

**MINUTES SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON JUNE 11, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bill Saunders at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2014. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Trustee Glynn.

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, to approve the June 11, 2014 Silver Creek Township Agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Newly appointed Cass County Road Commission Manager Steve Lucas introduced himself and spoke briefly. Bruce Nevins commented that he had contacted the road commission last year with complaints which were never dealt with. He called Mr. Lucas recently and all problems were resolved.

Silver Creek Assessor Bill Kays explained Resolution 14-03 Amending the Land Division Ordinance 97-3. Questions and discussion held. Trustee Glynn questioned Mr. Kays as to whether the Fire and Police Millage falls under the Headlee Rollback. Mr. Kays advised that it does apply, but because of our taxable values being stagnant it has remained at 1 mill.

Township resident Dave Dorman introduced himself and his wife, and indicated that they had received a letter from the township about their horse and chickens running wild. The letter stated that they had 30 days to remove the animals and was told they could come to tonight's meeting. Mr. Dorman said they would be disposing of the animals by November and requested an extension.

Jim Bussler introduced himself. Mr. Bussler is running for United States Congress.

Lazarus Alexander introduced himself. Mr. Alexander is running for Cass County Commissioner in our District.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Glynn moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 14, 2014 and the Public Hearing on June 5, 2014. Motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

Treasurer Kuriata reported the bills and claims of June 11, 2014. Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Clerk Runyon, to approve the following bills and claims in the total amount of \$ 72,680.90 as follows:

FROM THE GENERAL FUND	\$31,796.10
FROM PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 625.48
FROM THE INDIAN LAKE SEWER FUND	\$10,459.46
FROM THE PUBLIC SAFETY FUND	\$ 4,649.01
FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT FUND	\$ 4,560.14
FROM THE INDIAN LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$13,791.20
FROM PARKS & RECREATION FUND	\$ 3,505.00
FROM THE DEWEY LAKE WEED CONTROL FUND	\$ 3,294.51
 GRAND TOTAL OF DISBURSEMENTS:	 \$72,680.90

Trustee Glynn questioned last month's Parks and Recreation checks, indicating that the detailed report had not been furnished to him. Clerk Runyon and Treasurer Kuriata advised they would furnish him a copy.

The Supervisor requested the Clerk to take roll:

Yes (5) Treasurer Kuriata, Trustee Glynn, Trustee Moore, Supervisor Saunders and Clerk Runyon.

No (0): None.

Absent (0): None.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

READING OF COMMUNICATION

Clerk Runyon read a letter received from Ginger Luxenberger, Cass County Pioneer Log Cabin Museum Board Member, asking for volunteers to be on their Board. Clerk

Runyon stated that anyone interested, should contact her.
Clerk Runyon also read a letter received from Scott Fus who requested that a new large arrow sign be relocated on Pleasant Street showing that a 90 degree turn is coming up. Supervisor Saunders said that he had forwarded the letter to the Cass County Road Commission but had not heard back from them.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Mike Grice reported as follows: 12 complaints, 5 warnings, 5 tickets issued, 2 assisted other agency, and 18 property inspections.

HEALTH & SERVICE REPORTS

Indian Lake Fire Department: 6 calls, 4 in Silver Creek Township.
Sister Lakes Fire Department: 6 calls, 4 in Silver Creek Township.
Pride Care Ambulance Report: May - 16 calls with an average response time of 5:48 minutes. Two runs had extended response times (14:00 and 11:00 minutes) because of the distance of the calls. The crews took the correct routes and did not report any further incidents with their responses.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Magyar had nothing to report.

BUILDING & ZONING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Clerk Runyon reported twelve permits issued with an estimated building cost of \$464,243.00. No zoning inspector's report was given.

BLIGHT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Walt Lehmann gave the blight report, indicating that he had sent out ten blight letters. He also thanked Mr. and Mrs. Dorman for appearing tonight.

APPEALS BOARD REPORT

Jerry Donley reported that the ZBA held a hearing on May 21st and granted the request. They will be holding another hearing on June 18th at 7:00 p.m.

PLANNING/ZONING COMMISSION REPORT

Tom Lehrer provided the Planning Commission Report, reporting on the May 28th meeting where they discussed an upcoming proposed rezoning issue. He also reported that Steve Czadzeck from Lakeshore Environmental, Inc. reported his recommendation(s) on our waterfront ordinances. Capital Improvement forms were approved to be sent out to elected officials and department heads; lastly, the Indian Lake Improvement Association requested special status on parking their weed harvester.

STANDING INSPECTORS REPORT

Electrical Inspector: 6 permits.
Plumbing Inspector: 0 permits.
Mechanical Inspector: 2 permits.
Liquor Inspector: 6 inspections.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Kuriata reported fund balances as follows:

General Fund	\$400,230.22
Indian Lake Sewer Maintenance Fund	\$201,533.68

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

Indian Lake Sewer: Treasurer Kuriata reported that Miss Dig contacted her to let her know that Indian Lake Sewer will need to pay an annual membership fee of \$369.00; they could not be included in the Sister Lakes Area Utility Authority membership.

Motion to Pay Annual Miss Dig Membership

Treasurer Kuriata moved, seconded by Trustee Moore, to pay Miss Dig's Annual Membership Fee in the amount of \$369 from the Indian Lake Sewer Fund. Questions and discussion held.

The Supervisor requested the Clerk to take roll:

Yes (5) Trustee Glynn, Trustee Moore, Supervisor Saunders, Clerk Runyon and Treasurer Kuriata.

No (0): None.

Absent (0): None.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Indian Lake Sewer – report continued: Treasurer Kuriata also reported that the I-Link on Indian Lake Sewer may become obsolete. Mitch from the City of Dowagiac will look into what we will need to do to replace.

Motion to Contract for Miss Dig

Treasurer Kuriata moved, seconded by Trustee Moore, for Silver Creek Township to contract with Ed Wainwright for Miss Dig services for Indian Lake Sewer. Motion carried by voice vote.

Sister Lakes Area Sewer: Permits have been approved for the A-1 lift station.

Parks and Recreation Committee: Trustee Moore reminded everyone of the Community Build for the playground equipment for Russom Park this Friday and Saturday.

Public Safety Committee: Trustee Moore advised that the Public Safety Committee will meet again in July.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Update on Township Sign

Clerk Runyon advised that Invitations to Bid had gone out on May 26th to 14 vendors, and she had also published in the newspapers. The bid opening will be on July 1st at 11:00 a.m. She asked Ad Hoc sign committee members Tom Lehrer and Trustee Mike Glynn to preside over the bid opening. Discussion held.

ORDINANCE 14-02 AMENDING LAND DIVISION ORDINANCE 97-3

ORDINANCE 14-02 TO AMEND ORDINANCE 97-03
THE LAND DIVISION ORDINANCE

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata, to adopt the following ordinance amendment:

ORDINANCE 14-02
AMENDMENT TO
SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP

CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN
LAND DIVISION ORDINANCE
Ordinance #97-3

1. Section IV.B. be deleted.
2. Section VII.
 - D. The ratio of depth to width of any parcel created by the division does not exceed a four to one ratio exclusive of access roads, easements, or non-buildable parcels created under Section VII of this Ordinance and parcels added to contiguous parcels that result in all involved parcels complying with said ratio.

The permissible depth of a parcel created by a land division shall be measured within the boundaries of each parcel from the abutting road right of way to the most remote boundary line point of the parcel from the point of commencement of the measurement.

The permissible minimum width shall be defined in the applicable zoning ordinance or, in the absence thereof, as specified in subparagraph E (1) and (2) of this Ordinance.

The Township Board may approve a split that would exceed the four to one ratio upon a finding that:

1. *The split does not violate the Zoning Ordinance or a Variance of the Zoning Ordinance has been approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals.*
2. *The split is necessary due to any of the following:*
 - a. *The topography or physical condition of the parcel.*
 - b. *To be compatible with surrounding land.*
 - c. *Practical use of the land.*

Supervisor Saunders questioned the original 97-03 Ordinance Section VII E.

Motion to Table

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Treasurer Kuriata, to table this motion until the next board meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

MOTION TO PURCHASE CHIEF MINI WAREHOUSE

Supervisor Saunders moved to purchase the Chief Mini Warehouse with the City of Dowagiac in the amount of \$109,000 with each entity paying \$54,500. There was no second to this motion. A lengthy discussion was held.

Motion to Table

Supervisor Saunders moved, seconded by Trustee Glynn, to table Motion to Purchase Chief Mini Warehouse until the June board meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO RE-ENTER INTO A LISTING AGREEMENT

Discussion was held as to re-entering into a listing agreement with Jerdon Real Estate for the township property located at 33751 School Street, Eau Claire, Michigan. Supervisor Saunders advised that the township had listed with Jerdon Real Estate for two years and was expiring.

Supervisor Saunders moved, seconded by Trustee Moore, to enter into a listing agreement with Sheree Slott of Cressy & Everett for the property located at 33751 School Street, Dowagiac, Michigan. Motion carried by voice vote.

RESOLUTION R14-12 TO AMEND R14-08
GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

Clerk Runyon moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to approve Resolution R14-12 to amend Resolution 14-08, the Silver Creek Township Fiscal Year 2014/2015 General Appropriations Resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION 14-12 AMENDING
RESOLUTION 14-08
SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015
GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION

At Special Meeting of the Silver Creek Township Board held on March 20, 2014, Resolution R14-08, Silver Creek Township Fiscal Year 2014/2015 General Appropriations Resolution was unanimously passed.

Further, the Police and Fire Millage levied tax rate was not addressed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Appropriations Resolution R14-08 be amended to include in Section 6: “**Millage Levy**” Police and Fire Millage rate levied and collected within the township on all real property and personal property will be levied at the rate 1 mill.

The Supervisor instructed the Clerk to take roll:

Yes (5): Supervisor Saunders, Clerk Runyon, Treasurer Kuriata, Trustee Glynn, and Trustee Moore.

No (0): None.

Absent (0): None.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion to Extend Zoning Compliance

Trustee Moore moved, seconded by Supervisor Saunders, to extend Dave and Freida Dorman’s zoning compliance for the removal of animals on their property to November 30, 2014. Motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public commented.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. at the call of the Supervisor.

Dated: June 11, 2014
Approved at 6-9-14 Board Meeting

Barbara Runyon, Clerk

