

**MINUTES SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 11, 2015**

The regular meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bill Saunders at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 11, 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 Treasurer Kuriata, to approve the, 2015 Silver Creek Township Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Clerk Runyon noted that she had received an e-mail from Tim Hull of Indian Lake requesting that the minutes be of October 14, 2015 be amended under his public comment regarding the Mann Drain problems to include his suggestion of "adding a line item in future Township budgets for expenditures to maintain and protect the natural water bodies of the township." Discussion as to whether the minutes should be amended was held. It was decided not to amend the minutes. The written information Mr. Hull provided is kept on file at the township hall.

Trustee Glynn moved, seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2015. Motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

Treasurer Kuriata reported the bills and claims for October 14, 2015. Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Trustee Glynn, to approve the following bills and claims in the total amount of \$66,805.00 as follows:

FROM THE GENERAL FUND	\$40,883.85
FROM THE INDIAN LAKE SEWER FUND	\$10,172.43
FROM THE PUBLIC SAFETY FUND	\$ 3,591.02
FROM THE PARKS & RECREATION	\$ 605.00
FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 4,905.26
FROM THE INDIAN LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$ 735.44
FROM THE DEWEY LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	<u>\$ 5,912.00</u>

GRAND TOTAL OF DISBURSEMENTS: \$66,805.00

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

READING OF COMMUNICATION

No communication reported.

POLICE REPORT

11 complaints; 5 warnings, 3 assist other police agencies; 2 assist motorists and pedestrians.

HEALTH & SERVICE REPORTS

Indian Lake Fire Department: 6 calls for the month with 5 in Silver Creek Township

Sister Lakes Fire Department: 11 calls in the entire response area with 5 in Silver Creek Township with an average response time of 6.4 minutes.

Pride Care Ambulance Report: October – 12 calls with an average response time of 7:30 minutes. There were extended times for two runs due to distance. The crews took the correct routes and did not report any further incidents.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Magyar gave an update on the Agostino lawsuit.

He went on to report that due to board and planning commission's concern as to whether Silver Creek Township should include monies for lake protection in their master plan, he and Supervisor Saunders met with three members of the DEQ and the County Drain Commissioner. The DEQ addressed their statutory obligations under the Environmental Protection Act. Attorney Magyar indicated it was clear that the township is preempted from taking any action regarding this matter; it's a DEQ matter not township, and the township has no business getting involved.

If there are high concentrations of something in the lakes, Michigan Environmental Protection Act gives people a right to become involved, but went on to say he believes the Attorney General would then get involved.

Supervisor Saunders noted that what he took away from the meeting was that wetlands and so forth is the DEQ's -- do not touch. They are very protective of the wetlands and how they are handled, and they let the drain commissioner know that they control the Mann Drain.

Trustee Glynn said that he had gone to Indian Lake to see the Mann Drain and was able to talk about it with some of the residents. He went on to report his conversations with the residents and what he observed.

Attorney Magyar said the DEQ was going to be looking into it and was provided a copy of the Mann Drain Watershed Management Plan. Further discussion followed.

Trustee Glynn questioned whether the permanent filtration system should be included in the capital improvement plan that the Planning Commission is having a public hearing on next week.

Attorney Magyar advised not to include the permanent filtration system in the capital improvement plan. Further discussion followed.

Supervisor Saunders reported that the DEQ said that it was a clean stream coming into the lake. Attorney Magyar said that his understanding was that it was not out of line, but they would need to do more tests before they could say one way or the other. Supervisor Saunders reported it was below what a lot of other lakes receive.

BUILDING/ZONING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Building/Zoning Inspector Todd Herter reported 14 building permits with a projected cost of \$365,020.00; and 10 zoning permits at \$780.00.

BLIGHT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Patrolman Kenneth Wray reported 1 blight complaints filed; 1 blight check found substantiated; 1 blight owners notified; 10 blight in non-compliance status, and 2 blight complaints closed. He did 5 liquor inspections with no violations.

APPEALS BOARD REPORT

Nothing to report.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Tom Lehrer provided the planning commission report stating that an election of officers was held at the October 28th meeting. Terry Harris was voted Chairperson, Bill Zuhl as Vice Chair, and Tom Lehrer as Secretary. They reviewed the public improvement plan. There will be a public hearing on November 18th at 7:00 p.m.

STANDING INSPECTORS REPORT

Electrical Inspector: 4 permits

Plumbing Inspector: 0 permits

Mechanical Inspector: 1 permits

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Kuriata reported fund balances as follows:

General Fund	\$307,665.89
Indian Lake Sewer Maintenance Fund	\$208,172.57

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

Indian Lake Sewer: Treasurer Kuriata reported that the SLAUA board has recommended that Indian Lake Sewer go out for bid to repair the manholes. Discussion and questions followed.

MOTION TO GO OUT TO BID

Treasurer Kuriata moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to go out for bids for Indian Lake Sewer manhole repairs. Motion carried by voice vote.

Sister Lakes Area Sewer: Treasurer Kuriata reported that SLAUA voted to extend the sewer lines on CR690 from Cressy and Everett north to the fire department.

Parks and Recreation Committee: Trustee Moore reported that the Ash Tree on the corner of Topash and Townhall Road was removed. After counting the rings in the tree, they believe it to be around 200 years old. Discussion followed.

Public Safety Committee: Trustee Moore reported the public safety committee met on October 20th at 7:00 p.m. and the next scheduled meeting is January 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. He noted there is a vacancy on the Public Safety Committee if anyone is interested.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Saunders presented Walter Lehmann with the foregoing resolution thanking him for his years of service. Mr. Lehmann thanked everyone and spoke briefly.

RESOLUTION R15-21

SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP
CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN

WHEREAS, Walter Lehmann began his service with Silver Creek Township in 1999 when he was appointed to the Silver Creek Township Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lehmann was appointed on June 6, 2003 to fill the position of Silver Creek Township Clerk and was elected to the position in 2004 where he remained until his retirement in December of 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lehmann has served Silver Creek Township in many capacities including Deputy Township Clerk, Blight Officer, Public Safety Member, Township Planning Commission and Township representative to the Southwestern Michigan Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lehmann's experience, intellect and love for Silver Creek Township has made a significant impact on the community, making it a better place to live and raise a family; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Silver Creek Township Board recognizes Walter Lehmann for his years of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board sincerely thanks Mr. Lehmann and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.

Supervisor Saunders moved, seconded by Clerk Runyon, to approve the aforesaid Resolution R15-21. Resolution R15-21 carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION FOR LINE ITEM TRANSFER

Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata, to transfer \$2,500 from Contingencies 996-998 and place it into 265-930 Building and Grounds. Clerk Runyon explained that due to unexpected expenses, with \$1,900 used to seal coat the township driveway and \$1,500 used to cut down the Ash Tree on Topash Street, there was a shortfall in this line item. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m. by call of the Supervisor.

Barbara Runyon
Silver Creek Township Clerk
Dated: November 11, 2015
To be approved at the December 9, 2015 Regular Meeting