

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 15, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 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 Scott Krech; Clerk Alison Oftedah!; Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson; Treasurer Jamie Pellman; Town Operations and Facilities Manager Jody Reineccius; and Wastewater Operator Mike Hoops.

Absent: None

Visitors Present: None

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

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

A complaint received by the Clerk's Office regarding Alger Grade was discussed – rain is needed for grading. A complaint call about the speed of haul trucks was received by Hull – the problem trucks are not Township trucks so there is not much that the Town can do.

ROAD & SAFETY:

Road Report – Reineccius reported that he was off last week so not a lot of change since last meeting. He said all roads were mowed except for Valhalla and Big Point. The group discussed a missing weight limit sign on Loop Road. It was lost by the contractors working on the Highway 61 Silver Creek project.

Safety and Trench Boxes – After discussion, motion Hull “with apprehension and trepidation” second Voss to have Reineccius request an OSHA safety inspection so that we can apply for \$10,000 in grant funds. Motion carried unanimously. The funds will allow the purchase of a trench box. The need for a gas meter was also discussed and all agreed it is needed.

SEWER OPERATIONS:

Operator Hoops Letter of Resignation – Motion Hull, second Voss to acknowledge and accept with regrets and appreciation Hoops' letter of resignation. Carried unanimously. His last day is August 25th.

Outsource of Operator – Reineccius reported that he did not pass the Operator test but is scheduled to take an alternative form of the test in their Office in October. After discussion, motion Hull, second Voss to empower Reineccius and Voss to decide between Eric Appelwick or Mike Miller and negotiate terms prior to August 25. Carried unanimously.

New Installs – no change.

Repair of Lift Stations – Reineccius reported that Tim from Sycom was fixing the alarm system today. We are still waiting for Mike Nelson to come and finish the repairs.

Sewer Report – Operator Hoops presented his report. He brought up a few concerns. First, Max Arndt built a new fence on the sewer easement that is blocking the view of the grinder station alarm. After discussion, the Clerk was asked to write a letter to Mr. Arndt informing him that the fence must be taken down or moved out of the easement. The second concern is in-regard to the grease going through Lift Station 1. Hoops and Reineccius will be testing the wastewater from the Rustic Restaurant in case their grease trap is non-functional or not being used. He said that they plan to get test results prior to communicating with restaurant management. He also brought up concerns with the ARKVAL filtration system as it is no longer supported by anyone.

Motion Voss, second Krech to accept the Wastewater Operator's Report (included below) as presented. Carried unanimously.

Wastewater Operator's Report – August 15, 2023

Influent	2022	2023
January	0.4204 million gallons	0.4093 million gallons
February	0.4567 million gallons	0.4485 million gallons
March	0.6321 million gallons	0.4829 million gallons
April	0.8675 million gallons	0.6940 million gallons
May	0.8232 million gallons	0.5420 million gallons

June	0.8657 million gallon	0.7064 million gallons
July	0.9316 million gallons	est. 0.8000 million gallons
August	0.8870 million gallons	
September	0.9317 million gallons	
October	0.6251 million gallons	
November	0.6000 million gallons	
<u>December</u>	<u>0.3881Million gallons</u>	
Total	8.4291 million gallons	

In addition, during July, there were 37,100 gallons of trucked in septage and greywater. (0.0371 million gallons)

Effluent	2022	2023
May – Discharged	3.018 million gallons irrigated	3.040 million gallons irrigated
June – Discharged	2.986 million gallons irrigated	2.687 million gallons irrigated
July - Discharged	4.563 million gallons irrigated	4.053 million gallons irrigated
August - Discharged	2.218 million gallons irrigated	
September - Discharged	2.984 million gallons irrigated	
<u>October - Discharged</u>	<u>1.147 million gallons irrigated</u>	
Total for year-	16.916 million gallons irrigated	

Current Operations

Again this month, irrigation has been going quite well with limited rainfall since we started.

Lift Station #1 Tim Kamrath was up to do some work on the system for us and is finishing that work today on the panel. Waiting for Mike Nelson to return and finish repairs.

Need to calibrate pumps. Hasn't been done for more than a year, MPCA requires calibration twice each year.

Grinder pumps- No failures known by me this past month.

Rostvold and Gerard installations - all parts except actual pumps and panels are in stock for the installs. Met with Mark Gerard on site when he was up on Monday to show him what we would be doing. We are ready to move forward on the Rostvold install. Gerard won't happen until there is a pipe coming out of the slab to hook into.

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

Pending Maintenance Items

Calibrate Lift Station #2 pumps. Can't be done until flange gasket is replaced. Calibration was skipped last fall.

Cut out between pump chambers on duplex stations

Ponds- Fence straightening. Paul did a lot while he was reclaiming gravel but still some to do. Repair ruts in dikes.

Spraying weeds in riprap-continuing issue with getting moisture.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Hoops, Wastewater Operator

STEWART RIVER SEWER:

Voss reported on activities done in July and August by Bollig including meeting with Patty Nordean in Two Harbors on the user agreement, meeting with Natalie Zeleznikar, meeting with the ARDC and meeting with Duane Hill at MN DOT. He is expecting to receive the draft user agreement next month.

REVIEW MINUTES:

Motion Voss, second Krech to accept as presented the 7/18 Regular Meeting minutes. Motion Hull, second Krech to accept as presented the 8/8 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: \$40,912.89 and TOSC savings: \$741,979.92 for a total of \$782,892. Outstanding checks totaled \$1,097.97 for a CTAS balance: \$781,794.84. Motion Voss, second Krech to accept the July Treasurer’s Report as presented. Motion Hull, second Voss to authorize the requested transfer of \$80,000 from savings to checking (including funds for the 9/1 loan payment). Both motions carried unanimously.

READING OF THE BILLS:

The current month’s bills were read: claims 9841-9873 totaling \$36,932.62, and payrolls through August 18th. Motion Voss, second Krech, to authorize payment of the bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board considered the following:

- Email from Park State Bank stating that they are not able to correct a mistake they made on the bank statement in which the check numbers listed do not match the scanned checks and are in fact the wrong check numbers.
- Letter written by the Clerk to Ryan Sippers inviting him to a meeting.
- Email from Kris Ambuehl at Bollig listing their activities for the past month.
- An offer to buy township land from a realtor.
- Letter from CLP regarding electricity rate increase.
- Graduation certificates for Reineccius and Thompson from the Safe Excavator class.
- Notification of receipt of \$21,910.41 in PILT tax funds.

OLD BUSINESS:

Insurance – The group discussed and then came to an agreed insured value for each building. Motion Hull second Voss to adopt Resolution 2023-6 Setting Insurance Agreed Replacement Values (full text below). Carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 2023-6
TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
LAKE COUNTY MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION SETTING
INSURANCE AGREED REPLACEMENT VALUES
ON TOWNSHIP BUILDINGS**

WHEREAS, a Property Appraisal Report was received from Overland Solutions as retained by the Minnesota Association of Township Insurance Trust (MATIT); and

WHEREAS, the new appraisal came in much higher than the previous agreed values; and

WHEREAS, the new insurance premium was much higher than the previous year,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the Town of Silver Creek weighed the budget and financial interests of the Town with the potential risk to buildings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek is hereby choosing to insure the buildings for less than the appraised value fully understanding that the amounts below are the maximum that the Town would receive in the case of full destruction of the building and desires to insure the property for the following “agreed values”.

	<u>Agreed & Insured Value</u>
Office/Garage Building	\$ <u>900,000</u>
Cold Storage Building	\$ <u>125,000</u>

Salt/Sand Shed \$17,500 _____

Historic Town Hall \$ 175,000 _____

Historic Pavilion \$75,000 _____

Filter Building \$ 40,000 _____

Adopted on August 15, 2023

Gregory Hull

Charles Voss

Scott Krech

ATTEST: _____
Alison Oftedah, Clerk

The above Resolution was adopted upon roll-call vote as follows:

Ayes: Chuck Voss, Chris Jaeger, Greg Hull; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Agreement with Lake County regarding VOTER funds – Motion Hull second Voss to adopt Resolution 2023-7, the Voting Operations, Technology, and Election Resources (VOTER) Account Agreement with Lake County, included below. Carried unanimously. Resolution was adopted upon roll-call vote as follows:

Ayes: Chuck Voss, Chris Jaeger, Greg Hull; Nays: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None

**RESOLUTION 2023-7
TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
LAKE COUNTY MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION FOR VOTING OPERATIONS, TECHNOLOGY,
AND ELECTION RESOURCES (VOTER)
ACCOUNT AGREEMENT**

BY And BETWEEN:

Town of Silver Creek, 1924 Town Road, Two Harbors, MN 55616

and

Lake County, 601 3rd Avenue, Two Harbors, MN 55616

WHEREAS, on July 20, 2023, the Office of the Secretary of State completed the electronic transfer of \$1.25 million in electronic payments to counties for the Voting Operations, Technology, & Election Resources (VOTER) Account in accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 5.305; and

WHEREAS, Lake county is required to work with its local units of government to determine how the funds will be allocated within the county; and

WHEREAS, Lake County currently administers the absentee and mail balloting for all precincts; and

WHEREAS, Lake County pays for all maintenance of all election equipment utilized by the local units of government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **Town of Silver Creek** does hereby agree to allow **Lake County** to retain all Voting Operations, Technology and Election Resources (VOTER) Account Funds received.

After motion by Supervisor Hull, and second by Supervisor Voss,

The foregoing Resolution was adopted August 15, 2023, upon roll- call vote of all members present as follows:

Yeas: 3 Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0

Gregory Hull

Charles Voss

Scott Krech

ATTEST: _____
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk

Cemetery Pipe Caps – Oftedahl reported that she and Anderson are still in the research phase and will bring a proposal to next month’s meeting.

Cemetery Policy for Empty Graves – Supervisor Krech requested that the discussion be postponed to next month to allow time for reading the proposed new Cemetery Regulations. Everyone agreed.

PENDING BUSINESS:

Newsletter – The Board viewed a draft of the newsletter and suggested edits.

Cemetery Water Station Project – The Board viewed a picture of one of the water stations now that the project is complete.

PERPETUAL BUSINESS:

Gordon Variance – No response yet from the County Attorney, or the Township’s Attorney.

Historic Town Hall – Krech reported that he went to a meeting of the Historical Society and has been doing some research on historical buildings. He said he thought it might be too late in the year to try to schedule and announce an open house to gather public input. The group also discussed the number of years left on the special levy for the old buildings.

There being no further business, motion Voss, second Krech to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday September 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk