

Supervisor Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2017

Silver Creek Township

On Tuesday February 21, 2017, the Silver Creek Board of Supervisors met 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.

Chairman Ludenia called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 9 people in the audience at the start of the meeting. Roll call was taken by the Chairman.

Board Members Present

Mike Ludenia, Chairman

Dan Ness Supervisor

Sandy Forsman, Supervisor

Chris Klein, Supervisor

Lenore Johnson, Treasurer

Nancy Betzler, Clerk

Board Members Absent: None

All present stood and recited the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

OPEN FORUM: Bob Esse was present and said he is happy we are appointing a Supervisor tonight. He is glad so many people came forward for the position. He recommends Allan Brevik for the position. He would also like to discuss at the annual meeting the maintenance cost of gravel road to bituminous roads and which way the board is considering for the township roads in the future.

Township Attorney Bob Ruppe was present he explained the water drainage problem on Appleton Ave. They are working with Barton Sand & Gravel, Mr. Caron about draining into a pond that is on the property. They are only leasing the property so he will be contacting someone at Excel, the owners of the property. Need to find a place for the water in the winter, in the summer the water goes into the ground. The town's engineer Hakanson & Anderson has found that the property owner has caused the water issue. There may have to be litigation with the property owner if something cannot be worked out with Barton & Excel Corp. There would be a big expense for the township if the township has to fix the property. They are working on options now.

The sheriff office received a complaint about a conflict of interest because Supervisor Klein is working for the township. The sheriff has completed their inquiry and the County attorney has declined to not take any action but did refer it to the State Auditor for comment, which it how these things are supposed to progress. They referred the township to a website for how to handle conflicts of interest but otherwise closed the file. So, this issue is resolved and the attorney is closing their file.

The title for the playground in Silver Creek is not correct. In 1994 a neighbor erroneously include a legal description for not only his property but the park property in a quiet title action. It looks like it was a mistake by the surveyor. They will be working with property owner Mr. Arnold to correct the title and get a quick claim deed drawn up to try and get it straightened out.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion to approve by Supervisor Klein Second by Supervisor Ness. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

Approval of the Consent Agenda Items:

Regular Meeting Minutes 02/07/2017 List of Claims (List of Disbursements presented to Board at Meeting) – Included check numbers 14270-14308 in the total amount of \$35,898.40 and Affidavit of Official Interest in Claim. Motion to approve by Supervisor Ness, second by Supervisor Forsman. Motion Passed 3 yes 1 abstained Supervisor Klein, interested party. Motion Passed.

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Audit of Claims: 14284 Couri & Ruppe	\$ 450.00
14286 Great American	65.00
14288 Innovative Processing	493.00

Motion by Supervisor Klein to approve Audit of Claims. Second by Supervisor Ness. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

Clerk Report: Went to election judge recap in Buffalo Wright Co had 92.31% of registered voters voting compared to 96.37 in 2012. Absentee voters were 13,266 up from 3946 in 2014. We will need to budget for new voting equipment within the next 2 years. Will be changing Deputy Clerk to the Clerk from Chatham Township Jim Bischoff and I will become Chatham Township Deputy Clerk. We need a workshop to prepare for the Annual Meeting. We will meet March 2 at 6:30 pm. Lobby Day at the Capital will be March 8 and the Spring Short Course will be in St Cloud March 28. Motion by Supervisor Ness to approve Clerk report. Second by Supervisor Forsman. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Lenore Johnson presented the following Treasurer's Report:

Balance before 02/07/2017 Claims:
Revenue Account: \$ 266,846.47
Road & Bridge Acct: \$ 369,390.65
Total Available 636,237.12
Fire Account: \$ 54,827.74
Contingency Fund: \$ 9,106.75
Checking \$ 292.60
Checks out \$ 5,016.26
To Deposit/Revenue \$ 1,051.90
To Deposit/ R&B \$ 12,681.76
Police Fines

Motion to approve Treasurers report by Supervisor Klein. Second by Supervisor Ness. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

New Business

Pole Saw: Brain would like the maintenance department to get a pole saw and leaf blower to use for trimming trees. Motion by Supervisor Ludenia to approve pole saw and leaf blower, not to exceed \$1000.00. Second by Supervisor Forsman. All present in favor Motion Passed. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

Gate minimum maintenance road. Discussed the need to get gates to close the road, snow fence does not work. They are \$349.00 each. 2 20-foot gate that stand on their own are needed. Discussed different ways to close roads. Tabled while checking on other options.

Culverts needed in approaches: There is water setting in the ditches by driveways without culverts one on 134th and 97th St. causing the water to come unto the road. Will continue until later in the year.

Move Meeting date from July 4 to July 6, 2017 Motion by Supervisor Klein to move meeting from July 4, 2017 to July 6th, 2017. Second by Ness. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

Township Group Term Life Insurance: The Township has a Group Life Insurance coverage through Minnesota Benefits at the Silver option, 10k face amount for \$160.00 for each covered employee. There are 4 options. 5k, 10k 15k and 20k. Motion by Supervisor Klein to leave coverage at the Silver option. Second by Supervisor Ness. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

Old Business

Culverts: Discussed the need for markers by culverts. Maintenance department has found some at \$1.54 each and we need about 400 of them. Some culverts have been hit and damaged and it is a liability if someone hits them and is hurt. Our attorney recommends that we have culverts marked or note in minutes that we are not able to do at this time because of budgetary constraints. Motion by Supervisor Sandy to buy half the markers needed and as budget allows purchase more. Second by Supervisor Ness. After discussion motion was rescinded. Motion by Supervisor Klein that the township spends up to \$400 dollars to buy reflectors and supplies necessary to mark culverts because that is all we can afford at the time. Second by Supervisor Forsman. All Present in favor. Motion Passed.

Insurance Coverage: Minnesota Assn. Of Township sent out an appraiser and went through the building and looked at equipment and they will be sending out information on whether we have correct coverage.

Supervisor Position: There are 7 candidates for the position. Any board member can nominate a candidate and we will vote on it until someone is selected. Candidates are Johann Massmann, James Doran, Barry Heikkinen, Steve Langanki, Allan Brevik, Bruce Dewitt and Craig Jelen. Question asked about how clerk votes. Clerk can vote and nominate someone. Supervisor Ludenia nominates Barry Heikkinen. Second by Supervisor Klein. Vote was 3 yes, Klein, Ludenia, Betzler. Vote 2 nay Forsman, Ness. Barry Heikkinen was selected and signed the Oath of Office. It was mentioned that if anyone is interested in being an alternate on the Planning & Zoning Committee let the board know.

Budget: Looked over a draft of the budget, we are waiting on a cost of some items before decisions are made. Continue the budget items until our workshop meeting on March 2.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Brian was present to give report. They put the boom mower on the tractor and have been cutting overhanging limbs and brush on the roads. They also have been cutting trees in the right of way on 130th, 142, 147th St and will be doing more of this. Burnt brush piles in the gravel pit and at the shop. Made the yearly sign inspection for damages and made

list of repairs needed, some bent post need replacement. Cleaned out file cabinets in shop and moved items needed to the hall. Plowing and sanding roads when needed, lots of ice this year. Worked with Chris & Mike for upcoming projects and budget numbers. Started to fix on the end of road barricades. Received a quote from Asphalt for crack filling for \$1.75 per pound. Received 2 quotes for gravel hauling. 1 Bjorklund Co, Isanti, MN for Gravel Loaded and hauled 10,000-15,000 at \$3.39 per yard. 2. ML Schendzielos & Sons, Clear Lake, Load Class 5 out of pit 6 Belly Dumps. 950H Cat Loader w/scale. \$3.53 per cu yard. Motion by Supervisor Forsman to accept Bjorklund at \$3.39 per yard. Second by Supervisor Ness. All present in favor. Motion Passed. Motion by Supervisor Ness to approve maintenance report. Second by Supervisor Forsman. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

Misc. Received prices for doing crack filling in house. Continue to next meeting. We have Willow trees and a big Oak on 130th leaning into the road by the power line, also some work needed on 120th if there is time. Help is needed to cut the top of the trees. We can get Bear Tree for one day for \$1200.00. Motion by Supervisor Ludenia to get Bear Tree for \$1200 for a day. Second by Supervisor Heikkinen. All present in favor. Motion Passed.

Meeting was continued to March 2, at 6:30.

Respectfully Submitted
Silver Creek Township Clerk
Nancy Betzler

February 21, 2017 Minutes
Approved by Board of Supervisor's
03/07/2017

