

TOWN OF SILVER CREEK
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2019

The Committee of the Whole meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Silver Creek was held on Tuesday October 8, 2019 in the Board Meeting Room for the purpose of discussing all issues before the Board.

Present: Supervisors Greg Hull, Denny Moen and Chuck Voss; Clerk Alison Oftedahl; Town Operations and Facilities Manager Jody Reineccius; and Sewer Operator Mike Hoops.

Chairman Hull called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Constituent Concerns – None.
2. Silver Bay Airport – Voss reported meeting with MnDOT Engineer Duane Hill and speculated that FAA and MnDOT might fund 100% of a new runway because they really don't want to see the airport closed. But he expressed concerns that there are additional needs that FAA does not provide funding for such as aprons in front of hangars. It was noted that Voss had called Duane Hill on his own as part of due diligence and does not plan to claim it as a paid meeting. Hull then reported on his meeting with Silver Bay Mayor Scott Johnson, in which he had obtained information on revenue and expenses from Johnson showing five of the past six years had a \$10,000 surplus even without receiving federal grants for maintenance. Johnson informed Hull that Silver Bay doesn't like taking the federal funds and that they just don't feel that an airport is needed in that location. Hull also was told that Silver Bay was only able to rent three hangars, whereas pilots have told Hull that all were rented in the past and that there are waiting lists at other regional airports. Next steps involve Hull meeting with aviation consultant Mike Beard to put together a proposed financial plan.
3. Road Report – Reineccius reported that the frequent rains of the past few months have really done a number on roads and sparked a few complaints. He explained that grading cannot be done when things are too wet. This week's sun is being used to get caught up.
4. Survey of Alder Road – In pursuit of widening the turnaround on Alder, a survey has been completed and a couple discussions were held with neighbor John Carr. An actual road easement for Alder Road has not been located by County Recorder's Office or by County Engineer's office. Hull suggested that some title abstract research might be needed to try to find a road recording or easement farther back. John Carr had also suggested that some feet of land might be owned by the Township based upon an exception in his legal description of some fifty feet. Depending upon findings, a Road Alteration Hearing may be needed. The group agreed to empower Hull and Oftedahl to contact an Attorney for title abstract work.
5. Town Road Bridge Inspection – The Lake County Bridge Inspection Report received from John Schlangen stated that the riprap along the wingwalls and abutments needs to be replaced to prevent future scour. Reineccius noted that very large sized rocks would need to be placed in the stream, which will require a DNR permit and must be done in the summer because of the trout. The Clerk reminded the group that FEMA will not pay for repair if records show a lack of response to bridge inspection findings.
6. Snowplow Policy – In reviewing last year's policy, Reineccius noted that the order the roads are plowed can vary with snow conditions and equipment factors such as whether the grader is being used. However, he will make a couple changes to the document to best reflect the order in which the roads are most frequently plowed.
7. Wastewater Operator's Report – Supervisors read the report and had no questions. Full text of the report will be included in the minutes of the October 22 regular meeting. Hoops did review issues experienced with the pump at the lift station. Preventive maintenance was done, then a few days later it wouldn't start, and then a few nights after that it wouldn't shut off. It was necessary to call Wiikwaibaan Inini for onsite repairs. He discovered that the contacts were burnt and had to be replaced.
8. Oliver Utility Easement – Survey and easement documents will need to go to the attorney for completion. The group also heard a summary of a meeting between Oliver and Lake County Planning and Zoning regarding Oliver's plans for rental cabins and an RV park. He is in the process

of vacating the plat, so development will not be happening until after Lake County has taken over the zoning in January.

9. Vanderbeek Utility Easement – The survey is complete, and documentation is ready for the attorney. The Clerk was directed to follow up on both easements.
10. Sewer Finances – The Board looked at fund balance estimates based upon actual disbursements through September 30th and estimated receipts through the same period. The actual numbers will be available in the Treasurer's Report at the Regular Meeting later this month. As of the end of September, both the Sewer Enterprise and the Sewer Replacement funds are in the black and payment has been received for the two installation projects completed this year.
11. Stewart River – Voss reported that he has been working through the large number of old files on the project to better familiarize himself with the details and history.
12. Bank Signature Card and Resolution – The Board reviewed a draft resolution for bank account access and discussed required Lake Bank forms in need of signatures. The Resolution and the signature forms will be handled at the regular meeting.
13. Correspondence – The Board looked at the following:
 - Lake County approved Land Use Applications for Silver Creek
 - CLP Notice of Deferred Patronage Dividend Allocation
 - Notification of lawsuit regarding Opioids
 - Truth in Taxation Notice – Town of Silver Creek's website was added to other town information sent to voters on the property tax notifications.
14. Mowing Contract – The contract can be signed by the Board at the next regular meeting.
15. Update Employee MOUs – Hull reported that he is in the process of meeting with each employee and reviewing MOUs for anything out of date or needing to be changed.
16. Old Town Hall Maintenance – Moen reported making a large number of calls to local contractors requesting assessment of the needs of the old building. He clarified that the Township is not at the point of accepting bids, rather information is being collected in order to develop a list of requirements. Some local contractors were not reachable, others said they would come and inspect the building, but have not done so yet. It appears to be a very busy time of year for contractors. Hull provided a few more names and Moen will continue his efforts.
17. Pavilion Seasonal Storage – The reservation list for winter storage was reviewed, and the Wait List was discussed. Reineccius did not feel that we could respond to the wait list until items on the regular list are loaded into the building on October 19th as there are several very long campers.
18. Minnesota Association of Townships Legislative and Research Committee Report – Moen reported on his attendance at the L&R meeting and summarized a list of resolutions voted on in the session. He noted that transportation funding is still a top priority for townships, and they are working to retrieve a larger portion of the road tax funding.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m. upon motion by Voss, second Moen. Carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Oftedahl, Clerk