

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2018

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 in the Board Meeting Room. Present were Supervisors: Greg Hull, Denny Moen, Mike Hoops; Clerk Alison Oftedahl; Treasurer Jamie Pellman; Town Operations and Facilities Manager Conrad Swanson, Snow Plow Operator Allen Anderson; Carey Johnson, and John Schlangen.

Chair Hull called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS:

Press Camp Road – Johnson and Schlangen attended the meeting to discuss the surface of the Press Camp Road and the possibility of applying a chipseal surface. A cost comparison, prepared by the Town Operations and Facilities Manager was presented. As a gravel road, the township spends an average of \$34,260 on maintenance across 10 years. If the road were chipsealed, the estimated 10 year cost would be \$137,525. The chipseal must be reapplied every 5 years. Discussion ensued regarding pros and cons of chipseal compared to blacktop. Because Press Camp Road is not a through road, the Board does not see the improvement as benefitting the township as a whole. For that reason, the Board would assess the Press Camp Road residents for 80% of the cost of black topping or chipsealing. As an illustration of how the funding could work, the proposal developed in 2011 for Press Camp Road was distributed to attendees. It showed the manner in which costs are apportioned to each homeowner based upon assessed property value. A new proposal with updated costs would need to be created if Press Camp residents decided to go forward with assessment. The Board also noted that the residents could form a Homeowner's Association to take control of the road and assume the costs of maintenance themselves. The Board encouraged Schlangen and Johnson to speak to their neighbors to gauge support. A petition of signatures demonstrating support by 51% or more of the residents is needed to move the paving project forward.

ROAD & SAFETY:

Town Operations and Facilities Manager Swanson reported smooth operations with no concerns or issues.

SEWER OPERATIONS:

There was no status change on the Alum Elimination project or the MPCA permit application. Both are waiting on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

REVIEW MINUTES:

- Motion by Hoops, second Moen to accept with corrections the 1/16 Regular Meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.
- Motion by Hoops, second Moen to accept as presented the minutes from the 2/13 Budget and Levy Meeting. Passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

TOSC checking: \$59,218.79 and TOSC savings: \$566,619.37 for a total of \$625,838.16. Outstanding Checks: \$950.00. CTAS balance: \$624,888.16. A transfer of \$60,000 was requested. Motion by Hull, second Hoops, to authorize the requested transfer. Motion by Moen, second Hoops, to accept the January Treasurer Report as presented. Both motions passed unanimously.

READING OF THE BILLS:

The current month's bills were read: Claims 8321-8322 and 5546-5579 totaling \$54,963.94; and payrolls through 2/20/2018. Hoops abstained on payroll 0216201809. A motion was made by Hull, second Hoops, to authorize payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Lake County Land Use – Applications received by Lake County from Silver Creek residents were reviewed.
- Silver Bay – Fire Contract Letter – Silver Creek was charged \$14,719.30 for last year's Fire Department service provided by Silver Bay. The letter stated that next year's costs are estimated at \$12,105.94.
- MN Association of Townships – Spring Short Courses – The training schedule was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Election Judges – Sue Hilliard, Val Johnson, Jennifer Havlick and John Bathke were approved as election judges for the Silver Creek Township elections in March, on a motion by Hoops, second Moen. Hilliard, Havlick and Bathke were also appointed to the Absentee Ballot Board on motion by Hoops second Moen. Both motions passed unanimously.
- Town Hall Fence Project – This project is on hold until spring.
- Wage Garnishment – Two payments have been received by Silver Creek as a result of the wage garnishment. The Clerk will be resubmitting paperwork periodically as required by law to ensure that wages continue to be garnished until full repayment of the debt has been made.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Fund Transfer – Because the Road and Bridge Fund has a negative balance, while the General Fund has a high balance, Hull proposed that a fund transfer be used to replenish Road and Bridge. After discussion, a motion was made by Hoops, second Moen to approve the transfer of \$100,000 from General Fund 100 to Road and Bridge Fund 225. Passed unanimously.
- Deputy Clerk – Oftedahl named Laura Kleive as her Deputy Clerk. It was noted that Kleive served as Clerk in the past and has valuable experience. After some back and forth, motion by Hull, second Hoops to set the Deputy Clerk wage at a rate that is \$0.50 less per hour than the wage of the Clerk. Motion carried on vote of 2 to 1.
- Rural Water Training – Sewer Operator Hoops made a request to attend Rural Water Training in St. Cloud. Motion by Hull, second Moen to approve the request and authorize payment of registration fee, mileage, and all other expenses necessarily and actually incurred on the trip.

PENDING ISSUES:

- Stewart River SSD – Hull reported that representatives from the Lake County Board and the City of Two Harbors will be visiting the State Capitol on March 12-14 to drum up support for local projects including the Stewart River sewer project. These dates overlap with Silver Creek's Annual Meeting, however all members felt it important to have someone go down to speak for Stewart River. Motion by Moen, second Hoops to send Hull to the Capitol in an effort to get the Stewart River Sewer project onto the Bonding Bill.
- Cemetery Kiosk – Moen reported good progress with 2/3 of the names in the cemetery book now added to the electronic directory that will be used to create the kiosk map.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Hoops, second Moen, to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday March 20, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk