

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – Sartell Community Center – Liberty Rm
November 14, 2023

The regular township meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dan Heim at 6:30 p.m. at the Sartell Community Center – Liberty Room.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Jeff Westerlund and Paul Wagner, Clerk Marlyce Plante, Treasurer Josh Bentley and six interested parties.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Kevin & Gretchen Warzecha, 32074 County Road 1 – The Warzecha's live on the corner of County Road 1 and the Sauk Rapids Bridge/9th Ave. They have lived there for 7 years and are in the midst of building an orchard on their property. They have seen the proposed reconstruction of County Road 1 and are concerned with the possibility of losing their front yard as well as the fruit trees they have planted. They questioned if they would put their property on the market, could a new buyer rezone the property for a business and also asked for more information regarding the possible orderly annexation agreement with the reconstruction of County Road 1 and what it would mean to the property owners in the area.

Supv Heim explained the process to rezone or apply for a conditional use permit on a township parcel. He then discussed the current status of the meetings being held regarding the possible orderly annexation with the city of St. Cloud. He would like to have the agreement be without a "sunset" date for township residents to annex and only annex when it is necessary due to a septic & sewer issue etc.

Stu Giffin & Jim Muellenbach – Co-Chairs of the Inclusive Playground Project -

Mr. Giffin and Mr. Muellenbach were asked to come before the Town Board to discuss their inclusive playground project recently completed along the Sauk River across from the Sartell city hall. The playground has been a huge success but the one thing that is still needed is a restroom that would provide a space to easily change a disabled person, running water etc. They are in the process of getting bids and looking for possible donations for the design and construction of the restroom.

The board thanked them for the presentation and appreciate the work they already put into the construction of the inclusive playground. The board discussed their possible contribution from the townships park fund or do we contribute to several projects versus just one project.

Supv Heim will contact Attorney Gilchrist to have him research whether donating the township park funds for the construction of the restroom at the inclusive playground would qualify under state statute. Supv Westerlund stated he would like to contribute to more than one park project, if possible. It was the consensus of the board to have Supv Heim contact Kari Theisen, City of Sartell Project Planner, checking whether there may be other projects the city of Sartell has within the city.

Aaron Zander, 271 27th St. No. – Property Clean-Up – Mr. Zander was asked by Supv Westerlund to attend the meeting this evening to discuss the clean-up of the township parcel he lives at, but owned by his mother, Gloria Zander. Mr. Zander was accompanied by Ken Hlebian.

The board viewed pictures of the Zander property and discussed who owns particular vehicles that are

located in the yard and whether they are currently licensed. Supv Westerlund was informed by Angie Zander that all vehicles have license tabs other than a Titan located in the rear yard. The board also questioned whether there is someone living in a shed in the rear yard and Mr. Zander said there isn't. Supv Westerlund, who met with the Zanders this morning, stated there has been some organization in the front yard and three trucks that were in the front yard will be moved to the rear yard. Mr. Zander told the Board they are working on cleaning the parcel up, but it all takes time. Mr. Zander was told that he needs to work with the board and answer the letters etc. that have been sent, even though they have been sent to his mother, Gloria Zander, any further action, if the clean-up is not sufficient etc., will be sent to Gloria, since she is listed as the property owner. Supv Westerlund will view the property in two weeks during his road inspection and report at the next meeting.

The Waters Church Expansion Site Plan – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO RECOMMEND FOR APPROVAL THE SITE PLAN PRESENTED BY THE WATERS CHURCH FOR AN EXPANSION THAT WILL INCLUDE A DAYCARE CENTER AND NEW GYMNASIUM, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. The Joint Planning Board has the final approval for the site plan presented by the Waters Church which will be addressed at the November 28, 2023 Joint Planning Board meeting.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: No business from the floor was on the agenda.

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED THE MINUTES OF THE 10-28-23 REGULAR MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: No report.

OCTOBER TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer Bentley reviewed with the board the October Treasurers report. The township's treasury has a balance of \$797,598.66 as October 31st. During October the 22nd St. No, Rodeo Road and Winnebago Road projects were complete and paid for which was roughly \$221,000 including the engineering fees. Treasurer Bentley did state however, the first part of December, the township will receive its second half of the tax levy.

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER TREASURERS REPORT AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CLAIMS & VOUCHERS:

Treasurer Bentley reviewed the claims and vouchers that will be presented to the board this evening including board payroll, brush & ditch mowing and general monthly expenses totaling \$9,264.27.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE PAYMENT CLAIMS & VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9264.27 (CHECK #14122 THRU 14134 PLUS EFT'S 270 & 271), SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS:**Jeff Westerlund –**

Zander Property Clean-Up – Supv Westerlund discussed his visit with Angie Zander earlier in the meeting with Aaron Zander in attendance. He will view the property in two weeks, checking the progress of the removal of abandoned vehicles and property clean-up.

Tom Fish – 2332 17th St. No. – Road Grading of 17th Street – Mr. Fish contacted Supv Westerlund asking when the grading of 17th St. (Udermann area) will be done since the road is quite rough.

Dan Heim –

322nd Street – Supv Heim spoke with Luke, assistant engineer for the city of St. Cloud, regarding 322nd Street cost for an overlay. The cost for just a basic overlay for the township portion was \$203,000 with nothing being done to the St. Wendel portion. Supv Heim also questioned him whether the city of St. Cloud would consider taking over the entire length of 322nd Street. He did say he will discuss that possibility with the St. Cloud City Council and that St. Wendel would need to be approached also.

Shawn Kroll, 32526 River Vista Lane – Mr. Kroll contacted Supv Heim questioning whether an adjacent property he plans to purchase will need to be annexed. Supv Heim did inform him if the septic fails, it would have to be annexed since it is within 100 feet of services.

Julie Fischer, 1925 Forest Drive – Ms. Fischer contacted Supv Heim regarding tires that have been dumped on Forest Drive. He viewed where the tires are located which is in the city of St. Cloud. He informed Ms. Fischer she will need to contact the city of St. Cloud.

Alex Udermann, 17th St. No. Grading – Supv Heim received a call from Mr. Udermann regarding the grading of 17th St. No. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE SUPV WESTERLUND CONTACT ASTECH INC TO GRADE 17TH ST. NO. SINCE MOST OF THE FALL HARVESTING IS NOW COMPLETE, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Weyer Property Annexation – Supv Heim reported that an 80-acre parcel owned by the Weyer Family Partnership which is located from 17th St. No. (Pinecone) to 27th St. No. (south to north) has been purchased by Enterprise Energy who has requested annexation to the city of Sartell for the development of a solar farm.

John Kothenbeutel, City of Sartell Public Works Director – Supv Heim noted that within the agenda packet for the city of Sartell, Mr. Kothenbeutel gave his letter of intent to retire at the end of May, 2024.

Udermann Plat, 17th St. No. – Supv Heim has received the escrow account money from Mr. Udermann and all information and applications have been sent to township attorney Troy Gilchrist, & David Blommel, township engineer, for review. This will be placed on the next meeting's agenda as well as the Joint Planning Board meeting which will be held on December 12th. Supv Heim had contacted Kari Theisen, city of Sartell project planner, questioning whether meeting on the 12th would be a possibility since the township usually cancels their second meeting in December. Ms. Theisen emailed Supv Heim stating that would be fine. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CANCEL THE SECOND REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING IN DECEMBER (DECEMBER 26TH) DUE TO THE HOLIDAY, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Brian Donnay, 422 19th Ave. No., Pole-Type Building in the Front yard – Mr. Donnay contacted Supv Heim regarding his plans to construct a pole-type building which would be located in his front yard. He was informed he would need a variance. The completed application has been received along with the fee of \$400. Mr. Donnay's parcel is located in the U-1 zoning district which the Joint Planning Board (JPB) would recommend and the Sartell City Council would have final approval. The

variance public hearing will be set up for the December 12th JPB Meeting.

Halstrom Deck Construction, 2234 Rodeo Road - Supv Heim reported that he has yet to receive plans from Matt Hansen, contractor for the deck construction planned by Mark Halstrom.

David Traut, 28 19th Ave. No. Split of Property – Supv Heim was contacted by David Traut who questioned the process of splitting his 40-acre parcel where his home is located. He would like to split off one parcel of 5 to 10 acres. Supv Heim gave him information regarding the split of the property along with the possibility the lots would be required to hook up to city services.

Car located on the Dockendorf Parcel, 40th St. No. - Supv Heim provided a picture of a car that has been in the driveway area of the Dockendorf parcel, but very close to the roadway and is definitely in the road right-of-way. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE CLERK PLANTE SEND A LETTER TO THE PARCEL OWNER REQUESTING THE CAR MOVED BACK AND OUT OF THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Westerlund will check the area during his monthly road inspection.

Paul Wagner –

Township Clean-Up Day Information – Supv Wagner contacted Glen Lauer of St. Wendel Township questioning what their township does for their clean-up day. He informed Supv Wagner they do not hold any type of clean-up day. Supv Wagner will now check with Brockway township and will contact Margaret Stang, Brockway Township Clerk.

Jason Dale, 391 17th St. No. – Stop Sign – Mr. Dale contacted Supv Wagner questioning whether a stop sign could be placed on 4th Ave. North when driving from the north. There is a stop sign on 4th Ave & 17th St. when traveling from the south. The area where he is requesting the placement of the stop sign is located in the city of Sartell and he would need to contact them.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – No new information at this time.

Township Clean-Up Day – Supv Wagner will contact Margaret Stang of Brockway township. St. Wendel does not have a clean up day for their township.

Zander Property Clean-Up – Discussed by board earlier in the meeting with Aaron Zander, son of parcel owner, Gloria Zander. Some progress has been made but Supv Westerlund will check in two weeks.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – No progress is expected but this will stay on the agenda so that it can be addressed in the spring of 2024.

Sartell-St. Cloud Land Split & Orderly Annexation Information Meeting – No new information has been received regarding the requested draft of an orderly annexation agreement with St. Cloud for township resident located on the south side of the Sauk River.

Street Light at 27th St. North & 7th Avenue – The town board discussed the quotes received from Xcel Energy for the placement of a street light at this intersection. The rough cost is \$5,400.00 with a charge of \$20.00 per month. After discussion, it was the consensus of the board to not place a street light in this area and have Supv Westerlund contact Steve Schwartz who had contacted him about the possibility of placing a street light in this area.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

ROAD REPORT: Town Line Road Resolution – Supv Heim reviewed with the town board the resolution drafted by Attorney Gilchrist which agrees to contribute to the Town Line Road Improvement Project. A joint powers agreement has also been drafted between LeSauk Township,

Brockway Township, St. Wendel Township and the City of Sartell. The agreement lists the amount each jurisdiction will contribute. The contribution amount was calculated by the percentage each jurisdiction owns of 30th Avenue/Town Line Road which are:

• City of Sartell	0.322 miles (1698.73 ft.)	6.3%
• LeSauk Twp	2.003 miles (10576.36 ft.)	39.3%
• St. Wendel Twp	2.001 miles (10563.00 ft.)	39.3%
• Brockway Twp	0.767 miles (4047.96 ft.)	15.1%

Jodi Teich provided some estimates of the cost of the reconstruction of 30th Avenue/Town Line Road which include: \$8,000,000 for construction, \$280,000 for design engineering and \$500,000 for Construction Inspections. The total would be \$8,780,000 for eligible costs, minus the \$7,500,000 earmarked for the project, which leaves the local share to be \$1,280,000. She also stated there will be approximately \$210,000 - \$250,000 for right-of-way acquisitions based on property values.

Discussion was held regarding the amounts LeSauk Township would plan to set aside for the project which could be: \$175,000 in 2023, \$225,000 in 2024 and \$200,000 in 2025. This amount would be close to the amount needed to cover our townships share of ineligible costs for this project. It was the consensus of the board to place this on the next meetings agenda for discussion and possible approval of the resolution to agree to contribute to this project and the joint powers agreement with the involved jurisdictions.

CLERK CORRESPONDENCE & REPORT:

Minnesota Association of Township Annual Conference – SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ALLOW TOWNSHIP OFFICERS TO ATTEND THE MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP ANNUAL CONFERENCE THAT IS BEING HELD DECEMBER 7-9 AT THE REGULAR RATE OF PAY PLUS REIMBURSEMENT OF MEALS, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

October Fine Reimbursement – The October fine reimbursement was \$80.00.

20-Year Minnesota State Highway Investment – Clerk Plante forwarded information to the Town Board regarding the 20-year plans for the Minnesota State Highway Investment. Diagrams are available of what is proposed for state highways in the next 20 years and township officials are asked to review and complete the survey that is provided.

40th Street Guard Rail Condition – Clerk Plante spoke with Chuck Ertl, the townships ditch mower, who stated the guard rail on 40th Street is in very poor condition. Supv Westerlund will view the guard rail during his November Road inspection and report at the next meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk