

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
CASTLE DANGER SUBORDINATE SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING
June 3, 2014

The Castle Danger Subordinate Service District meeting of The Town Board was held on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at the Town Hall. Present were Supervisors – Mike Hoops, Greg Hull, Larry Lampart; Clerk – Frederick R. Whitney; Deputy Clerk – Kristina Pirsig, Road Foreman – Rick Grupe; Constituents – Tom Opfer, Don Wick and Leroger Lind.

Hoops called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

Leroger Lind asked whether or not it was a requirement to have a backflow installed. Hoops indicated No, but it was always a good idea to have one installed.

WASTEWATER OPERATOR'S QUARTERLY REPORT: June 3, 2014

*March – Received 0.5288 million gallons influent
April – Received 0.8988 million gallons influent
May – Received 0.7695 million gallons influent*

The district received 37,900 gallons of trucked-in waste in during this quarter.

Irrigation began on May 7 with startup of system. We were limited by rainfall throughout the month and the late start. We discharged 2.822 million gallons of water. Maintenance has been performed as needed, all dripper lines were walked and flagged. All breakage repaired.

Ponds are at record highs as I write this. We have never had this much water. This is a result of heavy rains last fall, heavy snowfall and heavy rain this spring. We are searching when possible for inflow and infiltration.

At the time of this report being written the new control system is being installed on the irrigation system. By the time that we meet, I hope that it is operational. It will allow much latitude for the operator to be able to operate the system from an iphone.

The auto start for the generators is being installed at this time also. Wet weather and other issues have slowed the installers. It should also be finished this week.

We've had issues at Gooseberry Falls State Park again this spring. As in past years, air entering the system through the anti-siphon valves is allowing solids in wastewater to dry on walls of pipe. We may also have a problem with crushing of the pipe. Jetting is an option, but wet weather hampers crew from getting equipment to the jetting ports.

Service calls on failed pumps were performed as needed. As discussed in last operator's report, we had some issues with one of the units over at Grand Superior Lodge. Rick and Jason were able, with Dan Ziemet's help, to vacuum out the lift station, strain the wastewater and sort out all the sh#@ that had been flushed or thrown down toilets and drains. When the bill is paid for all the time that was spent on that project, they can mount it, as a reminder to their staff of what not to send down that hole in the toilet.

As I write this, the line over Camper's Creek is still frozen and we are still pumping and hauling that wastewater. When the ice is gone from my elevated compost bin (still frozen) I anticipate that this line will open. It was June 23 the last time it happened.

A group from MPL and North Shore Mining toured the treatment facility on May 30, they are looking at alternative methods to dealing with wastewater from the plants as well as the problems they are having with leachate from ash piles that they have stored across NE MN.

All monthly reports and sampling required by MPCA sent in a timely fashion.

Rate Review Hearing was held April 8, 2013. Due to computer program errors, the rates adopted at that hearing were in error. The hearing to correct that problem will be at 7:30 PM June 3, 2014.

Still working to resolve issues with County Coordinator, County Attorney and our legal counsel to move forward with the work that is required to complete enforcement action for zoning violations within the district. This is/has been an extremely slow process. Please bear with us.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Hoops, Operator

MINUTES – March 18, 2014:

The March minutes were available for review; they had been previously reviewed and approved by the Board.

FINANCIALS & DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS:

There were no accounts past due greater than 30 days.

FINANCIAL REPORT – 05-31-14:

Town of Silver Creek
Interim Financial Report by Account Number (YTD)
As of 05/31/2014

600 - Enterprise Fund	
Receipts:	<u>Actual</u>
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	\$102.00
Interest Earnings	\$62.80
Residential	\$5,154.75
Commercial	\$13,239.61
Connect/reconnect fees	<u>\$100.00</u>
Total Revenues	\$18,659.16
Disbursements:	
Sewer	<u>\$30,108.46</u>
Total Disbursements	\$30,108.46
Beginning Cash Balance	\$71.03
Outstanding 600 Fund Balance	\$11,378.27
602 - Enterprise - replacement	
Receipts:	<u>Actual</u>
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	\$0.00
Interest Earnings	\$44.88
Future Replacement	<u>\$6,131.46</u>
Total Revenues	\$6,176.34
Disbursements:	
Sewer	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Disbursements	\$0.00
Beginning Cash Balance	\$39,562.74
Outstanding 602 Fund Balance	\$45,739.08

Hull made a motion, second by Lampart, to accept the Operator’s Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The Clerk noted that the sewer receipts have not been made in May; some \$15,000 in receipts. The Clerk indicated that he will contact our auditors in order to find out if it would be permitted to enter the receipts into CTAS prior to the Treasurer making the deposits at the bank.

OLD BUSINESS:

Refer to Wastewater Operator’s report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hoops has requested of Wenck Engineering to investigate a solution to the Gooseberry Park campground airflow issue within the pipe over the winter months. Hoops indicated that he will begin to spray alum on the ponds beginning next Monday.

CASTLE DANGER LAND USE and STEWART RIVER WASTEWATER PROJECT:

The MPCA requested update letter to our application has been written and submitted as of June 2, 2014. This should insure that we are on the IUP – Intended Use Plan – at MPCA for 2015. RD – Rural Development – continues to perform their review of our application. The only “real issue” that has come up was that the RD engineer thought we should revisit the individual sewer system for the properties on Highway 61. The engineer wasn’t/isn’t aware of the poor soils, rocky soils, small lot sizes, etc. issues that prevent individual systems from being a viable alternative. Our engineers have enlightened the RD engineer.

Hoops indicated that the “People Serve” contract had expired and will be renewed in the next few weeks. People Serve is our backup of personnel support in the event that all wastewater operators are gone at the same time, or if we need additional labor to correct an issue.

Hoops indicated that the Wright residence is all installed and running. Sewer billing should begin as of 06-01-2014.

Hoops indicated that the Tidball property has a potential buyer who has made inquiries regarding the setback violations. The buyer understands the problems and is thinking of making a land only purchase with Wells Fargo.

ADJOURN:

Hull made the motion to adjourn at 7:56 p.m., second by Lampart. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Frederick R. Whitney, Clerk