

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
March 15, 2022

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday March 15, 2022 in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road, for the purpose of discussing all issues before the Board.

Present: Supervisors Chuck Voss, Chris Jaeger, and Greg Hull; Clerk Alison Oftedahl; Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson (by phone), Operator Allen Anderson.

Absent: Town Operations Manager Jody Reineccius, Wastewater Operator Mike Hoops.

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

Constituent Concerns – The Board considered an email from Brad Nylund requesting waiver to the off duty police officer requirement for Hall Rental with alcohol. Nylund wants to use a retired police officer at their class reunion. The Board directed the Clerk to inform him that a licensed officer must be used.

Road and Safety – No Road Report was delivered due to Reineccius' absence.

Mid-State Truck Financing – The Board viewed the financing documents for the new truck that now have the correct purchase price and correct totals. An interest rate of 2.767 has been locked in for several months. No payments are required now. If the truck is delayed beyond a period (believed to be 100 days), then the Town either must start paying interest or give up the locked in interest rate.

Disposition of the old Dodge – The Board was in agreement to sell the old Dodge via sealed bids including a 10% deposit. The Clerk was directed to write up an advertisement. The group also went back in the garage to view the new Dodge purchased in Ohio.

General Sewer Operations – No discussion due to absence of Hoops and Reineccius.

Status of Accounts – The overdue septage account was discussed and Voss reported that the hauler has been locked out of the treatment pond area. No additional steps were agreed upon as of yet.

Stewart River Wastewater Project – Voss reported that he has not heard anything from Bollig regarding the project.

Correspondence – The following items were passed around for consideration:

- Email from Brad Nylund discussed above.
- PERA employer exclusion report.
- Update from Minnesota Unemployment Insurance showing \$1,731.49 is now due for the past two years.
- Sewer Installation Estimate for Mark Gerard written up by Operator Hoops.
- Certification of township road mileage for gas tax allotment was signed by Chairman Voss.
- Affidavit of Posting for township election was signed.
- Update of Board contact information for MAT was completed.
- 2 approved Land Use Applications and Hearing Minutes from Lake County were reviewed.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Cell Tower – Hull reported that there has been no change on this issue. The County is waiting on AT&T to provide coverage information for alternative sites.

Haul Road – The Attorney wrote that MNDOT has authority to declare any road a Haul Road, however Hull said he believes that due to permit issues, they won't be hauling on Town Rod.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Sewer Rate Hearing Preparation – The Board viewed the commercial meter readings and total flow. Issues with the readings at Grand Superior Lodge were discussed and the need to get a good estimate. The usage of Gooseberry Falls State Park was questioned, and it is believed the lower usage would be due to COVID closure of the Visitor Center. Should rates of others be raised due to temporary closures of the Park? An estimate might be needed to be determined a proper rate for the Park. Voss and the Clerk directed to work on a realistic estimate for Grand Superior and to check with the Park to see if their Visitor Center restrooms were closed a significant portion of 2021. All other commercial account meter readings looked accurate.

Resolution for Precinct/ Redistricting – A draft resolution was reviewed and will be voted next week.

Anderson Emergency Rehire – Allen Anderson's emergency call-in after his termination was discussed. The Clerk requested a pay rate for hours worked last week. The Board agreed on \$30 per hour. Hull suggested the rehire is for emergencies only and Voss suggested that his annual total is limited by the PERA limit. He will have a four-hour minimum call-in and will not receive vacation, holiday or other benefits. The Clerk will check that amount and Hull will write a job description for approval next week. Anderson said he wants to retire and wants to be last on any call list. Hull also suggested to the group that former Town Operations Manager Conrad Swanson could serve as an emergency back up for plowing.

#### PENDING BUSINESS

Resolution for ARPA Funds Usage – Voss postponed discussion because we are waiting for information from MAT. We need to know if the expanded use of these funds can be spent before April 1<sup>st</sup> or not.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m. upon motion Voss, second Hull. Carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Tuesday, March 22, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk