

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
AUGUST 6, 2024

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday August 6, 2024, in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road, for the purpose of discussing all issues before the Board.

Present: Supervisors Chuck Voss, Greg Hull and Scott Krech, Clerk Alison Oftedah; and Town Operations and Facilities Manager Paul Thompson.

Absent: Deputy Clerk Anderson

Visitors Present: Elizabeth Busa

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

### **Constituent Concerns**

Hull relayed a call in which a constituent complimented the Board for responsiveness to a prior complaint.

**Levy** – Voss reminded the group that the Annual Meeting will be re-opened next week. The Board discussed the levy and viewed the Town bank account balance. The July CTAS numbers were not yet available.

### **Road and Safety**

Thompson reported that a washing machine had to be pulled out of the stream off the side of Castle Danger Road after a call from Bill Peterson. The beaver issues were resolved at the Alger Grade stream culvert. He changed the oil in the grader and then graded Press Camp, Cedar, West Castle Danger, Bunker Hill, and spread gravel at the sewer road. The new International plow truck was taken down to the dealer Allegiance for a recall, service and DOT with papers. He got an estimate for air brakes -- \$10,000. The group felt that we would not be purchasing air brakes right now. He did a work trade with City of Two Harbors – they did 5 hours of labor fixing our pumper truck and we then provided them chloride so that they could apply dust control in Town. They used 1400 gallons of chloride, so they still owe Silver Creek some work. Several locates were done.

Tractor – Lulich might be able to repair it in September.

Safety – Trench box purchase is still on the list.

Mini Excavator – Thompson got pricing on new mini-excavators as well as rental prices. Outsourcing grave opening to Cavallin Funeral was discussed.

### **General Sewer Operations**

Signed Contract with Eric Appelwick – Appelwick was not at the meeting. The contract was circulated for all Board members to review. The division of work between Silver Creek and AUS was discussed.

Appelwick had sent an email with completed work done, including two site visits in the last week of July for pump issues in the lift station and for repairing part of the drip irrigation line. He submitted July MPCA reporting. One repair on the irrigation drip lines was made and this week a site visit is planned for tomorrow and more line maintenance is needed.

Gerard's Installation – Thompson said everything is completed and seeding and mulching is done. There is one area that is wet and will need smoothing once it dries out.

Rostvold's Installation – Thompson is waiting for the homeowner's electrician to connect power so that the new pump system can be tested.

Maintenance Issues – Grease had to be pumped from the lift station on 6/26 and again on 7/26, so it is believed that there is still a problem with the amount coming from the Rustic. Thompson also reported responding to an after-hours call at the staff housing for Grand Superior Lodge. The problem was believed to be caused by the usage -- 13 staff members are living at the house. Lift station one still has issues – The Sycom alarm and monitoring system shows that the replaced rebuilt pump 2 is running very little and pump 1 is doing all the work. It might be airlocked. Thompson also reported tools disappeared from the ponds. Servicing of the generators was started but some parts were missing and it will be continued later this week.

Fund Transfer for Sewer Road Gravel – 6 loads of material (60 cubic yards at \$6.95 per yard), were used on the sewer driveway road. The Wastewater fund will owe the Road and Bridge fund \$417.00.

Facilities – Thompson reported that the air conditioning for the Office and Board Room were repaired. He found the problem with the water pump – it appears to be the farm tap over by the skating rink. He plans to replace it.

### **Stewart River Wastewater Project**

Voss reported no change on this project.

### **Correspondence**

The following items were passed around for consideration:

- Signed Contract with AUS for sewer operations.
- District 10 Meeting Notice.
- Comparison of annual sewer payroll paid and AUS' annual cost in the new contract.
- Payment Advice showing receipt of \$2,934 in Town Aid tax monies.
- Quarterly report of Employee 457B Deferred Comp Plan.
- Message from Director of MAT.
- 3 submittals to the MPCA to remove Reineccius, add Appelwick and change the head Contact to Chairman Voss.
- Email from Nathan Feist regarding Ben Oliver proposed 49 unit RV park in sewer district across from Gooseberry Park.
- Affidavit of Posting of sample ballots for August Primary Election was signed.
- Right of Interment was signed.
- Price change notice from Intuit for Quickbooks software subscription.
- 2 Lake County Hearing notices with Land Use Applications for properties in Silver Creek.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Historic Hall – No change.

Cemetery Cap Project – No change.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

District 10 Meeting – Only Voss plans to attend the meeting August 29.

Security – The Board discussed a bid to update codes on the garage door clickers for \$700. There are 3 clickers not returned that allow entry. Thompson also mentioned the compromised back door. The staff was urged to try to change security codes themselves. The Board did not feel that updating the clickers would be worth the money. However, everyone felt a camera is a good idea and Krech might have one to donate free of charge.

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

Election – The Election next week will be in the Board Meeting Room – Oftedahl might need help moving Board room tables out.

Newsletter – The Clerk requested ideas for the September Newsletter.

### **OTHER**

The Clerk asked how to handle the iPad returned by Reineccius. As it has his personal apple ID, and not the Town's, it cannot be wiped. It is 4 years old. In discussing merits of wiping it, the Board suggested giving it to him rather than destroying it.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m. upon motion Voss, second Krech. Carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Tuesday, August 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk