

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting - Via Virtual GoToMeeting
March 23, 2021

The regular meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dan Heim at 7:45 p.m. via electronically due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Shawn Omann, Treasurer Vikki Dullinger, and Deputy Clerk Mary Barron-Traut were in attendance at their homes and Clerk Marlyce Plante was at the Town Hall, plus 6 interested parties joining the meeting virtually. Supervisor Jeff Westerlund joined the meeting later.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING WAYNE PAQUIN TO BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, the motion passed 2-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Shawn Widmer – Stearns County Liaison Officer – Officer Widmer has been assigned as the townships Liaison officer, replacing Zach Sorenson. Officer Widmer has been a patrol officer for Stearns County for 11 years. He discussed the service calls in the township: January – 89 calls & February – 55 calls. He stated there were 10 calls in January and 5 calls in February to the Ferber home in the township.

Officer Widmer also explained the mutual agreement peace officers have with neighboring jurisdictions should a township resident call the Stearns County sheriff and they are not available.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Eric Freihammer, 325 Pine Ridge Road, Sartell – Conditional Use Permit – The public hearing for the Freihammer Conditional Use permit was held during the preceding Joint Planning Board meeting. Mr. Freihammer applied to move an accessory building onto his property located in Bon Homie Valley Addition.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-03 TO RELOCATE AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, the motion passed 2-0.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN PRESENTED BY ERIC FREIHAMMER FOR THE PLACEMENT OF HIS ACCESSORY BUILDING ON HIS PARCEL, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, the motion passed 2-0.

Supv Heim will contact David Barsody, Township Building Inspector, informing the site plan has been approved and a building permit can be issued. Mr. Freihammer was also reminded the building must be of like color to his present home.

Note: Supervisor Jeff Westerlund joined the meeting.

Rory Mrozek, 3303 Riverside Ave. – Site Plan Approval for Storage Buildings – Mr. Mrozek presented a site plan at the preceding Joint Planning Board which raised several questions. Discussion was held by the Town Board what is now needed on a site plan according to the revised township zoning regulations. Mr. Mrozek was unaware of these new regulations and stated the site plan that was presented, is the same site plan approved by the Town Board prior to the construction of his other storage units in 2017.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MROZEK SITE PLAN PROVIDING AN UPDATED SITE PLAN INCLUDES THE IMPERVIOUS SURFACE OF THE AREA, ASPHALT COVERAGE OF THE AREA, DRAINAGE, HEIGHTS & DIMENSIONS OF THE BUILDINGS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, WESTERLUND – AYE, the motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Mrozek will have his surveyor, Sam DeLeo, send the updated site plan. He also will be sending the Town Board a site plan for a possible Town Hall within one of the storage units along with a lease agreement for the Town Board to review. He asked that he be on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss the Town Hall plan & lease agreement.

Frank Ulwelling – 551 27th St. No., Sartell – Mr. Ulwelling provided a site plan for the various changes he would like to make to the home he purchased located on 27th St. The parcel is zoned U-1, whose present setbacks would not allow him to construct an accessory building or an addition to the present house. After discussion by the Town Board, the consensus was to have Mr. Ulwelling apply for a variance to the setbacks, which may be a quicker resolution so he can begin construction.

It was also discussed by the Town Board of various other parcels remaining in the township that may have the same issue as Mr. Ulwelling, having a parcel that is now in the U-1 zoning district which should be zoned R-1 due to their size. Supv Heim will discuss with Scott Saehr, Sartell Assistant City Administrator of the proper way to resolve the issue.

Wayne Paquin – 7322 322nd St., St. Joseph, MN – Mr. Paquin owns a 10-acre parcel with several buildings he has been renting out for storage, along with a sign advertising the business. His parcel is located in the U-1 zoning district. Mr. Paquin was informed he will need to apply for a conditional use permit in order to continue with the business.

Mr. Paquin would like to continue the business and stated he will apply for the conditional use permit and will be emailed the proper application by Scott Saehr which will be forwarded to the township for the public hearing process.

Werschay Homes Sign Request – 27th Street & Pinecone Road – Clerk Plante was forwarded an email from Scott Saehr that he received from David Werschay requesting to place an advertising sign for a development at the corner of 27th & Pinecone. Mr. Werschay was informed he will need a variance for the sign and will be emailed the proper application if he chooses to place the sign at that particular location which is in the township jurisdiction.

MINUTES:

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED, THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2021 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, WESTERLUND – AYE, the motion passed 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Jeff Anderson, 1427 35th St. No., Sartell – Storage Building Construction – Supv Heim received confirmation from Attorney Troy Gilchrist, that Mr. Anderson will need a conditional use permit to expand his business located in a C-1 zoning district. Supv Heim contacted Mr. Anderson who provided him with the storage building plans, a site plan and a check for the public hearing fee. This will be held at the April 27, 2021 township meeting.

Orderly Annexation Agreement Revisions – Supv Heim discussed with the board the revisions Attorney Gilchrist will make to the agreement draft presented by the city of Sartell. The main area of concern were the encompassed parcels the city would like to have annexed. Another small group meeting will be held after the revisions have been reviewed by both jurisdictions. Attorney Gilchrist also added a tax reimbursement section. The board also discussed the possibility of placing this on the agenda for the June 8th Annual Meeting when it will be reconvened to allow township residents to review it.

Town Hall Property – Attorney Gilchrist informed Supv Heim that it is not necessary to replace or rebuild the town hall on township property. It could be placed on city property such as the Janski parcel located just south of the present town hall and within the city of Sartell. The township may consider this parcel.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT:

Tom Skaj, 2655 17th St. No. – Site Plan for 4-Season Porch - David Barsody, township building inspector, emailed Supv Heim questioning whether Mr. Skaj has received site-plan approval. Mr. Skaj would like to enclose the current deck he has on his home and convert it to a 4-season porch. Supv Heim helped Mr. Skaj with the site plan that was presented and approved at the preceding Joint Planning Board meeting. Inspector Barsody had concerns about the footings of the deck.

TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Dullinger emailed the invoices, claim forms & copies of checks, to the Town Board for review and approval during the meeting. She also questioned what should be deducted from the Deb Weihrauch escrow account. The remaining amount could then be reimbursed to Ms. Weihrauch. She was informed to deduct the engineer & attorney fees. Ms. Weihrauch paid the public hearing fee to the city of Sartell, as did Dale & Kathryn Struffert. The cost of the St. Cloud Times publications should be billed to the city for reimbursement since the township handled that part of the public hearing process.

Invoices/Vouchers –

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6570.13 (CHECK #13547 THRU 13552), SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:
HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, WESTERLUND – AYE, the motion passed 3-0.

ASTECH Sweeping Proposal – SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE ASTECH SWEEPING PROPOSAL AT RATES QUOTED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, WESTERLUND – AYE, the motion passed 3-0.
Supv Heim will sign the proposal and email it to Doug Welk of ASTECH Inc.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Opatz Roll-Off & Recycling – Supv Westerlund contacted Gary Opatz requesting a detailed list of items that would be accepted during the township clean-up day on April 17th. Mr. Opatz provided the list and Supv Westerlund asked Clerk Plante if it could be posted on the website. Clerk Plante stated she also had received it from Mr. Opatz and had already posted on the website.

Gary Blaszczek, 32285 County Road 4, St. Cloud – Mr. Blaszczek contacted Supv Westerlund on March 11th regarding cars in the ditch and the 30-mph sign that was down on 322nd Street. Supv Westerlund contacted Bryan with the St. Cloud Public Works Department who handled the issue. St. Cloud had posted the 30-mph signs on 322nd even though the street is in the township. The city of St. Cloud has handled issues on this street since the south side is in the City of St. Cloud's jurisdiction.

Area Planning Organization Meeting – Supv Westerlund attended the APO meeting held on March 11, 2021. Area jurisdictions who have applied for the LRIP (Local Road Improvement Project) funds are waiting to hear which projects will receive the funding.

Steve Schwartz, 2695 7th Ave. No., Sartell – Mr. Schwartz contacted Supv Westerlund regarding the damage done to his fence and shed by snowplowing. 27th Street is in the city of Sartell and plowed by them, so Mr. Schwartz was told to contact the City of Sartell.

Jodi Wilken, 2660 7th Ave. N., Sartell – Supv Westerlund received a phone call from Jodi Wilken suggesting the township send the townships regulations regarding dogs in next years annual mailing. She had concerns about two property owners in the addition whose dogs are running at large. She also questioned whether a street light can be placed in the addition. No action taken.

Wayne Paquin, 7322 322nd St., St. Joseph – Mr. Paquin contacted Supv Westerlund regarding his storage business sign on his property. This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Dan Heim –

Roys Traut – Kevin Traut Property – Mr. Traut contacted Supv Heim regarding the Kevin Traut land located to the north and east of the Roys Traut property that has a sign advertising 1 – 10 acre lots for sale. Supv Heim informed Mr. Traut that Mr. Traut would need to go through the platting-subdivision process if this would take place – as of now, no plat or subdivision request had been received by Sartell and forwarded to the township.

Tri-County Humane Society – Stray Dog – Supv Heim was contacted by Adam from the Tri-County Humane Society regarding a stray dog found at 7322 322nd Street by Wayne Paquin. They were informed it was in the township and accept the stray dog.

Tom Skaj – 4-Season Porch Site Plan – Supv Heim reported he helped Mr. Skaj with the site plan as reported earlier in the meeting. Mr. Skaj is converting his deck into a 4-season porch.

Rory Mrozek – Storage Building Site Plan Approval – Mr. Mrozek contacted Supv Heim regarding site plan approval for a storage building on his property which is zoned C-1 Commercial – Legacy District. This was discussed earlier in the meeting - Mr. Mrozek received approval contingent on a new site plan being submitted with impervious coverage, drainage on the parcel, asphalt coverage, heights & dimensions of the buildings to be constructed.

MnDOT – 30th Ave Grant Application – Supv Heim received information from the Minnesota Department of Transportation stating they had an unprecedented 429 applications for money that may be available for local road improvements. That amount is double from previous applications. No decision who receives the grants will be made until the end of May 2021 or early June 2021.

Travis Nagengast, 35th St. No. – Mr. Nagengast purchased the new Swartout parcel on 35th St. and requested information regarding the wetlands on his parcel. Supv Heim gave him the county contact information.

Durrwachter Site Plan – 2489 35th St. No., - Mike from MC's Lawn & Landscaping contacted Supv Heim regarding the site plan approval for Kurt & Krista Durrwachter. MC's is placing pavers, fire pit

and retaining wall on the Durrwachter property. Supv Heim informed him their site plan has been approved.

Jeff Anderson, 1427 35th St. No., - Storage Building – This was discussed earlier in the meeting – Mr. Anderson has applied for a conditional use permit to construct a new storage building for his business located in C-1 (Commercial Legacy) zoning district.

Ross Blomme –356 20th St. No. – Shed – Mr. Blomme emailed Clerk Plante which she forwarded to Supv Heim. He would like to have a prefab 12 X 20 shed placed on his parcel. Supv Heim provided him with the information regarding what the process would be.

Cody Busse, 1097 19th Ave. So. – Accessory Site Plan – The approval of this site plan will be placed on the April 27th Joint Planning Board meeting agenda.

Shawn Omann –

James Zanardi, 32173 County Road 1 - Fence – Supv Omann was contacted by Mr. Zanardi regarding the placement of a fence on his property. Supv Omann provided him with the regulations regarding fencing in the township.

Dick Bitzan, 3054 Riviera Road – Accessory Building Placement – Supv Omann contacted Mr. Bitzan informing him he would need to go through the variance process to construct his accessory building in his front yard. The public hearing can be set for the 4-27-21 Joint Planning Board meeting if all necessary applications and fees are received before the end of the month.

Sign Solutions – John Peterson – Township Street Signs – Supv Omann discussed the street signs needing to be replaced or fixed on township roads. The Winnebago street signs' post should be replaced and the triple sign of Pinecone, 40th & 55th Ave hardware received is for a round post and may not fit on the present pole. Supv Omann will take a picture of the triple sign hardware and send to John Peterson requesting an estimate for both the post replacement of the Winnebago sign and the triple sign at the intersection of Pinecone & 40th. He will also contact Tyler of MR Signs regarding the correct hardware needed for the triple sign. Before continuing with the replacement of the post, utilities will need to be marked.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – Discussed earlier – will review the proposed Mrozek town hall site plan at the next meeting.

Grebinoski Property – A certified letter will be sent to Ms. Grebinoski requesting an update to her renovation plans for the home she owns at 1624 Riverside Ave., Sartell.

Zander & Weinand Vehicle Clean Up – Certified letter has been sent to Ms. Zander and certified receipt has been received back. The Weinand property has been cleaned up and looks good.

Thomas Property – Certified letter has been sent, but receipt has not been returned yet.

Kourtney Bradford-Houle Site Plan Approval – No information has been received.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

MARCH ROAD REPORT: Supv Heim provided his road report to town board members. He discussed possible crack seal of the entire length of the townships portion of 40th Street. He noted that 17th Street minimum maintenance road is in need of fill and grading. Scheduling an annual road inspection meeting by all board members will be discussed at an upcoming meeting. The majority of township roads are in good driving conditions.

CLERK REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE:

Ulwelling Parcel & U-1 Small Parcels – This was discussed earlier in the meeting. The Ulwelling parcel located on 27th Street may file for a variance in order to continue with their construction of an accessory building and addition to the home on the parcel. Supv Heim will discuss with Scott Saehr the future process for other small parcels located in the U-1 zoning district.

Dean Schramel, Stearns County Highway Department - Clerk Plante received an email from Mr. Schramel who requested information on summer road projects on townships roads located in Stearns County. She emailed him informing him that LeSauk township had no major road projects for overlay or reconstruction scheduled for the 2021 summer construction season.

Ray Schindler, 1062 30th Ave. No. – Overweight Permit – Clerk Plante received a call from Ray & Karen Schindler requesting their annual overweight permit to haul farm material on 30th Avenue. She issued an updated overweight permit for 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, WESTERLUND – AYE, the motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante,
LeSauk Township Clerk