

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2018

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 in the Board Meeting Room. Present were Supervisors: Greg Hull, Denny Moen and Mike Hoops; Clerk Alison Oftedahl, Treasurer Jamie Pellman, and Equipment Operator Allen Anderson.

Absent: Town Operations and Facilities Manager Jody Reineccius.

Constituents and Visitors Present: Chuck Voss and Lake County Commissioner Rich Sve.

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

CONSTITUENTS CONCERNS: Commissioner Sve brought up a concern raised by a business owner regarding Lake County Highway Department Operators digging material out of Silver Creek's property where it borders the County's Gooseberry Gravel Pit. After some discussion, the Silver Creek Board expressed confidence that this was inadvertent, noting the line is now clearly marked, and that the material does not amount to much compared to maintaining the good relationship between the County and the Township.

TAX FORFEIT GOOSEBERRY VILLAGE PROPERTY:

- Commissioner Sve reported that the Minnesota Department of Revenue has given permission to Lake County to sell the tax forfeit parcels to the Town of Silver Creek. The next step is to work with the Assessor's Office to determine the official market value. Chairman Hull reported that an initial meeting was held with Attorney Scott Witty who will represent Silver Creek's interests. Witty did not see any legal issues that would prevent Silver Creek from selling the property to Hammes at the desired price. The proceeds used to pay back Silver Creek's PFA sewer loan.

ROAD & SAFETY:

- Road Report – Hull noted that Town Operations and Facilities Manager Reineccius was out on a pre-approved absence. Operator Anderson delivered the Road Report in his place. He stated that riprap was applied to culverts on Flood Bay, Loop, and Town Roads, and new culverts were installed on East Castle Danger and Grimmer Roads. All roads were graded except for a few small ones. They hauled in and prepared salt-sand mixture for winter. The Cemetery was staked out in preparation for snowfall. The water in the Old Town Hall was turned off, and panels were applied to the Pavilion to close in the boats and campers being stored for constituents. The water lines at the Cemetery were blown out in preparation for freezing temperatures. Wings were put on the plow truck and grader.
- Anderson Compensation – Motion by Hull, second Hoops to raise Anderson's wage to \$25 per hour going forward and to pay retroactive to September 6, to recognize the way that Anderson really stepped up after Town Operations and Facilities Manager Swanson left his position. Motion passed unanimously.
- State Disaster and Town Road Bridge – Motion by Hoops, second Moen to accept the bid from Nordic Group to repair the abutments on both sides of the Town Road Bridge for no more than \$21,500. Motion by Hoops, second Hull to authorize Moen to negotiate the price with Nordic and attempt to obtain a lower price that was expressed verbally to Moen in a prior face-to-face meeting with Steve Foster of Nordic. The repair is scheduled for November.
- Employment Issues – As a follow-up to discussion at the last Committee of the Whole meeting, Hull reported that he and Reineccius developed a position description for a full-time Operations Assistant to provide more scheduled coverage, allow for rotation of weekend on-call duties, and provide backup when one of the two employees is sick or takes vacation. An advertisement for this new position is currently running in the Northshore Journal. Hull also reported on Nick Kelly's termination that was due to Kelly stating that he was not willing or able to do sewer repair work. A motion was made by Moen, second Hoops to authorize Hull and Reineccius to conduct interviews and negotiate an offer to the selected candidate. The Board will ratify the decision at the next meeting.

SEWER OPERATIONS:

- Operator Report – Motion by Hull, second Moen to accept the Wastewater Operator's Report as presented by Hoops and detailed below.

Wastewater Operator's Report – October 23, 2018

Influent

July – Received 1.1511 million gallons of influent

August - Received 1.1308 million gallons of influent

September – Received 0.8732 million gallons of influent

Flows for the months of July, August and September were up and down compared to last year. In addition, the district received 0.1658 million gallons of trucked in wastewater during this same period.

Effluent

July –discharged 3.746 million gallons

August – discharged 2.819 million gallons

September – discharged 1.479 million gallons

October – discharged 1.477 million gallons

Discharge for the year was done October 15. I discharged about 4 million gallons less this year than last year. Even though we do have less water on hand than last year at this time, I would have like to have discharged more. Next year we need to have personnel willing to work while I am gone.

Current Operations

Changeover of labs went well. I definitely appreciate not having to make the trips to Duluth to deliver samples. The district should be seeing a cost savings.

We have had some pump replacements being done. I would say the average number is about the same this year as last year. Just grouped up over the last few weeks. I have 5 replacement pumps on hand at this time.

Normal routine maintenance is being completed. Plans are to do inspections in the near future. Prior to that we have to blow out the irrigation lines. That should be complete this week.

Weed and grass control was done during the growing season as needed.

After struggling to get MNDOT permits to do the install at 3181 Hwy 61, we started and hit ledge rock. We are now waiting for a blaster.

Adjustments that were made to float levels at Gooseberry Falls State Park worked well. I had one weekend callout. It was a pump beginning to fail. The pumps did catch up later in the afternoon and we changed pump during regular working hours. No trucking was required.

Word from MPCA is that they are working on our permit. It will have some changes. We no longer have a point discharge permit. It will become surface discharge. We only have to renew every 10 years and there will be a cost savings both from permit fees as well as time to file the permit application. The phosphorus limit is being removed from our permit and we will have an Ag Rate Limit. This will place a limit of how many pounds of phosphorus can be applied per year.

I'm working with Wenck and Lake County on the possibility of receiving leachate from the demo landfill. Just beginning initial conversation. Not a way to raise money, but to help out Lake County on trucking expense going to WLSSD.

All monthly reports and sampling were done and submitted to MPCA in a timely fashion.

Pending Maintenance Items

Continue straightening and repairing fencing at the ponds

Replace flow control valves

Televise collection lines as needed.

Clean/test air relief valves

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Hoops, Wastewater Operator

- Stewart River Project – Motion by Hull, second Hoops to adopt an updated version of the Financial Assistance Agreement between Lake County and Silver Creek. When Lake County loaned the Town of Silver Creek \$50,000 in support of the Stewart River Sewer Project, funds were to be paid back when the system was built, or in 2016, whichever came first. The updated agreement extends the due date out to 2023. The document can now go to the Lake County Board for approval.

LAND USE:

- Transition Land Use Administration to Lake County – Motion by Hull, second Hoops to adopt Resolution 2018-7 detailed below. Approved by unanimous roll-call vote: Hoops - Yea, Moen – Yea, Hull – Yea. The Clerk was directed to send a letter to Lake County formally requesting that they take over land use administration for the Castle Danger Subordinate Service District.

RESOLUTION # 2018-7

RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING CDSSD LAND USE ADMINISTRATION TO LAKE COUNTY

WHEREAS, when the Town of Silver Creek prepared to build a Municipal Wastewater Collection System for the Castle Danger Subordinate Service District, the property owners in the district sought more stringent land use control,

WHEREAS, the Town of Silver Creek then adopted an overlay ordinance to Lake County Land Use Ordinance on December 1, 1998 known as Castle Danger Phase I Land Use Ordinance I,

WHEREAS, the Castle Danger Land Use Ordinance has been modified over the past 20 years, with the latest revision adopted February 2, 2010,

WHEREAS the Lake County Land Use Ordinance has been modified to provide stricter control over the past 20 years,

WHEREAS the two ordinances are now very similar,

WHEREAS the Town of Silver Creek must rely on Lake County Planning and Zoning to provide many skills needed in the administration of the Town’s Ordinance,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CREEK, LAKE COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

The Town of Silver Creek Board of Supervisors, acting for the Castle Danger Subordinate Service District, hereby formally requests that the Lake County Board of Commissioners authorize its zoning office to administer planning and zoning for said service district.

Adopted the 23rd day of October 2018 by the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek.

_____	_____	_____
Greg Hull	Denny Moen	Mike Hoops

ATTEST: _____
Alison Oftedah, Clerk

REVIEW MINUTES:

Motion by Hull, second Moen to accept the 9/18 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Motion by Hull, second Hoops to accept the 10/9 Committee of the Whole minutes with one correction noted.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Motion by Hoops, second Moen to authorize the requested transfer of \$80,000. TOSC checking: \$45,742.93 and TOSC savings: \$394,165.01 for a total of \$439,907.94. Outstanding Checks totaled \$2,090.50 for a CTAS balance: \$437,817.44. Motion by Moen, second Hoops to accept the September Treasurer’s Report as presented.

READING OF THE BILLS:

The current month’s bills were read: Claims 5807-5847 totaling \$52,692.27; and payrolls through 10/26/2018 with Hoops abstaining on 10121809, and 10261809. Check 014219 was discovered to be a duplicate and was voided. Motion by Hoops, second Moen, to authorize payment of the bills with the one error noted. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Lake County Land Use Applications for residents of Silver Creek were reviewed by Supervisors and Affidavits of Posting were signed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Land behind Fire Pond – No status change on this project.
- Mowing Bids – No bids have been received, but there have been two requests for detailed specifications.

PENDING ISSUES:

- Seasonal Storage – Items were stored in the Pavilion last Saturday with everything running smoothly. While the Pavilion has a bit more space, it was deemed not worth the time and effort to remove the door panels and shift all the items to try to fit another trailer.
- Cemetery –The Cemetery Kiosk Directory is ready to go to production. The Clerk was asked to work on creating a list of available cemetery plots. The possibility of replacing the Cemetery Book with either a new book or electronic files was discussed.
- Old Town Hall Larger Maintenance Items – Brief discussion was held on repair items. Hull stated that he supports the idea of a line-item on the levy that would allow constituents to decide whether or not funds should be spent on the old building.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Hull, second Moen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday November 20, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk