

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday September 14, 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, Town Operations Assistant Paul Thompson, and Wastewater Operator Mike Hoops

Absent: Jody Reineccius.

Chairman Voss called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Constituent Concerns – None.

Road and Safety – Thompson reported that grading had been done. He said they hauled rip-rap to shore up the Town Road Bridge and rebuilt a trailer for use with the sewer frost blankets. There is an opportunity to pick up several used belly blades at a reasonable price if they will work with the truck. There is a broken carrier bearing in the Dodge Truck. At the cemetery one grave opening was done.

New Truck Purchase – The estimated arrival for the new truck has pushed to May.

General Sewer Operations – Thompson reported that they are working on a repair at control structure number 1 at the ponds. Operator Hoops submitted his Operators' Report. He said that irrigation is done but they are keeping options open in case more needs to be done later this fall. He said there were no pump replacements last month. The report did not have totals as he plans to do them with Jody for training purposes. Hoops also noted that Wiikwaibaan Inini is back in business and will be contracted to repair the leaking flange gasket in the number 2 lift station.

Christensen Survey and Easement – Hoops reported that he is still waiting for a call back from the surveyor.

Sewer Growth Plan – A revised version of the Growth Plan was reviewed. Hoops said that it is not fully updated as some information is still being gathered.

Stewart River Wastewater Project – Voss reported that he and Nathan Feist will be going to UMD on October 5th for a ten-minute presentation before the Minnesota House Capital Investment Committee.

Correspondence – The following items were passed around for consideration:

- Levy Certification letter sent to Lake County.
- The draft Truth in Taxation form to be sent to Silver Creek residents.
- One signed Hall Rental Agreement.
- Two Right of Interment documents for signature.
- MN Main Street Covid Grant applications notification from IRRRB.
- Letter from DNR stating that contractors of the state must follow employee vaccine protocol.
- Email from Jeremy Kershaw regarding the Heck of the North Bike Race.
- Irrevocable Letter of Credit.
- 14 Approved Land Use Applications and 1 Interim Use Resolution from Lake County.

OLD BUSINESS

US Bank Certificate of Deposit for Gordon Variance – No change on this project.

Park State Bank Conversion – The Clerk reported that the bank statement this month was missing all debit transactions. The bank required a couple more days to resolve their computer issue and produce an accurate statement.

Historic Hall Future – After Jaeger pointed out that there are two more years of special levy for use in either demolition or repair of the Historic Hall, the Board tabled this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

Website – A written estimate from Breakwall Digital to create the site for \$1,800 and to provide ongoing maintenance at \$75 per hour was reviewed. After discussion, the Clerk asked permission to proceed as soon as possible because the old website is not functional for posting minutes or notices since the Google update September 1st. The Board gave the Clerk a green light on moving forward with Breakwall Digital to bring the site up as soon as possible.

Seasonal Storage – Seasonal storage dates were set at Oct 23rd for drop off and April 23rd for pickup. The Board did not see any reason to raise the rates. The Board was in consensus that drop-off and pick-up be on Saturday. After considering a few options, the Board directed the Clerk to contact last year's patrons first. New callers must be kept on a wait-list until a current customer decides to give up their space.

Special School District Election – The Board considered a letter received from the School District regarding holding a special election this November 2nd at Silver Creek. Considering the expense of an election and the timing of the notice, the Board directed the Clerk to find out if the Town is legally obligated to hold the election and request the applicable statute.

Heck of the North – Reineccius is working with the race coordinator to provide Event in Progress Signs.

Computer Issues – Oftedahl reported that the Microsoft One Drive wasn't always showing the Deputy laptop the same version of the document that opens on the Clerk laptop, causing some issues with sharing work. Some time will be spent on trying to find a solution, but Jaws will be contacted if one is not found.

Cell Phones – The group discussed the sewer on-call cell phone contracts. The Town is paying \$78 per month on these contracts but the phones are only used to forward the calls to Reineccius and Thompson's personal phones. Hull suggested that the contract be ended, and a stipend be paid to Thompson and Reineccius for the use of their personal phones for Town business. This will be voted on next month.

PENDING BUSINESS

None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m. upon motion Hull, second Jaeger. Carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk