

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK  
BUDGET AND LEVY WORKING MEETING  
February 7, 2023

The Budget and Levy Working Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road.

Present were Supervisors: Chuck Voss, Greg Hull, and Chris Jaeger; Town Operations and Facilities Manager Jody Reineccius, Clerk Alison Oftedahl, and Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson.

Chairman Voss called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board reviewed the Budget/Levy Spreadsheet that showed budget and actual expenses going back to 2019 and averages back to 2006. Last year the Town spent 4% over budget (excluding ARPA funds). Looking at Town and sewer combined, the Town went only 2% over budget. All agreed this was an accomplishment given the annual 6% inflation rate. The group discussed the high cost of supplies including the doubling of the diesel prices.

In planning the 2024 budget, it was agreed that the payment for the new tandem axle truck would be made from the Road and Bridge Capital Outlay account. No other major capital purchases were requested or planned. There was also discussion about gravel crushing as none has been purchased in the past two years. Supervisors noted that this was just a matter of time until crushing will be needed.

Chairman Voss recessed the meeting at 5:35 p.m. for supper and then reconvened the meeting at 6:04 p.m. to resume the budgeting. Reineccius left the meeting after the Road & Bridge fund budget was set. Below is the tentative budget developed in the meeting.

2024 BUDGET:

General	\$118,100
Road & Bridge	\$343,500
Road Enhancement	\$20,000
Buildings	\$39,250
Fire	\$45,000
Cemetery	\$10,500
General Debt Service	<u>\$56,000</u>
Township Sub Total	\$ 632,350
CD Sewer Enterprise	124,000
CD Sewer Replace	<u>46,000</u>
Sewer Total	170,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$802,350

In looking at the income side, 2022 receipts were 21% over plan and fund balances were healthy. Balances are expected to be lower by this time next year due to the 2023 budget plan. The group discussed the decreased Taconite production due to mine closures. For 2022 taconite tax received was 9% less than planned. This tax is based upon a 3-year average and future production is uncertain. Supervisors decided to plan on \$55,000 for 2024 as was planned for 2023. Finally, the Board calculated how much must be raised by levy. No one wanted to significantly raise the levy, but there were also concerns about letting the fund balances drop too low. A six-month balance was agreed to be the minimum amount necessary for day-to-day business. After discussion, the levy included below was agreed upon – a 10% increase over this year.

2024 Proposed LEVY:

General	\$44,000
Road & Bridge	\$275,000
Road Enhancement	\$20,000
Buildings	\$25,000
Fire	\$45,000
Cemetery	\$2,500
General Debt Service	<u>\$28,500</u>
TOTAL LEVY	\$440,000

Other Anticipated Income     \$95,300

Sewer User Fees (estimate)\$170,000

TOTAL INCOME                \$705,300

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. upon motion by Voss, second Jaeger.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk