

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road for the purpose of discussing all issues before the Board.

Present were Supervisors: Chuck Voss, and Chris Jaeger; Clerk Alison Oftedah!; Treasurer Jamie Pellman; Town Operations Assistant Paul Thompson; and by phone, Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson.

Absent: Supervisor Greg Hull and Town Operations Manager Jody Reineccius.

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

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

Jane Wick Cemetery – In response to Wick’s concern brought to last week’s COW, Jaeger reported that he visited with Wick at her house. He then asked Thompson to do some sprucing up of the water spigots and replace plastic pitchers with galvanized ones to make it look better.

Earl Innis – In response to Innis’ complaint about Arrowhead Transit brought to last week’s COW, Oftedah! reported she had emailed Arrowhead Transit and called both Lake County and AEOA. None of these resulted in any options for pickup of disabled or elderly in Silver Creek unless they live within 2 miles of Two Harbors. Oftedah! said she is waiting for a call back from another contact at AEOA who deals with volunteer drivers for medical appointments. Pellman suggested calling Community Partners, and Oftedah! said she would.

ROAD & SAFETY:

Road Report – Thompson made the report because Reineccius was out of town attending Wastewater Training. Thompson said that mowing is continuing and that he had graded all roads in the last 3 days after the rain. He said he will be picking up culverts in Finland for the project that Silver Creek will do for Lake County at Clark Spur (West Clark). The County will be invoiced for this work. Thompson reported that they plan to finish adding gravel to Alger Grade this year. He said that West Castle Danger also lost a lot of gravel and could use more.

New Truck – Thompson reported that the new truck is going to the Expo and then will be delivered here around October 7th.

Disaster Preparation – Oftedah! reported she has been assisted by Lake County with credentials for their ARC GIS Survey Pro system. She was able to download the app onto her cell phone and make a test damage report with a picture, address, and GIS coordinates. They are creating credentials for Jody and Paul. Amy Lewis, the GIS Tech at Lake County wasn’t sure how many total licensed users they can add. But for now, they can do this for free for Silver Creek.

New Driveway Access Permits – Thompson reported that the new Loop Road driveway is pretty much completed. Oftedah! reported that the refund check for this one has been cut based upon Reineccius’ approval. Thompson said he didn’t think the new access on Flood Bay Road was completed yet.

SEWER OPERATIONS:

Operator Hoops was not present but had presented his report at last week’s COW meeting. Motion Jaeger, second Voss to accept the Wastewater Operator’s Report as presented with one correction as included below. Carried unanimously.

Wastewater Operator’s Report – September 12, 2022

| Influent | 2021 | 2022 |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| January | 0.4689 million gallons | 0.420 million gallons |
| February | 0.4855 million gallons | 0.4570 million gallons |
| March | 0.7586 million gallons | 0.6321 million gallons |
| April | 0.6806 million gallons | 0.8675 million gallons |
| May | 0.6131 million gallons | 0.8232 million gallons |
| June | 0.8192 million gallons | 0.8657 million gallons |
| July | 1.1059 million gallons | 0.9316 million gallons |
| August | 0.9969 million gallons | 0.8870 million gallons |
| September | 0.8284 million gallons | |
| October | 0.7134 million gallons | |
| November | 0.5272 million gallons | |

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>December</u> | <u>0.4614 million gallons</u> |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>8.1410 million gallons</u> |

In addition, there were 0.0785 million gallons of trucked in wastewater during July.

| Effluent | 2021 | 2022 |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| May – Discharged | 2.859 million gallons of water | 3.018 million gallons irrigated |
| June – Discharged | 3.19 million gallons of water | 2.986 million gallons irrigated |
| July – Discharged | 3.246 million gallons of water | 4.563 million gallons irrigated |
| August - Discharged | 2.743 million gallons of water | 2.218 million gallons irrigated |
| September - Discharged | 0.923 million gallons of water | |
| Total for year- | 12.961 million gallons | |

Current Operations

We had only a couple pump replacements this past month for grinder stations.

We are still waiting for the repaired lift station pump to be installed. Wik Waiban Innini will be doing that at the same time we do the pipe replacement of the pipe from pump station to the check valve chamber. This struggle with “supply chain” is holding up both the pump repair and the pipe replacement.

Long property has been connected and is operational. Homeowner plans to move in on the 15th. When all bills are in for the project we can balance out the actual costs with escrow money.

At this point in time we are in good shape with replacement pumps.

Rostvold, Christensen and Gerard properties are all on hold with no activity taking place.

Sampling has been done as required and all reports submitted to MPCA.

Pending Maintenance Items

Cut out between pump chambers on duplex stations

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Hoops, Wastewater Operator

New Installation for Long Property – Thompson reported that he and Reineccius had to go back to Long’s property to make a repair after a pipe came loose and was leaking. It is now finished, fully up, and working properly.

STEWART RIVER SEWER:

Voss reported he spoke to Nathan Feist of Bollig Engineering, who did not have any progress to report.

REVIEW MINUTES:

Motion Voss, second Jaeger to accept as presented the 8/16 Regular Meeting minutes. Motion Jaeger, second Voss to accept as presented the 9/13 Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes. All motions carried unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

The Treasurer’s Report was presented by Pellman as follows: TOSC checking: \$74,271.13 and TOSC savings: \$715,137.85 for a total of \$789,408.98. Outstanding checks totaled \$1,618.96 for a CTAS balance: \$787,790.02. Motion Voss, second Jaeger to accept the August Treasurer’s Report as presented. Motion Voss, second Jaeger to authorize the requested transfer of \$55,000 from savings to checking. Both motions carried unanimously.

READING OF THE BILLS:

The current month’s bills were read: claims 9493-9534, totaling \$57,185.68, and payrolls through September 23rd. Motion Voss, second Jaeger, to authorize payment of the bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board considered the following:

- Certified Levy Letter sent by the Clerk to Lake County.
- Emails from Two Harbors regarding work done by Superior Shores on Burlington Road.
- Email invitation to District 10 Zoom meeting October 27th.
- Approved Land Use Application for Structure Placement.
- Email from AEOA regarding Arrowhead Transit service area.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cemetery Dispute – No change in this project.

NEW BUSINESS:

Superior Shores and Two Harbors Burlington Road Agreement – The Board learned via email that Burlington Road patching work proposed by Superior Shores was already completed. Silver Creek was not informed of the project until it was done. In addition, questions were raised regarding a 2006 maintenance agreement with Two Harbors in which they agreed to pay or provide in-kind services to Silver Creek for ongoing plowing and maintenance done by Silver Creek. The Board declined to sign the contract agreement for the work done by Superior Shores. Voss said that Reineccius is in the process of speaking to the Two Harbors Road department about the lack of payments for the maintenance work in the past five years.

Google G Suites – The Clerk reported that the email accounts obtained from Google back in 2013 for free will no longer be free. An email from Google was reviewed. Google proposed \$3 per account per month this year and \$6 per account per month next year. The Town has 9 email accounts, but 2 can be deleted. The Clerk explained that when all the employee email accounts were locked out, she had no choice but to input a credit card to unlock them. Nothing has yet been charged by Google in this year, which seemed surprising. Jaeger felt we could do better on prices elsewhere and asked the Clerk to research including asking Google about government rates, speaking to Matt Falk, and also to Ward at Jaws. The Clerk agreed to do this.

Seasonal Storage Dates and Rates – In discussion, those present agreed that matching the rate charged by Lake County for seasonal storage made sense. Motion Jaeger, second Voss to set the dates to Friday October 14 and Friday April 14, and to set the rate at \$1.75 per foot per month with 6-month minimum. This is a rate increase of \$0.25 per foot. Carried unanimously.

PENDING BUSINESS:

Cemetery Directory Sign Update – The Clerk reported that Waldo Signworks is almost done with the update to the Directory and should be delivering soon.

There being no further business, motion Voss, second Jaeger to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday October 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk