

**Silver Creek Township  
Supervisor Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday November 07, 2023.**

**Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance:**

Chairman Newman called the meeting to order at 7:14pm on Tuesday November 07, 2023 at the Silver Creek Township Hall. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present:

Chris Newman, Chairman	Mike Helman, Vice Chairman
Sandy Forsman, Road Authority	Ryan Nelson, Supervisor
Brandon Geyen, Supervisor	Heidi Eckerman, Clerk/Treasurer

6 guests in attendance, 2 signed in.

6 guests on Zoom

**OPEN FORUM:** No Comments

**REVIEW and APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Supervisor Nelson made a motion to approve the agenda, Seconded by Supervisor Geyen, Carried 5-0.

**Approval of Prior Minutes and Disbursements:**

Supervisor Helman made a motion to continue to the second meeting. Seconded by, Supervisor Geyen. Carried 5-0.

Board would like to close the meeting to discuss the clear overtime policy is. What the summer and winter hours are and how those apply and how they are to be paid out.

**Clerk/Treasurer Report:**

MAT Educational Conference - Runs December 7-9, 2023

MAT October Newsletter

Annual Review for employee will be on December 5, 2023

MNPEIP Insurance for this year the costs are reduced

Transportation Alternatives Program provides Federal transportation funding for projects such as pedestrian and/or bicycle.

Annual Review – Employee Annual Review December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Maintenance Report:**

Gowan Ave - Construction project started on Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Silver Creek and Clearwater Townships are helping with the project.

Mr. and Mrs. Mooney residing south of the new culvert, where water flows from Sugar Lake through the Gowan culvert and onto their property, expressed concerns about potential flooding on their property due to the increase in culvert size from 30" to 42". Their concerns are based on 40 years of experience, observing water levels rise during the spring melts and heavy rains. The volume of water that comes out and proceeds onto their property washes their road out.

Supervisor Forsman addressed the Mooney's concerns, detailing the engineer's assurance that the culvert design, featuring a curve, would effectively address water flow issues without negatively impacting the Mooney's land. It was noted that the Mooney's are the sole property on the culvert stretch from Sugar to Gowan to Limestone Lake.

Supervisor Forsman further elaborated on discussions with the DNR/Hydrologist, confirming that the current crossing is grandfathered, and any upgrade would necessitate DNR permits. The DNR/Hydrologist suggested that the culvert's design should maintain a more even lake level.

The Board acknowledged the uncertainty surrounding the cause of the recurring flooding issue and emphasized their reliance on expert opinions. They highlighted the engineer's assurance of a more even water flow, even during fast-flowing times, reducing downstream impact.

Mr. Mooney clarified that he was not seeking an immediate response but wanted to the Board to be aware of the situation. He emphasized that need to be heard in case of future issues.

Supervisor Forsman assured that his concerns would be noted in the minutes.

Maintenance spoke about one solution could be to put a hard rock bottom across the creek so that machinery and vehicles could get to the other side, or to wait and see, to closely monitor the situation.

Mr. Mooney expressed his reluctance toward completely digging out the culvert, preferring a replacement if necessary. He requested to be heard in the spring during peak melting.

Supervisor Forsman and Maintenance committed to monitoring the situation closely, providing updates to the Board during the spring melt. Mr. Mooney granted permission for maintenance to monitor water levels during the spring melt. Updates will be provided to the Board as needed.

#### **Resolution 2023-11-07**

LRIP Funding Application for 91<sup>st</sup> St & Bishop Ave NW, Reconstruction & Asphalt.

Motion made by Chairman Newman to accept the Resolution as read into the record. Seconded by, Supervisor Helman. Carried 5-0.

95<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Rd – Neighbor on the south side of the road has to access to that road, if a road is vacated, half of the road goes to one property owner and the other half goes to the other owner. Supervisor Helman will contact the attorney.

Supervisor Forsman will be gone for 3 weeks, Supervisor Nelson will cover Road Authority for 1 week and Supervisor Helman will cover the next 2 weeks.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

90<sup>th</sup> St NW – Culvert request

Attorney spoke about that there is limited or no visibility if it was connected. Mediation of the Attorney says if there was a clean out, the township now has visibility to know what's going on and potentially where along the line it is located. If there could be some type of protection for the landowner on the south side like a Hold Harmless agreement. Supervisor Nelson will check into.

Roof -

Board members will check into options.

Review & Update Policy – Mr. Heikkinen would like to know why the videos are not being put online for others to see? Because the Township hasn't put them online.

Silver Creek Township Parcel Counts – Clerk will check with the County on the parcel numbers.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Township Surface Transportation projects (ARP-SLFRF) – Federal dollars fall into a different category on how the money can be used. Clerk to look at when receives more information.


Border to Border Broadband Policy – Not enough information for the letter to be written.


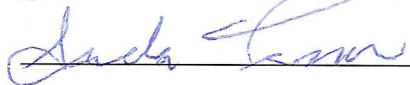
Crofoot – Crofoot is to be continued

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Supervisor Forsman adjourned the meeting at 8:32pm; Seconded by Supervisor Geyen,  
Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Heidi Eckerman  
Silver Creek Township Clerk  
November 7, 2023 Minutes  
Approved by Board of Supervisors  
December 5, 2023

  
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