

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
November 19, 2013

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday November 19, 2013 at the Town Hall. Present were Supervisors – Greg Hull and Larry Lampart; Clerk – Frederick R. Whitney; Treasurer – Bobbi Gilbert arrived at 6:35 p.m.; Road Foreman – Rick Grupe; Wenck Engineering Representative – Eric Blasing. Supervisor Hoops was not available while in Montana.

Hull called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

None

STEWART RIVER SUBORDINATE SEWER DISTRICT:

Eric Blasing, engineer from Wenck Engineering, provided an update. Wetland delineation is complete and we do have 17 acres for the plant location at the end of Cedar Road. The DNR has approved the land. Additionally, Eric has once again begun working on updating all reports for the project and application for Rural Development. We now need to have a Phase 1A “desktop” archaeological review conducted for the site. Instead of the original estimate of \$8,000, the Duluth firm is only requiring \$4,818.83 and will be done by January 15, 2014.

Lampart made a motion, second by Hull, approving the bid for the archaeological review conducted by the Duluth Archaeological Center, for the “not to exceed” amount of \$4,818.83. Motion carried.

Eric discussed the visit conducted by Tony from Peterson Onsite. They reviewed potential updates to the hardware and software at the Castle Danger Sewer District pump/pond control panel. This is in addition to the hardware/software bid already received from Randy Saulter of In-Control, Inc.

ASPEN ROAD ALTERATION:

Town Clerk Whitney presented the Board with the “Aspen Road Alteration petition” and his “Affidavit of Ownership and Occupancy”. As Board Vice Chairman, Hull accepted the “Aspen Road Alteration petition”, as well as the “Affidavit of Ownership and Occupancy”. The Board stated that they have reviewed both the petition and affidavit, and have previously walked and examined the proposed road alteration area on Aspen Road. The Board has determined that the documents are in order and that the area is not adjacent to a public waterway or river. The Clerk indicated that the Board now has 30 days to set a hearing date for the Aspen Road Alteration.

Hull made a motion, second by Lampart, setting December 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall as the hearing date and location for the Aspen Road Alteration hearing. Motion carried.

The Board directed the Clerk to serve the “Notice and Order for Hearing” to the affected parties – Duane and Robin Ricard, Lyle and Patricia Saur and to provide Affidavits of Personal Service. The Board directed the Clerk to publish the “Notice and Order” in the Town’s official newspaper – North Shore Journal – at least 10 days prior to the hearing., and to post the notice on the Town’s website and bulletin board.

On a different matter regarding Aspen Road, the Clerk presented the Board with a letter dated November 13, 2013 from Lyle Saur. Hull made a motion, second by Lampart, directing the Clerk to send Mr. Saur a letter acknowledging receipt of the letter. Motion carried.

REVIEW MINUTES:

Motion by Lampart, second Hull to accept the 10/08/2013 Regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Hull, second Lampart to accept the 10/15/2013 Closed labor meeting as amended. Motion carried.

Motion by Hull, second Lampart to accept the 10/29/2013 Closed labor meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Lampart, second Hull to accept the 10/29/2013 Special Wakefield Variance meeting as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

TTOSC Lake Bank Balances: \$656,065.26 which balances to CTAS without any errors. The Treasurer noted that the Rustic Inn sewer payments that had been certified to taxes and were previously entered as tax receipts in July were reassigned to the correct sewer accounts.

Motion by Hull, second Lampart to accept the October 2013 Treasurer Report as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Hull, second Lampart to transfer \$95,000 from savings to checking as per the Treasurer's request. Motion carried.

READING OF THE BILLS:

Current month's bills were read. Motion by Hull, second Lampart authorizing payment of claims #3594 - 3635 and electronic funds thru 11-19-2013. Motion carried.

Lampart made a motion, second by Hull to recess the meeting for 5 minutes at 7:24 p.m. Motion carried.

Hull called the meeting back in order at 7:33 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

LAKE COUNTY Land Use applications: Ness, Soffe, Happ, Encampment River Association, and Rheineck.

Minnesota Rural Water – Drinking water education material for 4th grade.

CO-OP connections discount cards

ROAD & SAFETY:

Road Foreman Grupe indicated that the frost is going down into the road. They made a quick turnaround modification at the end of Red Maple Lane as a result of the property owner's new garage and driveway modifications. Jason Barnard has started as the heavy equipment and sewer operator. We've mixed salt & sand and are ready for winter. We did get a lot of ditching done this year; on the Alger Grade. West Castle Danger road is being torn up a bit by the fiber installation crew. Working on pond #1 – making it ready for dumping. Working on the #1 generator so that it will operate properly and will look at upgrading it so that it will automatically start. Mowing is done. The new Lake County engineer has just started.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The final 2012 audit was distributed. The Clerk noted that it had not changed from the previously distributed "draft audit".

Lampart made a motion, second by Hull, to accept the 2012 Audit report and to authorize the Vice Chairman and Clerk to sign the acknowledgement letter. Motion carried.

The Clerk updated the Board that the 2013 Audit will again be conducted by Walker, Giroux & Hahne, Ltd.; this being the final year of our multi-year agreement. We will then go for bids with WGH, as well as others.

- Our termination from the Lake County Rec Board was discussed as a result of the Committee of the Whole meeting attended by Hull and Whitney. Additionally, the letter regarding termination that was sent to the County Board by the Clerk as directed by the Town Board has received no response. The Clerk did inform the Board that he had sent an email to the County Chairman indicating that we would be agreeable to rejoining the Rec Board if that were possible. No response has been received.
- Hull discussed the THUGs request regarding allowing a few small campers being allowed to park overnight on the ice rink area during their annual convention in August. This would be limited to the organizers of the event and they would provide an outdoor biffy. Hull wondered if there is an electrical outlet by the light pole. They also would be fine with a small charge to pay for the electricity used overnight. Lampart agreed to discover the cost of putting a lockable outlet on the light pole.
- The Road Foreman's insurance coverage was discussed. Grupe indicated that he is considering switching his insurance for his wife, but will wait for his coverage until January 1, 2014. As premium costs to the Township go down as a result, the stipend to Grupe will go up. The Board agreed. Hull requested that Grupe provide the Board with an insurance proposal indicating what Grupe would like to do.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Setting of the March 2014 elections.

Hull made a motion, second by Lampart setting March 11, 2014, noon to 8:00 p.m., at the Town Hall for the town elections. Motion carried.

- Deputy Clerk compensation.

Lampart made a motion, second by Hull, setting the Deputy Clerk compensation at \$10.50 per hour. Motion carried.

- PERA – ERIS authorized administrator.

Lampart made a motion, second by Hull, authorizing the Clerk to be the Town's authorized PERA and ERIS administrator, as well as authorizing the Vice Chairman and Clerk to sign the authorization letter. Motion carried.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. upon motion by Lampart, second Hull. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Tuesday December 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted
Frederick R. Whitney, Clerk