

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP
December 11, 2019

Regular Meeting called to order 7:00 PM by Supervisor Saunders; Flag Ceremony

Roll Call – Present: Treasurer Kuriata, Clerk Behnke, Supervisor Saunders, Trustee Glynn

Absent: Trustee Zuhl

Approval of Agenda –Clerk Behnke requested 2 early pay items added to the agenda (one for Magician Lake and one for Indian Lake) – these are electric bill reimbursements requests received via email. Motion to by Supervisor Saunders to approve the agenda with these additions, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata. Motion passed by voice vote.

Call for public comment – Treasurer Hope Anderson introduced herself and her Chief Deputy, Cynthia Gill. She promoted options for taxpayers to avoid tax foreclosure. Taxpayers can meet with her on 1/15/20 from 10am-2pm or on 2/4/20 from 3pm-6pm to discuss payment options; there is also the stepforwardmichigan.org program and some assistance from the Mich. Dept of Health/Human Services. She noted you can now pay your delinquent taxes online. She strongly encourages participation in the upcoming Census. You can respond to the census by phone, by mail or online and they will have a kiosk (and assistance) available at the county. Dog licenses can be obtained through the Treasurer’s office, Animal Control and many veterinarian clinics. Please obtain your dog license before 2/28/20, because after that date the cost doubles.

Tom Jerdon introduced Dr. Joseph Odenwald, who has been Vice President of Student Services at SMC and has been selected as the next President for SMC. Dr. Odenwald and his wife have immersed themselves in the community and consider this to be there home. Dr. Odenwald wants to see affordable high quality education accessible to the community and noted SMC has a history of good fiscal management along with high outcomes (75-90% above most community college comparisons).

Approval of Minutes for the regular board meeting held on November 13, 2019. Motion by Trustee Glynn, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata. Motion carried by voice vote.

Approval of payment of Bills/Claims–Motion by Supervisor Saunders; seconded by Trustee Glynn.

Roll call vote: Yes (4) Clerk Behnke, Supervisor Saunders, Trustee Glynn Treasurer Kuriata

No (0)

Abstain (0) – motion carried

Reading of Communications – none.

Health and Safety Services Reports

Police Report–23 complaints; 1 warning; 1 ticket; 4 accidents; 55 property insp;

5 liquor inspections – no violations

Fire Report

Indian Lake –2 in our township – 2 other non emergency assists; 1 Pokagon Twp.

Sister Lakes- 6 in Silver Creek; 1 in Bainbridge; 2 in Keeler; 1 assist in Wayne;

total avg. resp. time: 8:54; average number of responders 9

Ambulance Report- 25 total calls; avg. resp. time: 9:12; 5 -P1 calls; 19 -P2 call ;0 -P3calls

Building/Zoning Inspector's Report – building & demo permits

Permits: Building-11; fees \$8,080; total construction value \$1,239,600.00

Demo-2; fees \$75

ZC-5; fees \$405; total construction value \$981,500.00

Mechanical-11; Plumbing-5; Electrical-11;

Zoning Appeals Board Report – no meeting last month

Planning Commission Report – none

Treasurer's Report – General Fund Balance \$174,777.69; Indian Lake Sewer \$247,202.30.

Operational Reports

Indian Lake Sewer – SAW grant winding down and should close 12/31/19;

Sister Lakes Area Sewer – SAW grant just beginning; rates to be reviewed

Parks & Recreation – next meeting in January 2020

Public Safety Committee – no update

CONTINUED BUSINESS

Update on condemnation at 28622 Wilson Drive – Adm. Herter – the residence has a demo permit and is being taken down and this should be done within 30 days.

Update on 54533 Beechwood Drive – nothing new

ORV update – the next meeting is near the end of January 2020; this would not apply to golf carts; snowmobilers seem to be in favor of this; if approved, there are still several restrictions including a max of 25 mph and you must wear a helmet

LED lighting for township hall – discussion from earlier this year – the estimate was almost double what AEP projected for the cost of the project so this would be more than what we could gain for several years. It is probably best to replace fixtures with LED as needed.

Flag pole replacement – review of Howard township purchase (in 2019) and an recent quote from Flags International (Osceola, IN). Although a flag pole could be purchased elsewhere, you would have to add in the cost of installation which would work out about the same. Flag's International is the only place close enough (and equipped) to do the installation. Supervisor Saunders recommends we purchase a new flag pole and flag as quoted (external halyard, with installation, and 5x8 flag) for no more than \$2,300.00 after he and Trustee Glynn have time to go and see the Howard Township flag pole and if they both agree it is suitable for our needs.

Motion by Supervisor Saunders to purchase a new flag pole and flag, to include installation costs, not to exceed \$2,300.00. Seconded by Treasurer Kuriata.

Roll call vote: Yes (4) Supervisor Saunders, Trustee Glynn Treasurer Kuriata. Clerk Behnke

No (0)

Abstain (0) – motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

There will be a public hearing on the Silver Creek Township Parks and Rec plan for 2020-2024 on Wednesday January 8, 2019 at **6:30 pm**. It has been available on our website and a copy is available in the clerk's office for public review. All are encouraged to attending this public hearing.

Discussion and review of quote for partitions for the Supervisor's office. These are needed for the supervisor to have more privacy when meeting and talking with constituents.

Motion by Treasurer Kuriata, to approve the purchase of partitions as quoted for the supervisor's office, for not more than \$648.00. Seconded by Trustee Glynn.

Roll call vote: Yes (4) Trustee Glynn, Treasurer Kuriata. Clerk Behnke, Supervisor Saunders

No (0)

Abstain (0) – motion carried

Motion to approve the agreement with Sister Lakes Volunteer Fire Department 2020-2025 and authorize Supervisor Saunders to sign it. Seconded by Treasurer Kuriata.

Roll call vote: Yes (4) Treasurer Kuriata. Clerk Behnke, Supervisor Saunders, Trustee Glynn,

No (0)

Abstain (0) – motion carried

Motion to approve Resolution 19-24 (DYF recognition for charity gaming license)

Motion by Clerk Behnke, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata.

Silver Creek Township Cass County, Michigan Resolution R19-24

WHEREAS, Dowagiac Youth Football, through its representative, Tim Feirick, has requested the Silver Creek Township Board recognize Dowagiac Youth Football as a local nonprofit organization operating in the community, and

WHEREAS, Dowagiac Youth Football is requesting the Silver Creek Township Board provide a resolution confirming and recognizing their status as a local nonprofit organization, for the purposes of obtaining a Charitable Gaming License, as required by the Michigan Lottery Charitable Gaming Division;

WHEREAS, Dowagiac Youth Football has provided verification of their 501 (c) (3) status, timely as requested; and is known in the local community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Silver Creek Township Board recognizes Dowagiac Youth Football as a local nonprofit organization operating in this township and community; and supports their approval for a charitable gaming license from the Michigan Lottery Charitable Gaming Division.

Roll call vote: Yes (4) Clerk Behnke, Supervisor Saunders, Trustee Glynn, Treasurer Kuriata
No (0)
Abstain (0) – motion carried

Motion to adopt Ord 19-05, Ordinance amending Sewer System Ordinances regarding as built drawings and payment of deposit. Motion by Treasurer Kuriata, seconded by Clerk Behnke.
Discussion & questions – Treasurer Kuriata will contact our legal counsel for clarification and this will be continued at the next meeting.

Motion to amend the sewer maintenance arrears on parcel #14-130-155-098-00 from \$241.54 to \$511.09 on the winter tax bill. Motion by Trustee Glynn, seconded by Supervisor Saunders.
Roll call vote: Yes (4) Supervisor Saunders, Trustee Glynn, Treasurer Kuriata, Clerk Behnke
No (0)
Abstain (0) – motion carried

Motion to reappoint Debbie Brown to a 3 year term on the Planning Commission, to expire 12/31/22. Motion by Clerk Behnke, seconded by Supervisor Saunders.
Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to reappoint Jon Tidey to a 3 year term on the Planning Commission, to expire 12/31/22.
Motion by Supervisor Saunders, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to appoint Thom Brown to a 3 year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals, to expire 12/31/22. Motion by Clerk Behnke, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to appoint Wendy Fitzgerald to a 1 year term as an alternate on the Board of Review, to expire 12/31/20. Motion by Treasurer Kuriata, seconded by Clerk Behnke. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to reappoint Joe Moore to a 2 year term on the Russom Park Board, to expire 12/31/21.
Motion by Trustee Glynn, seconded by Supervisor Saunders. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to reappoint Jim Humphreys to a 2 year term on the Russom Park Board, to expire 12/31/21. Motion by Clerk Behnke, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to reappoint Scott Wade to a 3 year term on the International Property Code Maint. Construction Board of Appeals, to expire 12/31/22. Motion by Supervisor Saunders, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to appoint Wendy Fitzgerald to a 3 year term as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals, to expire 12/31/22. Motion by Clerk Behnke, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to reappoint Mike Glynn to a 2 year term on the Russom Park Board, to expire 12/31/21.
Motion by Treasurer Kuriata, seconded by Supervisor Saunders. Motion carried by voice vote.
(Trustee Glynn abstained from this vote)

Motion to approve the 2020 meeting schedule. Motion by Trustee Glynn, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion to early pay electric bill reimbursement on Indian Lake Weed account as requested ILIA. This bill is normal but was just received and the motion is to allow early pay. Motion by Clerk Behnke, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata.

Roll call vote: Yes (4) Trustee Glynn, Treasurer Kuriata, Clerk Behnke, Supervisor Saunders
No (0)
Abstain (0) – motion carried

Motion to early pay electric bill reimbursement on Magician Lake Weed account as requested MLIA. This bill is normal but was just received and the motion is to allow early pay. Motion by Clerk Behnke, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata.

Roll call vote: Yes (4) Treasurer Kuriata, Clerk Behnke, Supervisor Saunders, Trustee Glynn
No (0)
Abstain (0) – motion carried

Other business – none

Public comment - none

Meeting adjourned 8:46 pm

Prepared by: Clerk Lorri Behnke 12/12/19

To be approved 1/8/20