

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 20, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, June 20, 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; Deputy Treasurer Bobbi Salakka; and Town Operations and Facilities Manager Jody Reineccius.

Absent: Wastewater Operator Hoops

Visitors Present: None

Chairman Hull called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

None

ROAD & SAFETY:

Road Report – Reineccius apologized and retracted his resignation from last meeting.

Gravel Pit – Reineccius reported cleaning up the spill area. Hull reported that McCarthy gave permission for the overburden pile to be used.

Part Time Employee – Reineccius requested hiring a part time on-call equipment operator as soon as possible to make it quicker to complete road projects. Hull noted we have done this type of thing many times in the past. After discussion, motion Hull, second Krech to have the Clerk run an ad for two weeks for a Part Time On-Call Equipment Operator. Carried unanimously. And, motion Hull, second Krech to authorize Hull and Reineccius to collaborate on an updated position description and compensation package that can be brought back to the Board for approval. Carried unanimously.

SEWER OPERATIONS:

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

Wastewater Operator’s Report – June 9, 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	est. 0.8000 million gallons
June	0.8657 million gallons	
July	0.9316 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>0.3881 Million gallons</u>	
<u>Total</u>	<u>8.4291 million gallons</u>	

In addition, during May, there were 79,800 gallons of trucked in septage and greywater. (0.0798 million gallons)

Effluent	2022	2023
May – Discharged	3.018 million gallons irrigated	3.040 million gallons irrigated
June – Discharged	2.986 million gallons irrigated	
July - Discharged	4.563 million gallons irrigated	
August - Discharged	2.218 million gallons irrigated	
September - Discharged	2.984 million gallons irrigated	

October - Discharged 1.147 million gallons irrigated
Total for year- 16.916 million gallons irrigated

Current Operations

Even though I had a late start on the discharge of water from the ponds, weather has been very favorable throughout the latter half of May and early June. I started irrigation on May 11 and as predicted, I was walking dripper lines on fishing opener. In addition to what was discharged in May, June weather has allowed for 1.3 million gallons through today, Friday.

Lift Station #1 -Pump #2 Still waiting on the repair. I've talked to Mike Nelson about the need to get pump in and panel repaired as well as the failed piping. He did stop by and replace the contactors on both panels for the 4 pumps. They were badly burned, but had been in service for 23+ years.

Repairs needed on Lift #2, blown flange gasket, hopefully will replace it when he brings up pump for #1.

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

Grinder pumps- We had 3 failed pumps this month, if my memory is correct.

Both Rostvold and Gerard have submitted payment for installations scheduled for this summer. The grinder basins are on hand, I will go through our inventory to insure that we have the items needed for the installs prior to starting work.

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 needs to start.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Hoops, Wastewater Operator

New Install at Rostvolds – Reineccius reported that the DOT Right of Way permit application was submitted by the Clerk today. He said this should be ready for connection pretty soon.

New Install at Gerard – Reineccius said that we do not know the time frame for this install, but they have paid, and most of the materials are already on hand.

Sewer Operator Outsource – Reineccius said he has been speaking to both Eric Appelwick and Mike Miller and has some concerns about the level of liability insurance required.

New Septage Hauler Matt Lundgren – Reineccius said the new hauler is all set to go. His application was circulated with correspondence and signed by Supervisor Voss.

Repair of Lift Stations – Only one pump is working. Reineccius said that Nelson is almost ready to repair it but was just waiting on a few more parts. Krech questioned whether we should replace it rather than waiting.

Emergency Repairs – Reineccius reported that a repair was done for Doug Anderson and that there was a call out yesterday for Gooseberry Falls State Park that is still ongoing. Rags were found clogging the pump. Reineccius also discussed the fact that this station frequently alarms during busy weekends. Hull said that it has been a problem ever since the system was built.

PERSONNEL ISSUES

Hull said he met with Reineccius a couple times and has met with all other staff except for Mike Hoops. He said they have identified the major issues to be addressed. He said an electronic job board will be implemented showing where everyone is and what projects they are working on. He said it will also be accessible to the Board. He said he will meet weekly with Reineccius on the design and implementation of it.

Reineccius added that he met with the team and said the meeting went well. He plans to meet with the team Tuesdays at 9 a.m.

STEWART RIVER SEWER:

Voss reported that the classification for the Castle Danger System is too complicated to be changed down from C to D according to Nathan Feist at Bollig.

Voss reported that Kris Ambuel and Mike Beard will be coming up next week to see Voss and Hull. Hull added that these would be separate to avoid violating the Open Meeting Law.

REVIEW MINUTES:

Motion Hull, second Voss to accept as presented the 5/16 Regular Meeting minutes. Motion Voss, second Krech to accept with three corrections noted the 6/13 Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes. Both motions carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Salakka as follows: TOSC checking: \$49,289.84 and TOSC savings: \$604,172.23 for a total of \$653,462.07. Outstanding checks totaled \$716.81 for a CTAS balance: \$652,745.26. Motion Voss, second Krech to accept the May Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion Krech, second Hull to authorize the requested transfer of \$57,000 from savings to checking. Questions were raised on the amount of the transfer and Deputy Clerk Anderson explained there were several large invoices for the sewer. Both motions carried unanimously.

READING OF THE BILLS:

The current month's bills were read: claims 9771-9795 totaling \$49,551.14, and payrolls through June 23. Motion Hull, second Voss, to authorize payment of the bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board considered the following:

- Email from Silver Bay requesting participation in a regional airport authority. Motion Hull, second Voss to have the Clerk write a letter declining participation in a joint powers agreement for the Airport. Carried unanimously.
- MATIT June Newsletter.
- Completed Septage Dumping Agreement with Matt Lundgren was reviewed and signed by Supervisor Voss.
- From Lake County, notice of decision on a variance request.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Town Attorney – Motion Hull, second Voss to have the Clerk write a letter to Daniel Doda declining his offer to represent the Township and to continue with Scott Witty. Carried unanimously.

Insurance Project – A quote has not been received from Warren Miller yet, but we now have until August 15th to pay on the MATIT policy or choose to go with a private insurer. In discussion the Clerk was directed to contact Brown and Brown in Minneapolis to obtain a second private insurance quote.

Repaired Pavilion Door – Plans were made to complete door trim around the new door.

PENDING BUSINESS:

None

PERPETUAL BUSINESS:

Gordon Variance and US Bank Signatory – No response from Lake County has been received yet.

Cemetery – The Clerk reported two upcoming grave openings in the next few months. Then, the decision to beautify the water stations made last year was discussed as this has not yet been done.

Historic Town Hall and Broken Water Main – Plans were made to repair the broken water main. Krech then discussed research he has been doing in regard the Historic Hall. The Clerk had provided him with written estimates of repairs that were obtained two years ago. Krech said he is working to learn how Finland obtained grant funding for their new hall. He also suggested that we do a survey to find out the opinion of the

residents. Hull then recounted meeting up with an Americorps group who are teaching young people how to restore historical sites or buildings. He shared an email and flyer about what the group can do.

OTHER

Krech asked Reineccius if he or Thompson could check on a tree along Loop Road that looks to be ready to fall across our road. He was responding to a constituent complaint call.

There being no further business, motion Voss, second Krech to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday July 18, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk