

**MINUTES SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 12, 2015**

The regular meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bill Saunders at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 12, 2015.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Bill Saunders, Treasurer Maureen Kuriata, Clerk Barbara Runyon, Trustee Joel Moore and Trustee Mike Glynn.

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney John Magyar.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to approve the August 12, 2015 Silver Creek Township Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Boger from Indian Lake complained that water patrol had instructed his neighbor, Mr. Fitzpatrick, to remove a post and rope from the lake which was allegedly impeding boat traffic. He indicated his disagreement with the removal.

Chief Mike Grice introduced newly hired part-time Silver Creek Township Police Officer Jeff Johnson. Jeff spoke briefly about his past law enforcement experience. He has been working with the Cass County Sheriff's Department for 19 years.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Glynn moved, seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve the July 1, 2015 Special Workshop Minutes, the July 8, 2015 Public Hearing Minutes and the July 8, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

Treasurer Kuriata reported the bills and claims for August 12 2015. Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata, to approve the following bills and claims in the total amount of \$74,744.73 as follows:

FROM THE GENERAL FUND	\$40,871.75
FROM THE INDIAN LAKE SEWER FUND	\$ 7,927.15
FROM THE PUBLIC SAFETY FUND	\$ 5,365.60
FROM THE PARKS & RECREATION	\$ 277.50
FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 6,358.25
FROM THE INDIAN LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$ 5,003.38
FROM THE MAGICIAN LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$ 1,750.00
FROM THE DEWEY LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$ 7,211.00

GRAND TOTAL OF DISBURSEMENTS:

\$74,744.73

The Supervisor directed the Clerk to take roll, and the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

READING OF COMMUNICATION

Clerk Runyon summarized a copy of letter received from Ron Jones indicating that he was stepping down as a board member of the Dowagiac District Library effective September 30, 2015. Discussion followed. Board members noted that Mr. Jones has done an outstanding job and will be missed.

PRESENTATION BY AUDITOR

Kevin Raade of Schaffer & Layher presented the Fiscal year 2014/2015 Silver Creek Township Audit, and indicated it was a clean audit. Questions and discussion followed.

POLICE REPORT

31 complaints; 10 warnings; 0 tickets; 2 accidents policed; 2 assist other police agencies; 1 assist motorists and pedestrians.

HEALTH & SERVICE REPORTS

Indian Lake Fire Department: Chief Huggins reported 10 runs in July with 8 in Silver Creek Township; 1 assist city and 1 assist tribal. He reported the purchase of a used fire truck and brought it to the township board meeting for public viewing.

Sister Lakes Fire Department: No report.

Pride Care Ambulance Report: July 6-16 calls with an average response time of 8:02 minutes.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Magyar reported one case in litigation, and that the added party was recently serviced with the complaint.

BUILDING/ZONING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Building/Zoning Inspector Todd Herter reported 20 building permits with a projected cost of \$200,683.00; and 10 zoning permits at \$690.00.

BLIGHT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Patrolman Kenneth Wray reported 25 blight complaints; 25 blight checks; 20 blight complaints notified; 5 blight in non-compliance status; 2 blight in partial compliance; 20 blight complaints now in compliance. He did 6 liquor inspections with no violations.

APPEALS BOARD REPORT

Attorney Magyar reported that a ZBA hearing is scheduled on August 19th at 7:00 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Walter Lehmann provided the planning commission report indicating the commission met on July 22nd stating Building/Zoning Inspector brought to their attention a discrepancy in rear yard set ó backs, and it will place it on the agenda for consideration. They also discussed amendments pertaining to permanent piers due to state regulation changes. He went on to report that they are working on the Capital Improvement Plan. The next planning commission meeting will be August 26th at 7:00 p.m.

STANDING INSPECTORS REPORT

Electrical Inspector: 7 permits
Plumbing Inspector: 3 permits
Mechanical Inspector: 8 permits

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Kuriata reported fund balances as follows:

General Fund	\$330,215.33
Indian Lake Sewer Maintenance Fund	\$191,215.36

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

Indian Lake Sewer and Sister Lakes Area Sewer: Treasurer Kuriata indicated there was nothing much to report. She is waiting to hear from the City on when they will be selling bonds for the Sewage Disposal Plant.

Parks and Recreation Committee: Trustee Moore reported that the parks and recreations committee met on July 20th, and will be meeting again on August 20th. They will be submitting a plan to the township regarding the large Ash Tree on Topash Street, getting a quote from A-1 Tree Service, and will bring it back to the township board for consideration. Russom Park Board will meet on August 17th at Russom Park. The Russom Park Dedication is scheduled for September 12th with the time to be determined.

Public Safety Committee: Trustee Moore reported the public safety committee met on July 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. Cass County Emergency Manager Dave Smith gave a presentation at that time. Dave Smith and Silver Creek Township Police/Blight Officer Ken Wray have since put together a Township Hazard Assessment Plan and Disaster Plan Response which will be presented to the Public Safety Committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH INDIAN LAKE
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT**

Treasurer Kuriata moved, seconded by Trustee Glynn, to approve an Agreement for the Indian Lake Special Assessment District for Aquatic Weed Control and authorize Supervisor Saunders to sign. Discussion followed. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH
DEWEY LAKE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT**

Trustee Glynn moved, seconded by Clerk Runyon, to approve an Agreement for Dewey Lake Special Assessment District for Aquatic Weed Control and to authorize Supervisor Saunders to sign. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION TO APPLY FOR JOINT GRANT

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Trustee Glynn, to allow Chief Grice to apply for an AAA Michigan Traffic Safety Equipment Joint Grant with Keeler Township for a new speed display sign. Discussion and questions followed. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION TO APPROVE ADA GRANT

Supervisor Saunders moved, seconded by Clerk Runyon, to accept the Grant Agreement between State of Michigan Department of State and Silver Creek Township for Help America Vote Act Section 261 Financial Assistance Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities (VOTE) Program for \$170.00 to purchase an ADA compliant voting booth. Discussion. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION TO APPROVE 2014/15 AUDIT

Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to approve 2014/15 Silver Creek Township Audit as presented by Schaffer & Layher. Motion carried by voice vote.

MOTION TO SCHEDULE FALL TRASH DAYS

Treasurer Kuriata moved, seconded by Clerk Runyon, to schedule Fall Trash Days on Friday, September 4th through Monday, September 7, 2015. Discussion. Motion carried by voice vote.

MOTION TO AMEND INDIAN LAKE SEWER BUDGET

Trustee Glynn moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to transfer \$1,450.00 from 590-996 Contingencies and place it into 590-505 Billing of Customers. Discussion followed. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION TO APPROVE PROTECTIVE LANDSCAPING FOR TOWNSHIP SIGN

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to approve a contract with H&H Landscaping in the amount of \$695.97 to install protective landscaping around the Township Sign, and to authorize Supervisor Saunders to sign contract. Discussion followed. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion was held by the board as to when the agenda cut off day should be. It was decided that it would be Wednesday prior to the board meeting. Agenda packets would be available Thursday afternoon and posted on the website. Clerk Runyon will continue to pay bills until Tuesday of that board meeting week.

Supervisor Saunders discussed crack sealing and seal coating the township parking lot. Trustee Moore also mentioned that the yellow bumper posts need to be repainted. Discussion was held.

MOTION RE. PARKING LOT

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata, to authorize Supervisor Saunders to get bids on getting the township parking lot crack sealed, seal coated and the placement of yellow parking lines, and be authorized to spend up to \$2,500.00. Discussion was held. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Boger reiterated his disapproval of Mr. Fitzpatrick having to remove the post and rope from the lake at his property on Indian Lake. He does not believe that it was impeding boat traffic and stated it had been there for many years. He questioned who he should talk to about on this matter.

Attorney Magyar told him that the township does not determine riparian rights. Supervisor Saunders advised that the DNR controls it.

Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that it wasn't hurting anything and that there needs to be some common sense used.

Tim Hall questioned if anything had been done on fixing the manhole cover on Lakeview Drive. Trustee Moore said that SLAUA was getting someone to look at it.

Chief Mike Grice shared the new township police patch and indicated that the Potawatomi Tribe has endorsed it.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. by call of the Supervisor.

Barbara Runyon
Silver Creek Township Clerk

Dated: August 13, 2015
To be approved at the September 9, 2015 Regular Meeting