

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
November 20, 2012

The regular meeting of The Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday November 20, 2012 at the Town Hall. Present were Supervisors – Greg Hull, Larry Lampart; Clerk – Frederick R. Whitney; Town Road Foreman – Rick Grupe; Lake County Commissioner – Rich Sve

Hull called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

Rich Sve asked what The Board's thoughts were concerning "Rumble Strips" on County Road No. 3 along the entire roadway shoulders. The question was asked, "Is the roadway wide enough?" Mr. Sve voiced a concern that it may not be and he indicated that the County is on hold as to adding anymore in that there are now too many of these strips around the County. He is simply looking for input as to their use. Mr. Hull indicated that for safety reasons perhaps, but don't install them just because there is money. What about more control or a barricade at the "T" of Highway 61 and County Road 3? Mr. Sve indicated that Highway 61 is a State Highway and they have no control as to what happens at that intersection, but the State had indicated that would be more detrimental then "shooting through the trees". Mr. Sve indicated that a flashing stop sign will be installed.

Mr. Sve discussed the PILT – payment in lieu of taxes – as it relates to our County. Specifically, prior to the land swap that the Cravaack legislation created, County land within the BWCA received PLT monies. Now, it is Federal land and no PLT monies are to be paid. After speaking with Congressman Elect Nolan, it appears that Senators Klobuchar and Franken will be authoring a Senate companion bill to correct this issue.

However, there is some legislation on the books from 1976, or so, that "couples" Federal monies paid that may be reduced by any State monies paid. Therefore, it is a fear that this proposed companion bill may cause existing dollars to be decreased even further. Further legislation to correct this issue is being discussed.

CLARK ROAD ENCAMPMENT RIVER BRIDGE:

Rick Grupe indicated that two of the cement structures showed signs of cracks when removed from their forms at the company's facility. One of the structures may be repaired. Worst case scenario is that assembly will continue December 3rd after the new piece(s) are ready. December 15, 2012 is still the contracted deadline for completion.

STEWART RIVER SUBORDINATE SERVICE DISTRICT:

Greg Hull reported that we are still trying to locate adequate acreage for the treatment ponds and the projects' facilities, as well as how do we handle wetlands as they relate to the project? Mr. Sve asked what had been decided with previous locations. Mr. Hull answered that all locations so far have either too many wetlands, the terrain is too steep, or is too close to residential areas per required setback restrictions. Additionally, if we tried to access lands that had been previously identified as wetlands, than we could not access Minnesota Rural Development monies thus making the project cost prohibitive.

Mr. Lampart asked about utilizing a tank system versus ponds if we cannot find adequate lands. It was noted that a tank system is more odorous and quite a bit more expensive.

In an email from Eric Blasing from Wenck Engineering, (a copy of which was given to all supervisors), he indicated that the property that he reviewed near the Two Harbors golf course contains only some 19 acres of suitable land due to setbacks, wetlands and terrain constraints. He also said that the mapping and GIS related work will be complete by the end of the month. When finished, he will forward to the Clerk their access procedures.

Mr. Hull added that The Township also has land up on the Alger spur that may be used for a land swap, or a sale, for land where ponds could be constructed. There are still some options that we can pursue.

REVIEW MINUTES:

Motion by Lampart, second by Hull to accept the 10/09/2012 Regular meeting minutes as amended. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Lampart, second by Hull to accept the 10/23/2012 Closed – Labor Negotiations – meeting minutes as presented. Carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

In the Treasurer's absence, the Clerk presented the Treasurer's report. Ending balance of \$369,496.55 with \$306.45 in outstanding checks, and a bank refund error of \$.35, for a total of \$369,496.20 balance as of 10/31/12.

Motion by Hull, second Lampart to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Hull, second Lampart to transfer \$50,000.00 from savings to checking as per Treasurer's request. Carried unanimously.

READING OF THE BILLS:

Current month's bills were read; Claim #3161 thru 3196. Claim #3173, Federated CO-OP in the amount of \$208.93, was questioned as to the paying of sales taxes. The Clerk indicated that we were not exempt on propane as a utility. The Clerk indicated that he would double check with the State before submitting payment. (Please note – The Clerk has since confirmed that we must pay the sales taxes on the Federated CO-OP claim). Motion by Lampart, second Hull authorizing payment of the bills and electronic fund transfers. Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Lake County Land Use Applications.
- Lake County Variance Request Approvals.
- Lake County Board of Adjustments
- Eric Blasing, Wenck Engineering, eMail

ROAD & SAFETY:

Rick Grupe indicated that while he is on vacation from December 26th thru January 13th, Ken Langanki will be in charge and Ron Hall will help if needed. Rick is bringing the new pickup truck to have the plow installed. Roads are in reasonable condition and ready for winter. Sewer receipts are all in save one customer. The Rustic Inn meter is malfunctioning, so they have requested a plumber to install repairs. While the meter has been broken for 2 months, their bill is at a set fee. When it comes time to recalculate the fee for 2013, same month readings for 2010 and 2011 will be utilized in order to generate a more accurate fee. After 2 batteries and some fuel have been stolen, Rick indicated that a game camera has been set to aid in detecting any problems that may occur around the Town garage. And, Fred Whitney has donated a 9 camera CCTV – DVR surveillance system to further assist in our security. The 10 new sewer pumps have been ordered.

Grupe requested that during our upcoming budget sessions that The Board consider adding monies for the three larger culverts we will need to install around the Township. Grupe will have an estimate prepared for budget purposes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Clerk presented the final 2011 audit from our auditors, Walker, Giroux and Hahne. The electronic version has been submitted to the State, MN PFA and Lake Bank.

Fred Whitney updated The Board that the full notary application has been processed, and all necessary signatures have been recorded at the County. Fred Whitney now has full notary powers. Whitney reported that the Clerk transition is moving along nicely.

NEW BUSINESS:

1990 Chev Truck Bid Opening – The Clerk reported that there were a total of 8 bids received.

- Don Anselment, \$2,250.00
- Merle Pettit, \$1,985.00
- Joseph Tasky, \$1,525.00
- Curt L. Larsen, \$1,507.77
- Richard Lindberg, \$1,506.50,
- Mike Klinker, \$1,000.00
- Mark Veness, \$802.00
- Normad T. Bourdage, \$712.80.

The highest bid of \$2,250 came from Mr. Don Anselment of Two Harbors.

Hull moved to accept the bid of \$2,250.00 from Don Anselment, Lampart second. Carried unanimously. Upon receipt of certified funds, the Clerk was directed to transfer title to Mr. Anselment.

Polling Hours – March 2013 – Hull moved March 12, 2013, noon thru 8:00 p.m. to be our March Election polling hours, second by Lampart. Carried unanimously.

Road Foreman Job Transition – Grupe presented the job position descriptions that he had reviewed. Whitney presented salary information he obtained from internet sources. The Clerk was directed to attempt to obtain county labor contracts of those counties surrounding Lake; St. Louis, Cook, Itasca, Carlton. Hull indicated that he would now proceed with the draft creation of a three year transition plan, as well as the annual personnel policy containing a cost of living raise calculation.

ADJOURN:

Lampart made the motion to adjourn at 8:28 pm, second Hull. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Frederick R. Whitney, Clerk