

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road for the purpose of discussing all issues before the Board.

Present were Supervisors: Chuck Voss, Greg Hull, and Scott Krech; Clerk Alison Oftedahl; Treasurer Shelly Peterson; and (by phone) Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson.

Absent: Paul Thompson

Visitors Present: None

Chairman Voss called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

Recycling – Oftedahl reported that she received a call from Wendy Langanki who wanted to pass along an opinion regarding recycling. She does not believe that it would be right for Silver Creek to have to be financially responsible for trash or non-recyclables that are placed into the trailer. She said that it is the County's trailer, the County's recycling program and the residents here already pay County taxes, so she felt it would be double dipping to hold the Township financially responsible for any trash that is dumped.

Cannabis Ordinance Hearing – Supervisor Krech reported on his attendance at Lake County's Hearing for their proposed Cannabis Ordinance. He said that he suggested to the County to not allow commercial cultivation in zones with parcels less than ten acres. He felt that on parcels of 5 or 2.5 acres, that commercial cultivation may be disruptive to neighbors.

ROAD & SAFETY:

Road Report – Thompson was out sick, but the Board noted that roads were plowed early at the last snow event and Oftedahl reported that Larsen had been out sanding the icy roads both yesterday and today.

Tractor Repair – Not discussed.

SEWER OPERATIONS:

Sewer Report – Neither Appelwick, nor Thompson were present, but Appelwick's report had been submitted and discussed at last week's COW. Motion Hull, second Voss to accept the Wastewater Operator's Report as submitted – Full Operator's report on file in Clerk's Office.

Grease Problems – Voss reported it would likely be January before they could meet with the restaurant.

Lift Station Pumps – Operator Eric Appelwick and Engineer Nathan Feist both have agreed to come to the January COW meeting to discuss pump replacement and the RFP process.

Ben Oliver Project – Not discussed.

Ordinance Issues – There was short discussion that the sewer ordinance be updated with the new RV Dump policy and with the growth plan that was added in 2007 but not recorded with the County.

Sewer Fund Transfer Request – Due to a keying error with receipts, not all sewer receipts were split correctly (75% into Enterprise and 25% into Replacement). Peterson explained the error and the Board viewed CTAS reports showing that \$7,838.38 that was receipted into the Replacement fund should have been receipted into the Enterprise fund. Balance in the Enterprise Fund as of November 30 is of \$436.32. After discussion, motion Hull, second Voss to transfer \$7,838.38 out of 602 Sewer Replacement fund and into 601 Sewer Enterprise. Motion carried unanimously.

STEWART RIVER SEWER:

Not discussed.

REVIEW MINUTES:

Motion Voss, second Hull to accept as presented the 11/19 Regular Meeting minutes. Motion Hull, second Voss to accept as presented the 12/10/24 Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes. Both motions carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Peterson as follows: TOSC checking: \$45,370.07 and TOSC savings: \$573,342.99 for a total of \$618,713.06. Outstanding checks totaled \$1,826.84 for a CTAS balance:

\$616,886.22. Motion Hull, second Krech to accept the November Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion Voss, second Krech to authorize the requested transfer of \$40,000 from savings to checking. Both motions carried unanimously.

The Budget Comparison Report as of November 30 was reviewed. It did not include the second half of the levy that was deposited in December. Questions were raised about why the sewer was over budget.

READING OF THE BILLS:

The current month's bills were read: claims 10411-10442, totaling \$26,718.21, and payrolls through month day December 20. Motion Voss, second Hull to authorize payment of the bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board considered the following:

- Email response from Eric Appelwick stating that he should be able to make it to the January 14 COW meeting.
- Email response from Nathan Feist stating that he will be at the January 14 COW meeting.
- Email from Jason DiPiazza with the County's routing safety inspection of the Town Road bridge over the Encampment. They stated that they did not find new or significant condition changes but would like us to monitor and watch for any. It was also stated that they did not yet receive the report from LHB and the State Bridge Office with the load rating but that they expect it soon.
- Email from Lake County Auditor's Office regarding the need for candidates who are filing for office to provide proof of residency per new Minnesota statute.
- 1 affidavit of Posting/Publishing was signed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Historic Hall – Not discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Driveway Access Policy – The merits of installing culverts for new driveways were debated. The Board did not wish to finalize policy without Thompson's input.

Domain Name & Website Update to .gov – After discussion motion Hull, second Voss to have the Clerk work with Breakwall Digital to update the web to .gov (but not to do ADA compliance at this time). Carried unanimously.

Approve 2025 Board Meeting Schedule – Motion Voss, second Krech to approve the 2025 Board Meeting Schedule as presented. Carried unanimously.

**TOWN of SILVER CREEK
2025 BOARD MEETING DATES**

Held in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road, Two Harbors, MN 55616 on the date and time shown below

January 14, 2025	Committee of the Whole (COW) 6:30 p.m.
January 21, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.
February 4, 2025	Budget and Levy Working Meeting 4:00 p.m.
February 11, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m. & Board of Audit
February 18, 2025	Regular & Board of Audit 6:30 p.m.
March 4, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
March 11, 2025	Township Election – noon – 8:00 p.m.
March 11, 2025	Annual Meeting – 8:15 p.m.
March 18, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.
April 08, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m. and CDSSD Rate Hearing 6:35 p.m.
April 15, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.

May 06, 2025	Road Tour 7:00 a.m.
May 06, 2025	Board of Equalization (LBAE) 1:00 p.m. Tentative
May 13, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
May 20, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.
June 10, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
June 17, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.
July 08, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
July 15, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.
August 12, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
August 19, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m. and Reconvene of Annual Meeting
September 09, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
September 16, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.
October 07, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
October 14, 2025	<i>Lake County COW 6:00 p.m. at Silver Creek</i>
October 21, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.
November 11, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
November 18, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.
December 09, 2025	COW 6:30 p.m.
December 16, 2025	Regular 6:30 p.m.

Thompson Job Title – After prior discussion at the COW where it was noted that Thompson has been doing a good job and that he wants the position, it was agreed to make his role permanent. Motion Hull, second Voss to change Thompson’s title from Interim Town Operations and Facilities Manager to Permanent Town Operations and Facilities Manager and to update his MOU accordingly. Carried unanimously. And Motion Hull, second Voss to authorize Hull to meet with Thompson and go through his MOU in detail and bring back any necessary or requested updates to the Board for approval. Carried unanimously.

PENDING BUSINESS:

Hull reported on items learned from training at the MAT Annual Conference and he plans to review all MOU's to ensure they are up to date and in compliance with recent legal changes.

There being no further business, motion Hull, second Voss to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday January 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk