 pm.

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

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

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

**Upcoming Meetings**

**Board of Supervisors' Meetings for 2016**

April 4, 2016	July 11, 2016	October 3, 2016
May 2, 2016	August 1, 2016	November 1, 2016
June 6, 2016	September 12, 2016	December 5, 2016

Board of Equalization and Appeal will be set by the County  
The Annual Town Meeting is set by law as March 8, 2016 (the second Tuesday in March)

**St. Louis County Association Township Officers' Meeting (7:00 PM Meeting Time)**  
**2016**

March 23, 2016	.....6:30 PM Monthly Meeting.....	Cotton Community Center
April 1, 2016	.....MAT Spring Short Course.....	Black Bear—Carlton
April 13, 2016	.....MAT L & R Best Western Plus Capitol Ridge.	St. Paul
April 21, 2016	.....MAT Legal Short Course.....	Best Western Premier Nicollet Inn, Burnsville
April 27, 2016	.....6:30 PM Monthly Meeting.....	TBA
May 25, 2016	.....5:30 PM Annual Meeting & Election .....	Cotton Community Center

June 30, 2016 .....MAT Summer Short Course IN THE “PM” .....Black Bear—Carlton  
August 2016 .....MAT District 10 Meeting .....TBA  
September 21, 2016 10:35 AM MAT Fall L&R.....St. Cloud Holiday Inn

Unofficial