

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, Tuesday, September 16, 2025 in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road for the purpose of discussing all issues before the Board.

Present were Supervisors: Greg Hull, Chuck Voss, and Mike Hoops; Clerk Alison Oftedahl; Treasurer Shelly Peterson; Town Operations and Facilities Manager Paul Thompson, and (by phone) Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson.

Absent: None.

Visitors Present: Tom Opfer.

Chairman Hull called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:**

None.

**OLD TOWN HALL OPTIONS PROJECT:**

Potential Formation of Old Hall Project Committee – Thompson spoke to John Nelson regarding Isabella Community Center and Friends of the Fourth but said they did not have anything helpful for our project. Hoops spoke to Roger Peterson of the Friends of Finland. They are organized as a 501(c)(3), and they do all the renting, scheduling, providing keys, and cleaning of the Clair Nelson Center. However the Town owns it, does major maintenance and pays for all utilities and repairs of the building.

Criteria for Decision – Hull suggested that two of the options might be able to be eliminated. After discussion, Option 1 (Refurbish with Minimal Work) was removed based upon the fact that it didn't replace the addition and the Town learned from the Structural Engineering Report that the addition needs to be completely rebuilt. All other options were left on the table.

Issues with Selling Land for \$1 – Hull summarized attorney advice obtained from Russ Conrow and MAT attorney Steve Fenske. While there was some conflicting advice, it is problematic to ask less than market value for town assets.

Preparation for the Sept 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting – It was agreed that the comment period would close at end of day on 29<sup>th</sup> as announced at the September 6<sup>th</sup> Hearing. Public comment will not be accepted during the September 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was also agreed that the Clerk's office would continue to collate all comments received into a binder and make sure that is available for the Board to view prior to the Sept 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**ROAD & SAFETY:**

Road Report – Thompson reported that grading and mowing are progressing well. They repaired a mailbox support and some signs posts. He reported that a transmission line problem on the tractor was repaired. He asked permission to purchase some extra cutting edges for both plow trucks and for the grader to take advantage of a 50% off sale at Zeigler. The Board was supportive of this decision.

Events on Alger – Thompson will handle getting the signs to the event coordinators.

Utility Installation on Burlington – The Surety Bond has not been received.

Flood Bay Alteration – Thompson was not able to get a status update from the surveyor.

**SEWER OPERATIONS:**

Operator's Report – Motion Voss, second Hoops to accept as presented the Wastewater Operator's Report (on file in the Clerk's Office) as presented. Carried unanimously.

Lift Station 1 Grease Problem – Voss and Thompson inspected and again found grease in both the lift station and the restaurant's tanks. Thompson has been trying to reach Roeder to pump everything out again. He may be able to pump both at one time to make it more convenient for him and to deal with both the restaurant's tanks and the Lift station at one time.

Elving Property Inspection – The property was inspected by Voss and Thompson. Only one of three cabins has sewer in use. The house under construction was connected to the wastewater system. After the property sells, depending upon future usage, it will need to be inspected again in order to bill properly for the correct number of auxiliary connections.

GIS Mapping Project – Voss reported that he asked Nathan Feist of Bollig to come and present the mapping once they are completely finished with the project.

New Connections – No change in status.

### **FACILITIES**

Old Hall Leak – Hoops reported that the leak is in the addition and he believes that the cause is the missing shingles on that side of the roof. The Board agreed that a tarp should be nailed up to prevent additional leaking. Thompson was asked to do this.

### **STEWART RIVER SEWER:**

Voss reported that Bollig will make the presentation to the Capital Investment Bonding Tour group. Hull would also like to come along if possible. Voss reported that he asked Feist for more information on the affordability of the current plan.

### **REVIEW MINUTES:**

Motion Hull, second Hoops to accept as presented the 8/19 Regular Meeting minutes. Motion Hoops, second Voss to accept as presented the 8/19 Reconvened Annual Meeting minutes. Motion Hoops, second Voss to accept as presented the 8/26 Special Meeting minutes. Motion Voss, second Hoops to accept as presented the 9/6 Public Informational Hearing transcript. Motion Hoops, second Voss to accept as presented the 9/9 Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes. These five motions carried unanimously.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Peterson as follows: TOSC checking: \$90,917.75 and TOSC savings: \$733,878.18 for a total of \$824,795.94. Outstanding checks totaled \$3,900.80 for a CTAS balance: \$820,895.13. Motion Hull, second Hoops to accept the August Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion Hoops, second Voss to authorize the requested transfer of \$38,000 from savings to checking. Both motions carried unanimously.

### **READING OF THE BILLS:**

The current month's bills were read: claims 10713-10747, and payrolls through September 19<sup>th</sup> totaling \$58,100.67. Motion Voss, second Hoops, to authorize payment of the bills as presented (Hoops abstained from the AUS claim). Carried unanimously.

Void/stop Payment – Oftedahl reported that a payment to Krech Ojard of \$8,400 turned out to be an overpayment due to misunderstanding the contract. Krech Ojard notified the Town that their invoice this month was less (approximately \$6,600) and had not cashed the check from last month. The incorrect check from last month was voided in CTAS and a stop payment issued with the bank. A new claim this month and a new check were issued in the correct (lesser) amount.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Board considered the following:

- 2 Affidavits of Posting and Publishing were signed.
- 2 Right of Interment Documents were signed.
- Email from Barbara Marks responding to structural report.
- Email from Barbara Marks with information on Grants available for polling place accessibility.
- Documentation on stop payment and void of Krech Ojard check number 016414 as discussed above.
- Email from Christine McCarthy (Lake County Environmental Services) regarding the Old Hall and Pavilion being grandfathered non conforming structures and stating that she would support a variance if the Town decides to expand or build a new building. She noted that septic inspection is required and that a Conditional Use permit may be needed.
- Septic information for the Old Hall showing it was designed for 2 toilets, 1 sink, and no kitchen.
- Email from MAT Attorney Steve Fenske regarding potential legalities of selling the Old Town Hall for a dollar.
- 6 printouts of public comments on the Old Hall Project that were received since last meeting.
- 1 Lake County notice of Hearing on a variance request.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Seasonal Storage – After viewing last year's contract, motion Hull, second Voss to charge the same rates as last year. And, motion Hull, second Hoops to set the storage dates: October 18 to April 18. The clerk's office was directed to have storage customers contact Thompson for their appointment.

Mowing Contract – The old contract and the request for quotes was viewed. Oftedahl was directed to separate it into two contracts: one for the wastewater pond mowing and the other for the cemetery and Town mowing. Language to be reviewed at the October COW.

**PENDING BUSINESS:**

None.

There being no further business, motion Hull, second Hoops to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday October 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk