

In this issue

Election News.....	1
Vote in Nov with Confidence ..	2
Chapel Avail for Relocation	2
2021 Levy	2
Road Report.....	2
Pavilion and Yoga	3
Stewart River Wastewater	3
Silver Bay Airport	3
Save your Sewer/Septic	3
Cemetery News.....	4
Winter Storage	4

Sept
2020



Quarterly Newsletter of the Town of Silver Creek

SILVER CREEK SOURCE

Voting in the Garage!

Social Distancing Silver Creek Style

In response to COVID 19 concerns, the August 11th Primary Election was held in the Silver Creek Garage shown below. This location was chosen for its large size and open air, and to avoid confusing voters with any new polling address. The November 3, 2020 General Election will be held in the same venue. Two extra voting booths were purchased to provide more distance between voters. Open doors provided ventilation, and new plexi-glass shields on the tables provided a divider between voters and Election Judges. Federal CARES ACT funding paid for the new equipment.

Welcome to the *SILVER CREEK SOURCE* If you have ideas or would like to contribute a story, please reach out to Alison Oftedahl, Clerk at silvercreek@frontiernet.net or 834-5255.

232 Silver Creek Votes Cast

About 50% of Votes were Cast in Person

The August 11th Primary Election resulted in the following numbers:

- 117 Votes Cast at the Silver Creek Garage shown below.
- 144 Silver Creek Voters had requested Absentee Ballots.
- 115 Silver Creek Absentee Ballots were received back and accepted by Lake County.

Absentee statistics provided by Lake County.

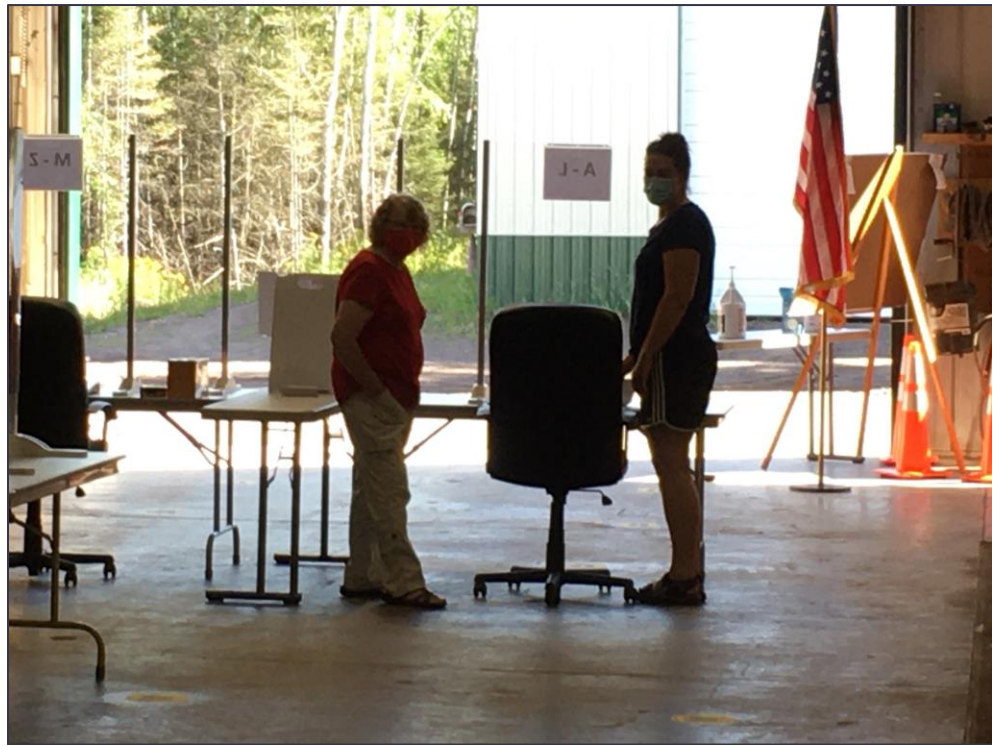


VOTE
November 3
1924 Town Rd
7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Vote in November with Confidence

Protections are in Place

The summer primary served as a practice for the fall Election which is expected to have a much higher turnout. November voting will again be held in the garage, with separate entrance and exits; lots of space for distancing voters; six four-person voting booths, hand sanitizer, free masks in case you forget yours, and sanitization of booths after each voter. A new pen can be carried through the process and dropped at the exit. A small portion of the \$27,000 of Federal CARES Act funding received by Silver Creek was used for the safety measures. Unused funds will transfer to Lake County, and any remaining funds not used by the County will be returned to the Federal Government.



Head Election Judge Sue Hilliard and Deputy Clerk Laura Kleive on Election Morning

Silver Creek Chapel Available for Relocation

Make Way for Playground

To make way for a planned new playground, the old Chapel (originally a schoolhouse) will be either relocated or demolished. After an inspection showed no hazardous materials, the Board of Supervisors decided to advertise for sealed bids in case the old building could find a new home. It is 888 square feet with nice hardwood floor and high ceilings. If you are interested in bidding, the notice at the right explains how to do so.



REQUEST FOR BIDS SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP

The Silver Creek Township Board is accepting sealed bids for the sale of the Silver Creek Chapel located at the corner of Lake County Highway 3 and Town Road. There is a minimum bid price of \$100 set by the Silver Creek Township Board. The chapel is being sold and removed so the site may be used for a new playground. After the winning bid is determined, the bidder has 30 days to obtain and present the Silver Creek Township Board with the proper land use permit to move the chapel, if the chapel is to remain in Lake County. Questions about the chapel may be directed to Township Supervisor Christopher Jaeger at 507.420.7775. Silver Creek Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Sealed bids must be mailed or hand delivered to the Silver Creek Township office at 1924 Town Road, Two Harbors, 55616 by September 15th, 2020. Bids will be reviewed on September 22nd, 2020 at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Silver Creek Township Board.

Northshore Journal:
August 14 & 21, 2020

2021 Levy

No Change Made to Levy

On August 18th, the Annual Meeting was reconvened. Supervisors approved the levy as voted in at the March Annual meeting and detailed below.

2021 Levy:	
General	\$42,500
Road & Bridge	\$206,500
Road Enhancement	\$20,000
Building	\$25,000
Fire	\$55,000
Cemetery	\$2,500
Debt Service	<u>\$58,500</u>
TOTAL LEVY	\$410,000

Road Report

Dry Year Required Extra Dust Control

A dry year made grading roads more difficult and created more dust. Chloride is applied to the roads for dust control, but also because it helps prevent road material from washing away. Approximately twice as much chloride as last year was needed. The grader experienced one problem this summer that required repair but wasn't too costly. The mower attachment for the skid steer experienced several problems that required parts be replaced delaying mowing by several weeks. The Dodge truck required a replacement ignition switch. In spite of these breakdowns, the new turnaround at Alder Road was completed this summer to enable plow trucks to more easily work on that road.



Lake Effect Yoga held in the Silver Creek Pavilion this summer.

Space to Breathe

Pavilion Provides Options

The Silver Creek Pavilion provided a badly needed space for Lake Effect Yoga. The COVID-19 restrictions made their previous location simply too small. Long-time Silver Creek resident Stacy Nightwine is the instructor and four of the participants were also Township residents. Two classes of twelve people each were filled. The Pavilion space is cool, breezy and peaceful. Large screens keep most of the bugs out. Rent from classes and events offsets the building's maintenance costs. This summer a graduation party was held, but sadly, the Annual Ukulele Festival was cancelled. One wedding and one funeral are scheduled for September.

Stewart River Wastewater Project

Position on State Project Priority List Lowered

Engineering Firm Bollig has been lobbying for the project and identifying a variety of funding sources. The Bonding Bill was not passed as of press time, and therefore funding was not obtained. A second disappointment was the "importance" score assigned to the project. It was increased based upon the need to control pollution into Lake Superior. However, State Authorities forced this score, called "PPL", to be lowered based upon a lack of testing. It does not appear feasible to test every single septic in the Stewart River area, but that was the proof required to raise the PPL score. Bollig did submit an application for a Point Source Implementation Grant to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (PFA). It is still hoped that the project may be funded in the next Bonding Bill.

Save your Sewer or Septic

Items Marked "Flushable" really are NOT

As you clean and sanitize yourself and your home, please remember that many items advertised as "flushable" on the packaging should never be flushed because they do not break down and cannot be treated by wastewater systems. **Nothing but human waste and toilet paper should be flushed down the toilet.** This rule applies to both those connected to the Castle Danger Sewer and those with a individual septic system. Do not flush wipes, feminine hygiene products or any other items down your system. In addition, do not flush cooking oil or food products down the kitchen sink either, for the health of your system.

Thank You Election Judges

Facing Down COVID Concerns to Serve the Township

Thank you to the following Silver Creek residents who bravely served as Election Judges for the August 11th Primary:

- ⊗ Sue Hilliard
- ⊗ Laura Kleive
- ⊗ John Bathke
- ⊗ Eric Elefson
- ⊗ Julia Jaeger
- ⊗ Joan Rheineck

Silver Bay Airport

Moose Lake Airport Visit Proves Fruitful

Chairman Hull visited the successful Moose Lake Airport because it has many similarities to the Silver Bay Airport. Both lie between two townships, have about the same number of hangars, and almost identical Arrival/Departure buildings. The two airports also face the same types of weather. The Moose Lake Airport Manager provided Hull with financial data back to 2012 showing that the airport was in the black every year. Moose Lake Airport operating revenue comes from hangar rental with some county support. No taxpayer funding is used for general operations. Moose Lake has levied funds for the local match portion of larger capital projects. One key difference is that Silver Bay Airport can receive IRRRB funding for the local match whereas Moose Lake cannot. This visit was part of an ongoing effort to identify what is possible and how the Airport could be run if Silver Creek were to take over sponsorship.

Cemetery Maintenance

Gates Repainted and Annual Directory Update

The entrance gates to the cemetery have been repainted and are looking sharp. And, the Cemetery Directory was updated to add new names for those interred during 2019. In addition, a slight adjustment to the map was made to clarify the way that the road runs through the cemetery. When visiting the graves of your loved ones, if you spot any misspelled names or other errors on the directory, please notify the Clerk so that a correction can be made next year.

Winter Storage in Pavilion

Watch the Northshore Journal for More Info

In order to provide an equal chance for all, a notice will be placed in the Northshore Journal legal section providing the date and time to call for winter storage opportunities. The calls will then be taken first come first served. The Pavilion has space for about 7 to 8 campers and/or boats so there aren't a lot of spaces available. Pricing will also be included in the notice. Last year's rates were \$1.50 per lineal foot per month multiplied by six months. For example, a 25-foot trailer was \$225 for the season. Supervisors have not set the rate for the upcoming season, but it will be included in the newspaper notice.

Thank you to Dutton Foster for editing this newsletter!

