

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JULY 11, 2023

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road, for the purpose of discussing all issues before the Board.

Present: Supervisors Greg Hull, and Chuck Voss; Clerk Alison Oftedahl; Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson; Town Operations and Facilities Manager Jody Reineccius; and Wastewater Operator Mike Hoops.

Absent: Supervisor Scott Krech.

Visitors Present: Ward Wallin, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Chairman Hull called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Constituent Concerns

Ward Wallin appeared before the Board in regard to re-routing part of the state snowmobile trail. A map of the proposed trail route was viewed. The plan is to run it along the Wild Country ATV trail where it crosses Silver Creek land near our gravel pit. A couple of curves will be smoothed out. No objections were voiced.

Road and Safety

Road Report -- Reineccius said that he had completed DOT inspections of all trucks and trailers. He said that they worked all day today on a problem with the skid steer's parking brake and hydraulics. He may have to call someone to come fix it. He then reported he will go on Thursday to finish chloride at Duluth Township so they can be invoiced. He said Thompson repaired several holes in the Alger Grade. He and Thompson will be in Silver Bay tomorrow for OSHA Trenching and Excavation Competent Person training and sewer training at the Silver Bay Wastewater Plant with Mike Miller.

On Call Part Time Employee Hiring – Hull reported that only one application was received after advertising two weeks. He and Reineccius will interview on Thursday of this week. They plan to offer \$25 per hour and limit the work to 40 hours per month, with no paid leave time, and no overtime unless working beyond 40 hours in one week. He asked Oftedahl to update the MOU for the position. If the interview and offer go well, the Board can approve the MOU in next week's regular meeting. No objections were voiced.

Personnel – Hull reported that Reineccius will change his normal working week to Monday through Thursday, the same days as Thompson so that more projects that require two people can get done.

Gravel Pit Reclamation Bond – A memo stating that Lake County has waived the requirement for a reclamation bond was received this week. All requirements for the Conditional Use Permit have now been met.

General Sewer Operations

Operator Hoops presented his report noting that the alarms were fixed on Lift Station 1, but that we are still waiting for Mike Nelson to fix the pump and pipe. The group discussed Dave Roeder's assistance to at a service call at Gooseberry Park. Roeder did not invoice the Town for this work. In discussion, it was decided that payment for assistance is important. The Clerks were directed to issue a \$400 credit to Roeder's account as compensation for the call.

New Install for Rostvold – Reineccius reported that the MN DOT ROW work permit was received. This job may happen next week. Hoops said we have all parts except the pump and panel. He said he'd like to do the electrofusion for both installations on the same day.

New Install for Gerard – This installation will likely be later in August or September. Reineccius will get a drawing to the Clerk for the MN DOT ROW permit application.

Sewer Operator Outsource – Hull reported that a plan has been formed in which Hoops will resign effective September 1. Reineccius will take the exam again before that time. If he passes, he will be the Operator. If not, a contract will be drawn up with Eric Appelwick and Advanced Utility Solutions to be the licensed operator for the system.

New Septage Hauler Matt Lundgren – Hoops reported that upon checking the license number, he found it was not Lundgren's. It was his mentor's, as he is still in the licensing process. He cannot yet legally haul

for himself. The Clerk asked whether he can be allowed to dump in our ponds if the mentor fills out all paperwork and signs the contract. Hoops said yes.

Stewart River Wastewater Project

Voss reported that although Bollig said they would be coming up last week, he received no calls or visits from them.

Correspondence

The following items were passed around for consideration:

- Letter drafted by Clerk informing Doda he was not selected as Town's Attorney.
- Letter drafted by Clerk to Silver Bay declining participation in Airport Authority.
- 1 signed Hall Rental Agreement for YOGA running through September.
- Training registration for Thompson and Reineccius for the Safe Excavating class.
- Affidavit of Posting for the Hiring of the Part-Time On-Call Equipment Operator.
- Right of Interment for Dennis and Janeen Linden.
- Levy Tax apportionment statement of remittance from Lake County.
- Letter written by Clerk to Casady regarding driveway access permit.
- Receipt from Assessor's visit to examine town buildings.
- Emails with DNR and Bollig regarding Stewart River and the construction of a new bike trail along HWY 61 from Two Harbors to Superior Shores. The group discussed that Bollig plans to replace the existing pipe with a larger one for this segment.
- Memo written by Russ Conrow to Christine McCarthy waiving the requirement for a reclamation bond for Silver Creek's gravel pit.
- Email from Clerk to MATIT asking questions about insurance renewal.
- Email from Brian Bollig introducing a new Vice President at Bollig.
- MNDOT ROW permit for the Rostvold Sewer Installation.
- From Lake County, 4 Hearing notices for land use issues and 4 Land Use Applications.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Resolution for re-route of Snowmobile Trail – The Board considered a draft resolution and discussed whether it was necessary. It was requested by Kevin Johnson of the DNR. It was suggested that if an easement exists for the ATV trail then possibly no additional easement would be needed. The Clerk was asked to look into the easement situation.

Insurance Project – The Board discussed that a quote from Warren Miller has not been received and meanwhile payment at MATIT must be made this month to continue current coverage.

PENDING BUSINESS

None

PERPETUAL BUSINESS

Gordon Variance – Waiting on Lake County.

Cemetery – The project to beautify the water stations is still pending. There is a grave opening on Friday. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. upon motion Hull, second Voss. Carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Tuesday, July 18, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk