

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
AUG 20, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, August 20, 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; Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson, and Treasurer Shelly Peterson.

Absent: Town Operations Manager Paul Thompson.

Visitors Present: Mike Hoops for Advanced Utility Services, Tyler Ellefson, Supervisor Beaver Bay Township.

Chairman Voss called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITOR BUSINESS:

Chairman Voss invited Ellefson to address the Board. Ellefson wanted to know if the Town of Silver Creek currently maintained any part of Beaver Valley Road and whether Silver Creek would be willing to plow it. He noted that part of the road goes through Silver Creek Township. Hull explained that Silver Creek does not maintain that road. Hull spoke of issues including the fact that the road is not up to standards, is too far from Silver Creek garage and does not have proper legal easements in place. Ellefson was encouraged to try Lake County because they have roads much closer to the Beaver Valley Road. Ellefson left the meeting at this point.

A motion by Chairman Voss, second Hull to recess the meeting at this point was withdrawn after Krech raised a constituent concern.

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

Krech reported a complaint by Sharon Kleive and her son regarding the turnaround at the end of Red Maple Road. Damage from over a year ago in which decorative boulders were shoved up to her trees has not been repaired. Hull responded that he would visit Kleive's property and then direct Thompson and Larsen on repairs.

Motion Voss, second Krech at 6:55 p.m. to recess this meeting in order to reconvene the Annual Meeting.

Chairman Voss then reconvened this meeting at 6:58 p.m.

ROAD & SAFETY:

Road Report – None.

SEWER OPERATIONS:

Sewer Report – A report from Advanced Utility Services was presented by Mike Hoops. A number of problems were found with the irrigation system that are still in the process of being corrected. He also discussed ongoing work on the grease problem and repair to Lift Station 1. Completed items include weed removal around the pond, repair of the pontoon boat, submission of MPCA reporting, application of Alum, clean out of septage filter, and increased security with each septage haulers having their own padlock. (Full Operator's Report on file in the Clerk's Office). The Clerk's Office was asked to forward RMB testing results to AUS. Oftedahl agreed to do so.

After discussion, motion Voss, second Hull to accept the Wastewater Operator's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Fund Transfer – Motion Voss, second Hull to authorize a transfer of \$417 from the Wastewater Enterprise Fund to the Road and Bridge Fund to pay for gravel used at the sewer. Motion carried unanimously.

STEWART RIVER SEWER:

Voss reported that a letter was received from Klobuchar's office stating that the Stewart River Project was dropped out of the Congressionally Directed Funding bill by the Committee.

REVIEW MINUTES:

Motion Voss, second Hull to accept as presented the 7/16 Regular Meeting minutes. Motion Hull, second Voss to accept as presented the 8/6 Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes. All motions carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Peterson as follows: TOSC checking: \$42,655.50 and TOSC savings: \$693,523.40 for a total of \$736,178.90. Outstanding checks totaled \$956.13 for a CTAS balance: \$735,222.77. Motion Krech, second Voss to accept the July Treasurer's Report as presented. After noting that the transfer request includes the September 1 loan payment for the Building/Loader Loan, motion Voss,

second Krech to authorize the requested transfer of \$86,500 from savings to checking. Both motions carried unanimously.

Gordon Variance – Oftedahl and Peterson will need to meet in Duluth to get Peterson added to the CD held for the Gordon variance.

READING OF THE BILLS:

The current month's bills were read: claims 10267-10304 totaling \$43,384.07, and payrolls through August 23rd. Motion Voss, second Krech, to authorize payment of the bills as presented. Carried unanimously. Also, after the Clerk requested permission to pay Wycoff for mowing prior the end of the season per his request, motion Hull, second Voss to authorize that payment. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board considered the following:

- Letter of Credit for Town bank account.
- Application for Town account at Duluth Tire.
- Notice of Remittance Advice from Lake County for PILT monies in the amount of \$36,102.67
- Notice of Public Hearing with Lake County Board of Commissioners to consider an emergency moratorium on cannabis businesses, and 3 proposed ordinances related to cannabis. The Board discussed who might be willing and able to attend. Krech may attend.
- Email from Klobuchar's office and from Tina Smith's office, both stating that Stewart River was dropped from the Congressionally Directed Spending Request.
- 2 Lake County notices of approved Interim Use Applications.
- 1 Notice of Public Hearing for a requested Land Use Variance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Facilities – The status of water and plumbing at the Historic Hall was discussed. The status of replacement or repair of the Farm Tap was not known.

NEW BUSINESS:

Town Credit Cards – Motion Voss, second Hull to approve James (Louie) Larsen for a Town Credit card and to update the current credit limits of Town staff as follows: Larsen \$1,000; Thompson \$4,000; Anderson \$1,000. Motion carried unanimously.

District 10 Meeting – Voss reported that he plans to attend this meeting. After discussion motion Hull second Voss to approve his attendance and the reimbursement of any and all expenses necessarily and actually incurred. Carried unanimously.

Security – Krech reported he can donate a security camera to the Town.

Outsource of Grave Opening – Hull reported speaking to Jerry at Cavallin Funeral about their grave opening business they call Arrowhead Cemetery Services. They are interested in doing grave opening for the Town and willing to charge at the rates already in place in the Town's 2024 Rate Resolution. This solves the problem of the Town having no mini-excavator and the extra time spent on weekends with grave opening and closing. They have asked that graves be immediately marked at the time of the request. After some discussion, motion Hull, second Krech to move forward with contracting with Arrowhead Cemetery Services to open and close graves in the Silver Creek Cemetery. Motion carried unanimously.

PENDING BUSINESS:

Newsletter – An unfinished draft of the Newsletter was circulated and Oftedahl reported that a final copy will be sent around in the next couple weeks prior to being published.

There being no further business, motion Voss, second Hull to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday September 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Oftedahl, Clerk