

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
November 9, 2021

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday November 9, 2021 in the Board Meeting Room at 1924 Town Road, for the purpose of discussing all issues before the Board.

Present: Supervisors Chuck Voss, Chris Jaeger, and Greg Hull; Clerk Alison Oftedahl; Deputy Clerk Katie Anderson, and Operations Assistant Paul Thompson.

Absent: Operations Manager Jody Reineccius; Wastewater Operator Mike Hoops

Chairman Voss called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Constituent Concerns – None.

Road and Safety – Thompson reported that road grading is just about done and winter preparations are almost complete. The plow is on the truck, but he still has to put the wing on the grader. Also the sander still needs to be installed. The Cemetery and Historic Hall have been winterized.

General Sewer Operations – A written Operator's report was not available, but Thompson said that all winterization tasks are done. Frost boxes and blankets have been placed, pumps have been calibrated, pond water has been transferred and irrigation lines blown out.

Christensen Survey and Easement – The Board viewed the utility survey of the Christensen parcels. It has been forwarded to Attorney Scott Witty for creation of the easement.

Meters – The group discussed ownership and control of the water meters at commercial sewer properties. Questions were raised as to whether the Town can own and control those or not and whether there are meters that transmit digitally, eliminating the need to drive out to check them. Voss directed the group to wait to get input from Hoops and Reineccius.

Growth Plan – The Clerk reported on research done to find written legal agreements connecting the assessment to a set limit of wastewater gallons. None have been found so far. Calls were placed to then-Clerk Wendy Langanke, and Lake County Auditor Ronnie Radle. Langanke said that the assessments paid by commercial accounts were based upon the engineer's estimate of their future use – she didn't believe any maximum limit was set. The Auditor said her files only show assessment amount and a reason "connection to the sewer". After discussion, the group felt that it is likely not legal to try to assess more on a commercial account who exceeds their original estimated flow.

Grand Superior Lodge – Neighbor complaints about the well, meter issues, and the Conditional Use Order were discussed. It was suggested that the County is the authority for any enforcement of well issues. Voss suggested we wait for Mike Hoops opinion on all of these issues.

Stewart River Wastewater Project – Voss reported that Silver Creek remains on the bill for federal funding and that the bill has not yet passed. He also said that Brian and Nathan from Bollig would like to come to the next meeting to present plans and discuss regionalization.

Correspondence – The following items were passed around for consideration:

- Notification of Two Harbors Corridor Survey and public meeting – November 9.
- Invoice to School District for Election expenses incurred last week. Clerk was directed to verify that all hours were charged. Oftedahl and Anderson worked some judging hours due to one of the other judges going home sick.
- National Rural Water email on Passage of Historic Infrastructure Bill.
- Affidavit of Posting of Sample Ballot for School District Election.
- Right of Interment document.
- Letter from Lake County certifying the number of miles of Township Roads – 25.84.
- 7 approved Lake County Land Use applications.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Potential Fund Transfers – The Board considered a fund transfer from the General Fund into the Cemetery Fund to erase the deficit and viewed the Cash Control report from CTAS.

Mowing Contract – The Board discussed whether to advertise for competitive quotes, since it has been three years. A decision will be made next week.

Snowplow Policy – The Board reviewed a copy of last year's policy and did not identify any needed changes.

Polling Place Resolution – The draft Resolution was considered – setting the polling place to 1924 Town Road.

Deputy Clerk Public Notary – The Clerk asked if the Town would pay for Anderson to get her Notary Public license. The Board approved this request.

PENDING BUSINESS

Website – The website is live and essentially finished. Analytics showing the number of searches or hits has not yet been delivered. The Clerk will follow-up.

Newsletter – A very incomplete draft of the December Newsletter was circulated, and the Clerk asked for more ideas for stories.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m. upon motion Voss, second Hull. Carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Tuesday, November 16, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk