

**MINUTES OF THE SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY JULY 13, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bill Saunders at 7:10 p.m., the flag ceremony and roll call had been conducted at the previous public hearing.

The agenda for the business meeting was approved by unanimous voice vote on motion by Trustee Moore, supported by Treasurer Kuriata.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mike Glynn asked how the Community Awareness program is funded. There is a small amount in the police budget.

Mr. Nevins: Expressed disappointment at the I & M Electric providing misinformation during the current electric failure.

Mr. Donley: Commented on the effectiveness of the new audio system.

The minutes of the regular meeting of June 8, 2011 were approved by unanimous voice vote on motion by Supervisor Saunders, supported by Trustee Moore.

**BILLS & CLAIMS:** Treasurer Kuriata presented bills and claims to be approved from the following funds:

General Fund	\$ 83,588.23
Indian Lake Sewer Maintenance Fund	\$ 12,114.18
Public Safety-Fire/Police Fund	\$ 5,108.72
Building Dept. Fund	\$ 6,324.63
Parks & Recreation Fund	\$ 6,197.40
Indian Lake Weed Control Fund	\$ 10,980.88
Dewey Lake Weed Control Fund	\$ 3,172.00
Magician Lake Weed Control Fund	\$ 44,705.55
Magician Bay Weed Control Fund	\$ 969.72
Public Improvement Fund	<u>\$ 591.07</u>
For a total distribution of	\$173,752.38

On motion by Clerk Lehmann, supported by Trustee Moore, the bills and claims were approved to be paid by unanimous roll call vote.

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:** The clerk read:

1. Invitation from the Edwardsburg Chamber of Commerce for their Business Expo on September 29, 2011.
2. Domestic and Sexual Abuse Center soliciting the fund for services. Noted that the fee was incorrect, approved by unanimous roll call vote that the clerk contact and get correct figure, then agree to pay that amount on motion by Treasurer Kuriata, supported by Trustee Moore.
3. Letter from Mrs. Wood-Cook, Chairperson of the Cass County Planning Commission, asking participation in the generic Master Plan program, approved by unanimous voice vote to participate and appoint Mike Glynn as principal contact, on motion by Clerk Lehmann, supported by Supervisor Saunders.

**POLICE REPORT:** Chief Grice reported: Complaints handled: 137, Warnings issued: 39, Tickets issued: 7, Accidents policed: 2, Arrests: 2, Arrest assist to other agencies: 1, Assist to other police agencies: 5, Assist motorists and pedestrians: 7.

**MINUTES OF THE SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2011**

FIRE AND AMBULANCE REPORTS: Indian Lake Volunteer Fire Department reported: 2 fire runs in June. They will have a training session with the Medic-Vac helicopter on Sunday afternoon, July 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffmaster have donated a boat for emergency services on the lake. Sister Lakes Volunteer Fire Department reported: 1 fire run and 6 ambulance runs in Silver Creek Township. Pride Care Dwg: 10 ambulance runs in Silver Creek Township.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY MAGYAR REPORTED:

- The judgment appeal period on the Phillips arbitration agreement has run out. Our inspectors report work being done without a permit in violation. He will meet with inspectors and file appropriate action in Circuit Court.
- There are three cases before the Tax Tribunal. He and the assessor will meet with the council for two of them for arbitration.
- He reviewed the need to schedule public hearings in August concerning the proposed Special Assessment District for ambulance service.

BUILDING INSPECTOR HERTER REPORTED: 11 permits issued for an estimated construction value of \$110,000.

ZONING & BLIGHT ADMINISTRATOR GOODMAN REPORTED: 6 permits issued, 1 fine, attended 2 training sessions. He has red tagged abandoned property at Adams and School St. He has alerted the attorney who will send a letter. Discussion with attorney on application of the International Property Maintenance Code.

It was mentioned the lot on the donated property on School St. needs to be cut. Approved for clerk to contact MTL for price and proceed if reasonable, on motion by Trustee Moore, supported by Treasurer Kuriata.

APPEALS BOARD REPORT: No variances filed, no meetings.

PLANNING/ZONING COMMISSION REPORT: Mr. Glynn reported the public hearing and meeting of June 29<sup>th</sup> did not have a quorum, therefore, the proceedings were rescheduled for the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7:00 p.m.

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: 19 electrical inspections, 9 permits issued and 1 fine.

PLUMBING INSPECTOR'S REPORT: 3 plumbing inspections.

MECHANICAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: 3 mechanical inspections.

LIQUOR INSPECTOR'S REPORT:: 6 liquor inspections. 0 violations.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Kuriata reported unallocated fund balances:

General Fund	\$161,894.06
Indian Lake Sewer Maintenance Fund	\$ 91,650.09

The quarterly investment report was in each member's packet.

**MINUTES OF THE SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
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COUNTY COMMISSIONER GOODMAN REPORTED::

- They are reviewing the budget for FY 2011/2012.
- The Bridge and Culvert Replacement Fund has received approval for \$100,00 insertion to seed grants.
- The rules and procedures, including ethics are being reviewed for amendments.
- His report is available.
- He is on a MAC committee reviewing the governor's proposal to eliminate commercial and industrial personal property taxes.

DOWAGIAC DISTRICT LIBRARY REPORT: Service at the township hall will continue, customers have increased. The library has received its state aid check. The landscaping at the library is completed. The new circulation desk contributed by Southwestern Michigan College will be installed in two weeks.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS REPORT: The next meeting will be July 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. with a presentation on the facilities of the Cass County Jail. Future topics will include the Department of Human Services presentation on migrant services and the Cass County Medical Care Facility review.

OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SEWER SYSTEMS OPERATIONS –

INDIAN LAKE SEWER – The clerk reported on a backup spill on the east side of Indian Lake. Dowagiac Utilities responded and clean up and mitigation were completed promptly. This was due to a notification system failure. A meeting is planned to review upgrade and backup of the notification system with Dowagiac Utilities and suppliers.

SISTER LAKES AREA SEWER – System upgrades from pump failures are completed.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE: Mr. Moore reported the bicycle path signs are ordered.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. PROPOSAL FOR A COMMISSIONERS TABLE – The two proposals were passed to the board for review and discussion. Approved to purchase a commissioner table on proposal of Swift's Custom Cabinetry for \$2,835.00. Noted that we need additionally, two chairs for committees, approved to purchase on motion by Clerk Lehmann, supported by Treasurer Kuriata.
- B. AMENDMENT TO THE BOAT REGULATION ORDINANCE – A draft letter proposed to be sent to the principle lake associations soliciting input was approved on motion by Clerk Lehmann, supported by Treasurer Kuriata.
- C. LISTING OF PROPERTY DONATED TO TOWNSHIP AT 33751 SCHOOL ST. – The substitute service to sign the deed is still pending. There is a lien by a funeral home on the property. It was approved that the property be listed with Jerdon Realty after the above deed execution is effected for a total of the lien, and all costs, demolition and legal that have been incurred on motion by Supervisor Saunders, supported by Trustee Moore.

**MINUTES OF THE SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2011**

- D. BUILDING DEPT. – INSPECTOR TRACKER DATABASE – ADDITIONAL INFO – It was approved to purchase the Solarsoft Inspector Tracker DB for not to exceed \$200.00 on motion by Trustee Moore, supported by Treasurer Kuriata.
- E. SLVFD PROPOSAL FOR FIRE/POLICE FUND SURPLUS ALLOCATION – After discussion and pending advisory decision from our auditors, this was tabled on motion by Clerk Lehmann, supported by Trustee Moore.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. BUDGET REPORT, FIRST QUARTER FISCAL 2011-2012 – The clerk reviewed the budget vs actual performance. All income and expense accounts are in order except for memberships and dues which have been impacted by an Michigan Townships Association dues increase. Approved to transfer \$800.00 to Account #101-958 Memberships and Dues from Acct. #998-999 Contingencies on motion by Treasurer Kuriata, supported by Supervisor Saunders.
- B. DEPT. OF STATE NOTICE ON ELIGIBILITY TO BECOME A CHARTER TOWNSHIP – The clerk read the notice from the Secretary of State informing us of our eligibility. After brief discussion, a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township was approved on motion by Trustee Moore, supported by Supervisor Saunders.

There was no other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Question on reconnection of electric service. Answer: In hands of Electric Utility.

Supervisor Saunders adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter F. Lehmann, Clerk