

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

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bill Saunders at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2015. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Treasurer Kuriata.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Mike Glynn.

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney John Magyar.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve the March 11, 2015 Silver Creek Township Agenda with deletion of the Motion to Authorize Police Department Purchase of Warranty and the addition of a Motion to Purchase Township Water Heater. Motion carried by voice vote.

ROAD COMMISSION UPDATE

Pete Fournier of the Cass County Road Commission gave an update on the road commission. He also reminded everyone that seasonal weight restrictions are now in force. Discussion and questions followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bruce Nevins questioned whether the water heater could be fixed rather than replaced. Supervisor Saunders advised that it was the original water heater from when the school was still in existence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Treasurer Kuriata moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to approve the February 11, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

Treasurer Kuriata reported the bills and claims for March 11, 2015. Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Clerk Runyon, to approve the following bills and claims in the total amount of \$56,644.79 as follows:

FROM THE GENERAL FUND	\$26,708.07
FROM THE INDIAN LAKE SEWER FUND	\$ 8,557.48
FROM THE PUBLIC SAFETY FUND	\$ 9,657.03
FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 6,103.09

FROM THE INDIAN LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$ 4,869.12
FROM THE MAGICIAN LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$ 500.00
FROM THE DEWEY LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$ 250.00

GRAND TOTAL OF DISBURSEMENTS: \$56,644.79

The Supervisor directed the Clerk to take roll:

Yes (4): Trustee Moore, Supervisor Saunders, Clerk Runyon and Treasurer Kuriata.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Trustee Glynn.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

READING OF COMMUNICATION

Clerk Runyon read a letter or resignation from Patrolman Stephen R. Szymonski. Supervisor Saunders directed Clerk Runyon to write a letter thanking him for his service with the township.

POLICE REPORT

24 complaints; 5 warnings, 4 tickets, 4 accidents policed, 1 assist other police agencies, 6 assist other agencies, 1 assist City of Dowagiac, 14 assisted motorists and pedestrians and 21 property inspections.

HEALTH & SERVICE REPORTS

Indian Lake Fire Department: No report.

Sister Lakes Fire Department: No report.

Pride Care Ambulance Report: February - 6 calls with an average response time of 9:01 minutes; one extended response time due to distance.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Magyar reported no pending cases. He met with a representative of the Dewey Lake Property Association and Clerk Runyon to discuss a tentative agreement, and circulated a draft to the township board. He has been in contact with AYSO regarding the Russom Park Agreement and is waiting for insurance information.

BUILDING/ZONING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Building/Zoning Inspector Todd Herter reported three building permits with a projected cost of \$79,260.00 and two zoning applications.

BLIGHT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Patrolman Kenneth Wray reported one complaint resolved; one bank inspection; two blight inspections which are under investigation and four liquor inspections.

APPEALS BOARD REPORT

Bruce Nevis reported that a ZBA hearing will be held next Wednesday, March 18th. Attorney Magyar stated that he had a conflict of interest and would not be able to attend the ZBA Hearing. He advised that his partner, Attorney Mark Herman, represents one of the parties. It was decided they would go forward on the hearing without Attorney Magyar.

Clerk Runyon noted that the continued budget hearing is also scheduled on that date and time. It was agreed that the budget hearing would be held at 5:00 p.m. rather than 7:00 p.m.

PLANNING/ZONING COMMISSION REPORT

Planning Commission Chairperson Bill Zuhl stated the planning commission could not hold their public hearing in February due to a power outage at the township. It will be held at their March 25th meeting. They continue to work on Section 6 of the zoning ordinance.

STANDING INSPECTORS REPORT

Electrical Inspector: 6 permits
Plumbing Inspector: 2 permits
Mechanical Inspector: 8 permits

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Kuriata reported fund balances as follows:

General Fund	\$355,925.61
Indian Lake Sewer Maintenance Fund	\$141,085.71

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

Indian Lake Sewer: Attorney Magyar reported that he has sent a letter to the attorney representing the parties at Tice Beach regarding the repair of the sewer line. Treasurer Kuriata had nothing else to report.

Sister Lakes Sewer: Nothing to report.

Parks and Recreation Committee: Trustee Moore reported that the next Russom Park Meeting is April 20, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Dowagiac City Hall. No meeting is currently scheduled for the Silver Creek Township Parks & Recreation Board.

Public Safety Committee: Trustee Moore advised that the Public Safety Committee met with the Indian Lake and Sister Lakes Fire Departments to discuss and review their contracts. It is

recommended that Section 10 of the existing contract regarding reserving up to 20% of the gross millage be eliminated. Sister Lakes Fire Department would also like to see the contract be automatically renewed as long as the millage is in force. They would also like their payments on a quarterly basis as opposed to semi-annually.

Clerk Runyon questioned what the next step is since the contracts expire on April 1st. Supervisor Saunders appointed Trustee Moore and Trustee Glynn to review the contracts and amendments and meet with the fire departments. Clerk Runyon will re-type the contract with the requested amendments. Further discussion was held. Attorney Magyar added that any contract should include a provision that if either party is not satisfied with services, they may get out of the contract at any time.

Trustee Moore also reported that Indian Lake Fire Department would like the board to consider holding a special election to request either a quarter or half mill to help fund equipment. The public safety committee will discuss this matter and make a recommendation to the board.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Runyon reviewed the profit and loss statements for the General Fund and the Parks and Recreation Fund.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RENEWAL OF SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR GERTRUDE BUSICK

Alan Busick handed the board a signed Annual Renewal Application for Mobile Home or Trailer Coach in Agricultural-Residential District by Special Permit for 2015 signed by Gertrude Busick. Clerk Runyon indicated that as directed at the February 11th board meeting, she mailed a renewal form to Gertrude Busick.

Motion for Renewal of Special Permit

Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to approve the Renewal of Special Use Permits for Dependent Mobile Homes on Ag/Residential Property for Gertrude Busick, Property Number 14-130-033-005-00. Motion carried by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata, to approve the following resolution:

SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP, CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN RESOLUTION R15-04 2015/2016 FISCAL YEAR TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES

WHEREAS, the board is required by resolution to provide the date, time and location of their board meetings;

FURTHER, the meetings must be posted within 10 days after the townships fiscal year beginning April 1, 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Board of Silver Creek, Cass County, Michigan does hereby establish that there shall be one regular board meeting each month as follows:

- a. All regular meetings shall be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and shall commence promptly at 7:00 p.m.
- b. All regular meetings shall be held at the Silver Creek Township Hall located at 32764 Dixon Street, Dowagiac, Michigan 49047.
- c. Dates of said meetings shall be:
April 8, May 13th, June 10th, July 8th, August 12th, September 9th, October 14th, November 11th, December 9, 2015, January 13th, February 10th and March 9, 2016.

The Supervisor directed the Clerk to take roll:

Yes (4): Supervisor Saunders, Clerk Runyon, Treasurer Kuriata and Trustee Moore.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Trustee Glynn.

Resolution carries by roll call vote.

MOTION TO AMEND TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata to amend the township office hours to Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. eliminating Saturdays mornings effective April 1, 2015. Discussion followed. Trustee Moore recommended we try it for a year and see how it works. It was agreed that employees and elected officials would be available at any time by appointment.

MOTION FOR LINE ITEM TRANSFER

Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata, to approve the following line-item transfers:

Building Fund

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
249-705	Mechanical Inspections		688.50
249-717	Electrical Inspection		599.00
249-860	Car Allowance	880.00	
249-958	Membership	407.50	

The Supervisor directed the Clerk to take roll:

Yes (4): Clerk Runyon, Treasurer Kuriata, Trustee Moore and Supervisor Saunders.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Trustee Glynn.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Clerk Runyon advised that the Cass County Hazardous Waste Collection will be on Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 9:00 to noon at the Cass County Fairgrounds. She also reported that Cass County Council on Aging is holding a Dementia Conference on Tuesday, May 12th beginning at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR WATER HEATER

Supervisor Saunders advised that the township water heater is not working. Discussion followed.

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to solicit three bids to replace the water heater as soon as possible.

The Supervisor directed the Clerk to take roll:

Yes (4): Clerk Runyon, Treasurer Kuriata, Trustee Moore and Supervisor Saunders.

No (0): None.

Absent (1): Trustee Glynn.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. by the call of the Supervisor.

Barbara Runyon
Silver Creek Township Clerk

Dated: March 12, 2015
To be approved at the April 8, 2015 Regular Meeting