

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
CASTLE DANGER SUBORDINATE SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2012

The Castle Danger Subordinate Service District meeting of The Town Board was held on Monday, August 27, 2012 at the Town Hall. Present were Supervisors – Mike Hoops, Greg Hull, Larry Lampart; Clerk – Laura Kleive; Deputy Clerk – Fred Whitney; Tim and Julie Stone; Julie Myers; LeRoger Lind, Tom Opfer and Don Wick.

Hoops called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

OPERATORS REPORT:

Hoops presented the August Wastewater Operator's Report.

Quarterly Flows:

June – .8919 million gallons
July – .9341 million gallons
August – .8326 million gallons (to date)

In addition to the above flows for the quarter, 49,600 gallons of waste were trucked in June, 6,500 gallons in July and a very limited amount in August. As rain events are predicted, the City of Two Harbors has some of their water trucked to our ponds so that their system isn't overwhelmed.

The June storm took a lot of Mr. Hoop's time as he had to control the levels within each pond. Hoops changed laboratories for sample analysis based upon costs, ease of delivery and timeliness of the reports back to us. Last day of irrigation will be August 31st, with lines blown in late September. Grinder pump inspection is scheduled for late September and early October. Service calls were performed as needed, and were only a limited number. The application for renewal of the permit was completed and submitted to MPCA within the required timelines. It was receipted as received, but no feedback has been received from the agency. All monthly reports and sampling required by MPCA were sent in a timely fashion. Fall work includes the line to the Rustic Inn. Hoops will be obtaining a cost estimate for a new irrigation control system access board. While the old system is over three generations old, and it is no longer supported, it still does work.

Hull moved to accept the report as presented, second Lampart. Carried unanimously.

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

Julie Myers was concerned that her grinder pump alarm did not sound during the storm. Hoops indicated that the waste water was pumping correctly out of the chamber, and that the water coming onto the lawn was from the storm and from out of the vent pipe. The only repair work was to pump out the water from the vent pipe. While the water did contain very small amounts of waste, this water and the water on the ground, was tested and found to be within safe levels per the MPCA. The case officer was called as is procedure during an event such as this. The placement of the pump, as well as the level and the level of the house when built were discussed. Myers believes that her house should have been built higher. As long as the pump within the chamber is working properly, the alarm will not go off in the future. Myers indicated that she did not have the check valve installed during construction. The only problem with any grinder station as a result of the storm was the Myer's. The check valve can be installed by any wastewater contractors or plumbers. The valve will help prevent backup, but won't guarantee the prevention of backup.

Don Wick was wondering if the storm had caused any damage to the sewer system. There was none. LeRoger Lind wondered if there was any water pollution from the landfill runoff. Hoops wasn't aware of any. Lind wanted to know if the website is up and running. Meeting minutes need to be added. Notices

are posted to our website. Lind is on the emailing list when minutes are sent out. He added that with multiple sewer districts in the future, should we create an overall District Board, as opposed to having multiple board meetings?

Tim and Julie Stone, husband and wife. Tim is brother to Peggy Stone and Christine Roswald, owners of the property currently being required to now hookup to the Castle Danger sewer system. The old mound system was grandfathered in 20 years ago, with the stipulation that it be discontinued twenty years later and the property then hooked up to the sewer system. Stone was hoping to not pay the access fee of \$8,000, but rather the \$5,000 fee that was in place twenty years ago. He wanted to discuss the entire process and the related charges to the hookup. Stone indicates that he will obtain a power of attorney in order to discuss the issue further, but wanted us to know that he/they are not disputing the requirement to hookup to the system, but rather wanted to keep the costs as low as possible in that the process had already begun 20 years ago. And, some of the "hookup requirements/costs" have already taken place years ago. Additionally, could the costs be added to the property's assessments? Is a survey now really required?

Hoops indicated that until we start the work, "dig the hole", will we be able to determine whether or not a tap and a curb stop were in fact installed. If there wasn't an easement filed twenty years ago, then a survey is in fact required. The cost of the work twenty years ago was cheaper. It was at a great discount and at earlier dollar levels.

Stone then indicated that he is more concerned with how the fee is paid, versus the amount. He wants a twenty year assessment. Hull and Hoops indicated that a lien against the property may be required. Stone doesn't want that. A sewer extension request to the MPCA is required. Our engineering firm will also need to develop their report which is required for the MPCA request. Stone didn't realize the magnitude of the installation and permit requirements.

In addition to the \$8,000 access fee, there will be costs of material and installation. Stone wanted to know how much those costs would be. While the work can't happen yet this year, Hoops directed Rick Grupe to take measurements and develop two estimates – 1. If the tap and curb stop had in fact been installed, and 2. if the whole project needed to occur. This way, the Stone's will know all costs required before the work begins next year. If The Township does the work, there won't be an inspection fee added to the installation, nor will there be a markup. All final work documents will require a power of attorney. Stone indicated that this meeting was very helpful to understand the whole issue.

The Clerk will look into whether or not an easement had been filed and with our attorney as to creating a payment plan or an assessment for the overall costs while protecting The Township.

DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS:

The Tidball property notices have been sent certified, so we may now shut off their system. After the pump is removed, The Clerk will contact our attorney so that we can file against taxes for the delinquent sewer costs and cost of pump removal.

OLD BUSINESS:

Gooseberry Park is still running under the surcharge in that their "I & I" hasn't been fixed.

STEWART RIVER SUBORDINATE SERVICE DISTRICT:

There was no discussion.

CASTLE DANGER LAND USE:

There were no land use items. However the Linden brothers land use permit was briefly discussed. That permit was discussed at the last Town Board meeting on August 21st. It was noted that if there is

no running water into a cabin, the property is not required to hookup to the system. Lake County does not require inspections except for electrical inspections. The Township follows Lake County in that we only charge \$25 for a permit fee which doesn't even cover the cost of administration.

NEW BUSINESS:

The storm damage is approaching \$200,000. In that we had over a year's worth of operating funds in reserve due to our past year's proper budget management, we were able to make repairs as soon as possible, versus waiting for FEMA reimbursement. The FEMA rep is looking into how much of our costs regarding the Clark Road bridge construction project that we could recover.

Meeting notices were discussed. The Northshore Journal is our formal notice provider. Could we utilize an emailing list? Our official and legal posting requirements are being met. It is the responsibility of the constituents to access the public notification – newspaper, notice posting on the website, notice posting on The Town Hall notice board.

ADJOURN:

Hull made the motion to adjourn at 11:51 am, second Lampart. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Town Board will be held on Tuesday September 18, 2012, 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Frederick R. Whitney, Deputy Clerk