

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting
November 14, 2017

The regular meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dan Heim at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Shawn Omann and Jeff Westerlund, Treasurer Josh Bentley, Clerk Marlyce Plante and 8 interested parties.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE AMENDED AGENDA REMOVING DEB WEIHRAUCH FROM THE OPEN FORUM SECTION, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Westerlund asked in order to maintain a timely meeting with the full agenda, each person would be limited to 15 minutes.

OPEN FORUM:

Joe Lahr –Mr. Lahr came before the Town Board questioning whether the township will be upgrading Pinecone Road during the summer of 2018 along with the City of Sartell. Supv Heim informed him it is the intent to upgrade and overlay the township's portion of Pinecone. Mr. Lahr then questioned whether the 5-Ton Weight limit sign, which is posted on the township's portion, could be removed. Mr. Lahr would like to use the township's portion of Pinecone to move black dirt from the future Sartell High School construction site.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO GRANT AN OVERWEIGHT PERMIT TO JOE LAHR EXCAVATING TO TRAVERSE THE TOWNSHIP'S PORTION OF PINECONE ROAD FROM NOVEMBER 15, 2017 THROUGH MAY 15, 2018, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Steve Schwartz -2559 7th Ave. No. – Mr. Schwartz informed the Town Board that his shed that is close to the road right of way of 27th Street North, was peppered with heavy wet snow when the City of Sartell plowed 27th St. North. He was informed by Jon Kothenbeutel, City of Sartell Maintenance Supervisor, nothing could be done. Mr. Schwartz is looking for help from the township board. Mr. Schwartz also questioned whether the speed on 27th St. No. could be addressed. The speed limit is 45 mph currently on 27th St. The Town Board discussed the process of changing a speed on any given road, in the city or the township. Supv Westerlund will contact Jon Kothenbeutel regarding the snow plowing, but essentially this is an issue between the property owner and the city since 27th St is a city street and therefore the plowing is done by the city.

Will Huston – Westwood Professionals – Winnebago Properties (Coborn Property) – Mr. Huston came before the Town Board to discuss the intended development of the Coborn property which lies between County Road 1 from 22nd Street to 27th Street. The two parcels and an outlot contain approximately 56+ acres and the plan is to develop it into 26 lots. Lots will be anywhere from 1.5 acres to 2.5 acres. Access to 20 of the lots will be from 22nd St. and 6-7 lots will have individual accesses from 27th St. Discussion was held about the process of rezoning, preliminary plat, final plats etc. Mr. Huston stated this will be done in phases, the first being the 6-7 lots off of 27th Street. When further information is available, Mr. Huston will return to a township meeting to begin the platting & rezoning.

Mel Preusser & Jerry Westhoff - Mr. Preusser owns a 5-acre parcel on 40th Street and part of Pogreba Estates Plat. He would like to split the property into two parcels, a 2.2-acre parcel, the other would be 2.8 acres. The 2.8-acre parcel will be accessed off Majestic Pond Drive and contain the present accessory building on the parcel which would need a conditional use permit to have it remain on that vacant parcel

without a primary residence. A re-plat of the Pogreba Plat would need to be done, no rezoning is necessary since it is suburban residential already but the conditional use permit would need to be applied for.

They would like to have this completed prior to the end of the year. Clerk Plante will check with Anita Archambeau, Sartell City Planner, whether Joint Planning Board members would be available on December 12th, otherwise, Mr. Preusser has the option of paying for a special meeting which is \$275. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO SET FEES AT \$300 FOR THE PLAT FEE, \$200 (1/2 PRICE FOR THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FEE) & \$3000 ESCROW ACCOUNT, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. It has been the process of the Town Board to allow the half-price public hearing fee when a resident requests two public hearings the same evening. Clerk Plante will be in touch with Mr. Westhoff whether the city joint planning board members will be available on December 12th.

George & Mary Kay Fedor – 2712 Riverside Ave. No. – Mr. & Mrs. Fedor came before the Town Board to discuss their plans to remove three of the 4 sheds they had on their property. They would like to replace them with a 12 X 24 accessory building. Two of the 3 sheds will be removed right away and the 3rd will be moved in the spring. The new building will be anchored down, but will not have a permanent foundation. Since it is over 200 square feet, it will require a building permit. Mr. Fedor had a site plan with the placement of the new building and it was the consensus of the Town Board that he met all necessary setbacks. Their next step would be to contact Building Inspector David Barsody for a building permit.

The Fedor's also had questions regarding their fence which they would like to repair or replace sometime in the future. The Fedor's will contact the Town Board when they are ready to pursue the fence replacement.

John Krehbiel – 1573 Riverside Ave. No. – Mr. Krehbiel came before the Town Board to discuss an email he received from Supervisor Omann regarding the right of way of Riverside Ave/County Road 1. He questioned whether Supv Omann was given permission from the Town Board to send an email to him. At a previous township meeting discussion was held about the correct road right of way along County Road 1 at a previous meeting. Mr. Krehbiel stated Supv Omann was incorrect in stating the road right of way width. After calls & emails to Stearns County's Mike Decker, Road right of way specialist for Stearns County Public Works, it is noted the road right of way on County Road 1 varies depending on when plats were developed or the upgrade of County Road 1 was done. The right of way varies from 33 feet from the center line, 50 feet from the center line up to 60 feet from the center line which is the required footage on all new developments along County Road 1.

Mr. Krehbiel discussed the expense to the township in adopting a feedlot ordinance recently. He stated the Memorandum of Understanding signed many years ago, stated the county takes the responsibility of addressing feedlot issues in LeSauk Township. Supv Heim informed Mr. Krehbiel that when the township was working with township resident, Alex Udermann, for placement of a residence, the feedlot issue came to light. Angie Berg, Stearns County Environmental Services, informed him the county would no longer handle feedlot issues for the township and the township would need to adopt its own feedlot ordinance and govern it. The township worked with Attorney Troy Gilchrist to draft an ordinance which has been completed. Mr. Krehbiel stated the Town Board should have investigated the Memorandum of Understanding and addressed it with the Stearns County Board of Commissioners. Supv Heim again stated to Mr. Krehbiel, the Town Board was given no option other than to adopt its own feedlot ordinance and requested the guidance of the township attorney.

Mr. Krehbiel also requested that he did not want to received further emails or communications from Supv Omann. Mr. Krehbiel noted several errors in the "Obtaining a Building Permit" form on the township's website. He was informed the Town Board will review the form and correct as necessary.

MINUTES

SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2017 MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT – No Report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT – The Town Board reviewed the building inspector report as sent to Josh Bentley, Township Treasurer.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Jeff Westerlund-

Jim VanVooren, 120 Heritage Drive – Mr. VanVooren contacted Supv Westerlund questioning whether there are any future plans to change the zoning on Heritage Drive. It was the consensus of the Town Board to have Supv Westerlund contact Mr. VanVooren to inform him there are no plans for zoning changes in the area and zoning is driven by property owners, and not by the Town Board.

Stearns County Township Association Meeting – Supv Westerlund attended the bi-annual meeting at the Freeport Community Center on 10-27-17. He also stated he received further information that was emailed to him and the Town Clerk regarding Fine Reimbursement Resolution procedures.

Election Equipment Grant – The election equipment grant application was discussed at the Stearns County Township Association Meeting – Clerk Plante does have a copy of the application which is due by December 15, 2017.

Dan Heim-

Sign Solutions Update – Supv Heim stated the replacement of street signs in the township was completed on 11-8-17. Discussion was held on whether street signs should be connected to the Stop signs in the township. Supv Heim will review how many signs this may involve and report at the next scheduled township meeting.

Mike Decker – County Road 1 Road Right of Way – Supv Heim discussed this earlier in the meeting. It is also noted that Stearns County has a specialist for the County Road Right of Way and a specialist for the County Setbacks. These are both complicated and different throughout Stearns County, due to the changes over the years.

Mike Kirchoff – 5th Ave. No. "911" Sign – Supv Heim got in contact with Mr. Kirchoff who told Supv Heim that he did receive the townships letter regarding the moving of his 911 sign, but assumed the township was going to move it. Mr. Kirchoff has attached his 911 sign to the telephone pole in his yard. The township had requested all mailboxes and 911 signs on the west side of 5th Avenue be either moved to the east side or into their yards a minimum of 10-12 feet in order to allow for unobstructed snowplowing on 5th Avenue.

Fire Contract w/City of Sartell – Supv Heim received an email from Mary DeGiovanni, Sartell City Administrator informing him the Fire Contract between the city and the township runs for a period of 10 years unless it is terminated by either party.

Wellhead Protection Meeting – Supv Heim attended the last meeting and a report of the Wellhead Protection in the city/township will be sent for review when it is completed.

Treasurer Josh Bentley Address Correction – Supv Heim noted that Treasurer Bentley’s address is incorrect on the township website. Clerk Plante will correct as soon as possible.

Township Zoning Map – Supv Heim was contacted by Jeff Rasmussen, questioning whether the township would like a larger zoning map than the one provided previously. The zoning map received has been posted in the Town Hall and it is a sufficient size, so a larger one is not needed. Supv Heim also contacted Stearns County regarding the County’s posting of zoning maps on their website. These areas have been changed with the current zoning map pdf file of LeSauk Township. The new zoning map is also available on the township website. This will hopefully alleviate any questions people may have regarding the correct zoning of areas in the township.

Shawn Omann-

Jamie Lucas – Stearns County – Supv Omann received an email from Mr. Lucas regarding current set backs and or road right of way issues on County Road 1 or other county roads that may be located within the township.

30th Avenue Culvert Grates – Supv Omann reported he cleaned the grates on the 30th Avenue culvert as well as a lot of the growth that was located in the sediment near the grates.

Deb Weihrauch – Ms. Weihrauch contacted Supv Omann regarding her property located on 50th Avenue near the roundabout. When the city of Sartell put the roundabout in, her property was split and she questioned the current zoning. She had received the information she was searching for and did not need to attend this evenings meeting.

Area Planning Organization – Supv Omann discussed the letter that was drafted by the Area Planning Organization in support of a possible grant to help defray the cost of upgrading 30th Avenue. Brockway Township, LeSauk Township and the City of St. Stephen will all be pursuing grants for financial help to upgrade 30th Avenue.

OLD BUSINESS

Sign Solutions – As reported earlier in the meeting, the replacement of signs and posts has been completed in the township. Mr. Peterson suggested the township have extra posts on hand. It was the consensus of the Town Board to have a minimum of 6, 12-foot posts and necessary hardware on hand for future replacement.

Able Tree Service – Supv Westerlund reported the trimming of trees and brush has been completed by Able Tree Service as of November 7th. Supv Omann questioned an area on Riviera Road which may not have been trimmed. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Town Board to take no further action for the time being.

Fine Reimbursement – Supv Westerlund and Clerk Plante will work together to complete this process. Supv Westerlund stated he had waited almost two weeks for a response to questions regarding this process.

Snow & Ice Policy – The Town Board Supervisors reviewed the townships Snow & Ice Policy that has been on file since 2007-2008 without revisions. Some changes were made and it was the consensus of the Town Board to invite Doug Welk of ASTECH Inc. to our next meeting to review the policy and give input on their procedure of plowing the townships roads.

Weno Variance Reimbursement – Township Treasurer Josh Bentley reported that approximately \$235 had been spent on the Weno variance to date. It was the consensus of the Town Board to place this on the next meetings agenda, waiting to see if another legal invoice is received and discuss whether on-site views should be done by Town Board members.

NEW BUSINESS – CORRESPONDENCE

Township Ordinance Work Session – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO SET THE NEXT WORK SESSION FOR REVIEWING TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES & SUB-DIVISION REGULATIONS FOR NOVEMBER 21, 2017, BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE HOME OF SUPERVISOR HEIM DUE

TO THE USE OF THE TOWN HALL BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

321st Street Orderly Annexation Release – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO SIGN RESOLUTION 2017-28, RELEASING THE ROAD RIGHT OF WAY AREA OF 321ST STREET FROM THE ORDERLY ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH SARTELL, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Board of Equalization Option – After discussion, SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO RETAIN THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING AT THE TOWNSHIP LEVEL, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OCTOBER TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer Josh Bentley reviewed with the Town Board the October Treasurers Report. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS PRESENTED THE OCTOBER TREASURERS REPORT, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

VOUCHERS

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,421.97 (CHECK #12738 THRU CHECK #12754 PLUS EFT82), SECOND BY SUPV OMANN MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyce L. Plante (s)

Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk