

Silver Creek Township
Supervisor Board Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2022

Silver Creek Township

Silver Creek Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday November 1, 2022 at the Silver Creek Town Hall located at 3827 134th Street NW, Monticello, Minnesota 55362, Wright County, and State of Minnesota. The meeting was tape recorded for transcribing purposes only. Vice Chair Forsman called the Supervisor meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Six people were attending the meeting and three were on Zoom at the start of the meeting.

Board Members Present:

Sandy Forsman, Vice Chair

Mike Helman, Supervisor

Dan Ness, Supervisor

Barry Heikkinen, Supervisor

Julie Urbatch, Clerk

Absent: Chris Newman, Chairman

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM: None

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Vice Chair Forsman requested the topic: Update on Maintenance Position to be put under Miscellaneous. Motion made by Supervisor Ness to approve the agenda with the addition. Seconded by Supervisor Heikkinen. Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Regular Meeting Minutes of 10-18-2022, Closed Meeting Minutes of 10-18-2022, Special Board Supervisor Meeting Minutes of 10-25-2022 and List of Claims & Disbursements.

Motion made by Supervisor Ness to approve the meeting minutes of the three meetings listed above and List of Claims & Disbursement. Seconded by Vice Chair Forsman. Motion carried 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Clerk Urbatch-Audit Update: Schlenner & Wenner response to the inquiry about our audit: They apologize for the delay that is due to staffing shortages. They are in the process of the last phase of the audit and anticipate a preliminary draft for review soon. Board was wondering if there will be any penalties for the tardiness and if there was any request for a second extension. The Board approved the first extension, but not sure if there was a request for a second extension. Clerk Urbatch will find out and respond to the Board.

CMRP Update: Supervisor Heikkinen expressed our concerns to the CMRP Board at his last meeting with them if they transferred to a non-profit from a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) that they are operating under right now. Members of the CMRP Board are leaning towards a non-profit but they did say that they would put in their language of those articles on a corporation as a non-profit, that they would include language that the meetings will be posted and public, so that will alleviate those concerns of not having them to be posted or the meetings be public. The reason they would like to go non-profit is because they can solicit funds from other businesses and organizations other than just the cities, counties and the townships funding it. The JPA between the counties would be public so they feel the public portion would be covered there. Another thing, they would like to use the CMRP fund balance that they have right now. CMRP is sitting on about at approximately \$430,000 mostly from dues and some from state funds. They do need to fund a Purpose and Needs Statement that would cost up to \$200,000 and complete a PEL (Planning & Environmental Linkage) Study and that is up to \$1,000,000.

Update on interviews with Clerk/Treasurer Candidates: Four applicants were interviewed last week. The job posting closed on 10/31/22 and there are three more that applied and they will be interviewed on 11/4/22.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Forsman – Fire Protection contract with Monticello: Our contract with Monticello is up for renewal and they are looking at changing the contract to charge the residents by each parcel they own, whether there’s a structure on that parcel or not. Maple Lake and Clearwater only charge per each parcel that has a structure. We also discussed having Sara Rathlisberger (Finance Director for Monticello Fire Department) and/or the Fire Chief to attend our 12/1/2022 Board Meeting to discuss the contract. Supervisor Helman volunteered to represent our Township, get more information, look into this more closely, and report to the Board on his findings of both Monticello and Maple Lake at our next meeting on 11/15/22. Clerk Urbatch will send to Board members the Monticello and Maple Lake fire contracts, for reviewal.

Memo from Wright County on Discussion & Findings by the Board: The Board will discuss this at our next meeting.

Supervisor Forsman – Pit Reclamation: Mr. Johnson put in a bid to do some reclamation but one of his trucks is down, so he can’t do it this year. Supervisor Forsman suggested that since we had so much money spent in the Maintenance Department this year for various repairs, that we wait for the reclamation until next year. The \$15,000 that was budgeted will not completely do the pit the way we would like it, but we don’t have the budget to do more. The Board will discuss after what they hear about the update on the maintenance position in Miscellaneous. After the update on the maintenance position, Supervisor Heikkinen made a motion to wait until next year (2023) for the pit reclamation. Supervisor Ness seconded it. Discussion to have the motion amended to read that the money that is allotted this year (\$15,000) is directed to that fund for next year. Supervisor Heikkinen amended his motion to include the \$15,000 that was budgeted for Pit Reclamation in 2022 be applied to 2023 Pit Reclamation. Seconded by Supervisor Ness. Motion carried 3-1 with Supervisor Helman voting no.

CLERK REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE: None

MISCELLANEOUS:

Update on Maintenance Position: The first person we offered the position to declined. The second person we offered the position to accepted the offer. The background check, physical, drug/alcohol and fitness test have been scheduled for this week. Once the results are in, he will give his present employer a two-week notice.

ADJOURNMENT:

Supervisor Heikkinen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Supervisor Helman. Motion carried 4-0. 7:28 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Urbatch
Silver Creek Township Clerk
November 1, 2022 Minutes
Approved by Board of Supervisors
December 20, 2022

