

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK  
ANNUAL MEETING  
MARCH 10, 2026

The Annual Meeting of the Town of Silver Creek was held in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road, Two Harbors, Minnesota, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026.

Present:

Chuck Voss	Greg Hull	Mike Hoops	Alison Oftedahl
Shelly Peterson	Rachelle Hull	Paul Thompson	Rich Sve
Phil Sogge	Debbie Cooter	Mary Londborg	John Bathke
Gary Reinke	Jon Fogelberg	Jessica Peterson	Steve Thorne
Rebecca Thibido	Robert Thibido	Gary Molitor	Gary Ganser
Keith Larson	Gordy Anderson	Dwight Lind	Steve Rebelein

The meeting was called to order at 8:16 p.m. by Clerk Alison Oftedahl, who led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rich Sve agreed to preside as Moderator after nomination by Greg Hull, second Mike Hoops and unanimous Yea vote. Moderator Sve read the agenda.

Last year's Annual Meeting minutes were provided to all attendees. Motion Dwight Lind, second Gary Ganser to approve last year's minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Shelly Peterson reported a start-of-year CTAS balance of \$769,392.52 and an end-of-year CTAS balance of \$843,643.37. After accounting for outstanding checks, the Town bank account balance as of December 31, 2025, was \$844,790.56. The report was accepted as presented, upon motion Gary Ganser, second John Bathke and unanimous Yea vote.

The next Annual Meeting was set for Tuesday, March 9, 2027, at 8:15 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road upon motion Shele Hull, second Gary Ganser and unanimous Yea vote.

Personnel Report

Supervisor Mike Hoops reported that things stayed the same with personnel and have been running smoothly. He reported that he was appointed mid-year to fill an empty position. He also reported that the contractor running the wastewater system has been working out well.

Road Report

Town Operations and Facilities Manager Paul Thompson described last year as uneventful. He reported that not receiving our gravel supply put a big dent in what could be done, but we now have 8,000 yards of gravel on order this year. High points included: tractor repair and mowing completed; 2,500-hour service on the road grader done; and purchase this month of a lightly used mini-excavator. Looking ahead, the Alger Grade has a washout area that needs to be repaired next summer. West Castle Danger will continue to need extra attention due to heavy use. Ditching and culvert replacement are also planned for next summer.

Castle Danger Wastewater Report

Supervisor Chuck Voss reported that Castle Danger Sanitary District is being maintained well and has resulted in a positive fund balance of \$236,000 for future maintenance and updates. The proposed 2026 sewer rates were not increased.

Stewart River Project Report

Supervisor Chuck Voss reported that the Stewart River Wastewater Project is seeking funding in the 2026 Minnesota legislative session. State Senator Grant Hauschild and State Representative Roger Skraba attended the February Committee of the Whole meeting and stated their support for our project. The Town is also applying for congressionally directed federal funding through Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith, and Representative Pete Stauber.

Chairman's Annual Report and Report on Hall Restoration Project

Chairman Greg Hull said it was a lively year and that most of his time was spent working on the Old Hall Project. Chairman Hull summarized the process in which the Hall was inspected by an architect and then a structural engineer. After a public comment period, two public hearings were held. Hull explained the formation of a new committee and praised the number and quality of residents who volunteered to serve on it. The committee is currently working with Bollig Engineering on pre-design. The project's design and cost are not yet finalized. However he did ask Representative Skraba and Senator Hauschild for ideas on

the funding of the project. IRRRB funds were suggested as the best bet and since Skraba and Hauschild are on the IRRR Board, they promised to advocate for the Town.

NEW BUSINESS:

Flood Bay Road Alteration

Supervisor Mike Hoops explained that after a resident requested a small expansion of the turnaround, it was discovered that the Town needs to update the legal definition of Flood Bay Road because it has physically expanded beyond the legal definition. The current road will not change except for a widening at the current turnaround. A survey was viewed. Three of the owners on the road were present and had the opportunity to ask questions. Hoops explained that a Resolution is required for permission to begin this process. Hoops then read the Resolution out loud. After discussion, motion Gary Ganser, second John Bathke to approve the Resolution included in full below. Resolution carried upon unanimous Yea vote and was signed by Meeting Moderator Rich Sve and Town Clerk Alison Oftedahl.



**Silver Creek Township  
Lake County, Minnesota**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN BOARD**

**TO INITIATE THE ESTABLISHMENT AND/OR ALTERATION OF A PORTION OF A TOWN ROAD**

WHEREAS, Silver Creek Township (the “Town”) passed a road order in October 1984 that was subsequently recorded which identified and established Town roads (“Road Order”);

WHEREAS, the Town Board previously believed that the certain portion of land (the “Land”) generally identified and depicted as “Flood Bay Road Extension & Turnout Gravel Edge as Staked in Field” on the survey attached hereto (the “Survey”) was identified as part of that certain Town road known as “Flood Bay Road, Road No. 612” (“Flood Bay Road”) on the Road Order:

WHEREAS, the Survey shows that the Land was not actually identified or included as part of Flood Bay Road or as a Town road on the Road Order;

WHEREAS, while the Land may be a Town road under Minnesota Statutes 160.05, prescriptive easement principles, or similar principles or theories of law, the Town’s attorney has advised that, should the Town wish formally identify and record the Land as a Town road, it should undertake the establishment and/or alteration process set forth in Minnesota Statutes 164.07 to include the Land as part of Flood Bay Road;

WHEREAS, the issue of identifying and including the Land as a Town road was raised and discussed at the annual town meeting of the town electors of Silver Creek Township, Lake County, Minnesota on March 10, 2026;

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 164.06, subd. 1 allows a town board to initiate the town road establishment, vacation, or alteration procedure contained in Minn. Stat. § 164.07 upon receiving authorization of the town electors;

WHEREAS, the town electors determined that it is in the best interests of the town to authorize the town board to initiate the procedure in Minn. Stat. § 164.07 without having to obtain the petition described in Minn. Stat. § 164.07, subd. 1;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the town electors of Silver Creek Township, Lake County, Minnesota hereby authorize the Town board to initiate the establishment and/or alteration procedure in Minn. Stat. § 164.07 regarding the above referenced Land in order to identify and include the Land as a Town road that is part of Flood Bay Road.

Adopted this tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) day of March 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Town Meeting Moderator

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ (signed copy on file in Clerk’s Office)

Alison Oftedahl, Town Clerk



Veteran's Memorial

Keith Larson presented for the Lake County Veteran's Memorial Committee. He showed pictures of the planned memorial to be located in Two Harbors down near the Edna G. Lake County is providing matching funds up to \$250,000. About \$80,000 has been raised to date. The public can purchase a plaque for any veteran that was born, resides, or has lived in Lake County. Chairman Greg Hull explained that the Town cannot make a donation, but he proposed the purchase of memorial plaques. He asked for feedback on this. After discussion, motion Dwight Lind, second Shele Hull to spend \$2,500 to purchase five of the large bronze memorials - one for each branch of the service. Motion carried upon unanimous Yea vote.

FINANCES

Chairman Hull reported that the Town had a very good year financially, with 2025's spending 7% under budget and income 6% more than planned. The Town ended the year with more in the bank than at the start of the year. He then discussed the proposed 2027 budget - a 2% increase over 2026.

<u>Budget:</u>	<u>2027</u>
General	\$114,250
Road & Bridge	\$360,750
Road Enhancement	\$20,000
Buildings	\$21,700
Capital Projects	\$75,000
Fire	\$75,000
Cemetery	\$12,000
General Debt Service	\$0
TOWN TOTAL	\$678,700

Hull walked through the proposed 2027 levy - a 4% increase over 2026. He explained that while fire protection costs continue to increase, the town's loan for (this) building and the loader are paid off at the end of 2026. He also explained that Taconite Production taxes would be used for the restoration of the Old Hall in addition to the \$25,000 levy voted in last year. The amount levied for the restoration project will show in the Capital Projects Fund.

<u>Levy:</u>	<u>2027</u>
General	\$100,000
Road & Bridge	\$300,000
Road Enhancement	\$20,000
Building	\$5,000
Capital Projects	\$25,000
Fire	\$60,000
Cemetery	\$10,000
General Debt Service	\$0
TOWN TOTAL LEVY	\$520,000
Other expected Income	\$152,400
TOTAL INCOME	\$672,400

After discussion, motion Gary Ganser, second Jessica Peterson to accept the budget and levy as presented (included above). Motion carried upon unanimous Yea vote.

## ELECTION RESULTS

Head Election Judge Phil Sogge presented the preliminary uncanvassed results. He reported a total of 30 ballots. In the Supervisor race, candidate Mike Hoops received 28 votes, 0 writes-ins, and 2 blanks. In the Clerk race, 26 of 30 votes were for Alison Oftedahl and 4 write-in votes were for Katie Anderson.

At 9:16 p.m. motion Gary Ganser, second Shele Hull to recess the meeting until August 18, 2026. Motion carried upon unanimous Yea vote. The meeting will be reconvened at the same location at 6:30 pm on that date.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk

Rich Sve, Moderator