

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting
March 28, 2017

The regular monthly 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, Jeff Westerlund and Shawn Omann, Clerk Marlyce Plante and 12 interested parties. Treasurer Bentley was unable to attend due to a previous commitment.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED WITH THE ADDITION OF JOE PERSKE & BRIAN GIBSON, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Ralph Traut – Stearns County Construction Site Permit

Mr. Traut came before the Town Board requesting the township's approval & signature on the construction site permit he received from Stearns County. The Town Board members reviewed Mr. Traut's site plan for the addition he will be constructing on his present home which is located on the Watab River and falls under the County Shoreland Ordinance. It was the consensus of the Town Board to have Chairman Heim sign the site permit since the site plan met all criteria for setbacks etc.

Rory Mrozek – Park fee charge for Monarch Meadows Plat 3

Mr. Mrozek had attended a previous meeting to discuss the park fee charge which he was not in agreement with. At the previous meeting, the Town Board informed Mr. Mrozek they will contact the township attorney for his opinion on whether the township must charge a park fee or whether they have the option to negotiate or possibly waive the fee.

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO SET THE PARK FEE AT \$1000.00 FOR MONARCH MEADOWS PLAT 3, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 2-1. SUPV HEIM VOTED NAYE STATING WE ARE SETTING A PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE PLATS.

William & Brian Fasen – Moving of an Accessory Building & Construction of Accessory Building

William Fasen & Brian Fasen, who are father & son, own properties that are located adjacent to each other. A couple of years ago, William split off roughly 8 acres and sold it to Brian. Brian rezoned his parcel to Rural Residential since it fell below the required 10 acres and William's property remained agricultural. Both properties are located on the Watab River.

William would like to construct a new accessory building, remove his present accessory building, and give to his son Brian to relocate on his property. Both parties will need a variance to locate the accessory buildings in the front/side yards since they cannot place them in the rear yard due to the river. The old accessory building is a pole shed which could be moved to Brian's parcel since a pole-type shed is allowed on rural residential property. What wouldn't be allowed according to the present township ordinances, is the siding on the old accessory building which would not be of the same color and kind of Brian's new home. Supv Omann stated the pole building & home siding do not necessarily need to match, but could be similar. He also felt this area of the township zoning ordinances should be reviewed and possibly revised since it may affect future requests for accessory buildings in the different zoned township properties.

Brian stated he will not apply for the variance, but William Fasen will be applying for the variance for the setbacks but agreed with the color & kind portion of the zoning ordinances. He was given an application & information to begin the process of applying for the variance.

ERIC & ED EMSLANDER – SPLIT OF PROPERTY

The Emslander's, father and son, came before the Town Board to discuss the possible split of property. Ed Emslander would like to split off 5 acres from his property and attach it to his son Eric's property which is located adjacent to his.

The Emslander's were informed they would need to have the property surveyed to have a current & correct legal description of the property to be split off, then attached. The split could be done by a Certificate of Compliance. Ed Emslander would need to go through the process of rezoning his property from agricultural to suburban residential since he will fall below the 10-acre minimum for agricultural zoned property.

VERN & CAROLYN KLAVERKAMP – STEVE WILSON – RELEASE OF DRAINAGE & UTILITY EASEMENT REQUEST

The Klaverkamp's and their realtor, Steve Wilson, came before the Town Board to discuss their petition for the vacation of a drainage & utility easement. The Klaverkamp house was constructed in the middle of Lots 5 & 6 of Majestic Woods Addition over the drainage & utility easements. They are ready to sell their home, but the title company flagged the easement which needs to be vacated to allow the sale.

Karen & David Trobec, developers of Majestic Woods, platted a new plat named Majestic Woods Plat 2 in 1998 at which time they requested to combine Lots 5 & 6 to allow for Lot 1 to be split into 2 lots. The combining of Lots 5 & 6 was never completed and the first owners of Lots 5 & 6 built their home in the middle of the two lots.

Township attorney, Troy Gilchrist, informed the Town Board a public hearing would need to be held after a petition from the Klaverkamp's was received. All parcel owners in Majestic Woods as well as anyone within ¼ mile will need to be mailed a notice and a legal notice must be published 2 weeks prior to the hearing. Clerk Plante stated the petition was received from the Klaverkamp's and the public hearing has been set for April 11, 2017.

JOE PERSKE & BRIAN GIBSON

Brian Gibson, Executive Director of the Area Planning Organization (APO) and Joe Perske, Stearns County Commissioner came before the Town Board to discuss the role of the Area Planning Organization. Mr. Gibson gave a brief history of how the APO began and the organizations exist throughout the country to help jurisdictions financially with transportation planning & construction with federal dollars.

Mr. Gibson discussed the area cities, St. Cloud, Sartell, St. Joseph, Sauk Rapids, St. Augusta & Albany who are members of the area planning as well as LeSauk Township. The membership fee for each authority is \$.53 per person living in each city/township.

A project they are working on now is possible connection of the North Star rail from Big Lake to St. Cloud. It has been decided to use the Amtrak train from St. Cloud, with one stop in Big Lake and then directly to Target Field, to give the organization an estimate in ridership of the North Star.

NICOLE & DAVID BURGARDT – ACCESSORY BUILDING QUESTIONS

The Burgardt's brought in a sketch of the addition they would like to put on their present accessory building but keep the present concrete slab they have as a type of "breezeway" between the buildings. Supv Heim checked with building inspector, David Barsody, who informed him the Burgardt's would need to attach the two buildings to consider it to be one accessory building. The option of applying for a variance was given to

the Burgardt's. An application was provided to them and information regarding the non-refundable public hearing fee. They will contact the clerk when and if they decide to go ahead with the variance.

MINUTES:

SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED THE ANNUAL AUDIT MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2017, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 7, 2017, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Annual Meeting Minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting for corrections.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Entering Township Properties – Supv Heim received an email from Attorney Gilchrist which stated the Town Board Supervisors must have the property owner's permission to enter their property for inspection. Pictures etc. can be taken from an adjacent property with their permission to be on the property.

Township Ordinances – Atty Gilchrist informed Supv Heim the ordinances sent to him were a combination of all the township ordinances that have been approved, so they can be used when researching questions from township residents. Atty Gilchrist will have completed ordinances done sometime in April for approval of the Town Board.

Feedlot Ordinance – Supv Heim stated the Feedlot Ordinance/Regulations are basically in the townships hands as of right now.

Snow & Ice Control Policy – Supv Omann discussed the possible need for quotes for snow plowing in the township and questioned whether we have a policy for snow & ice control. The township does have a policy, but it has not been revised for quite some time.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: None

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Stearns County Township Association Meeting – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ALLOW ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE STEARNS COUNTY TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION MEETING IN FREEPORT AT THE REGULAR RATE OF PAY, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Minnesota Association of Township Short Course - Supv Westerlund gave a report on the sessions he attended at the short course. He stated it is always interesting to attend these sessions. He attended the sessions on road maintenance.

David Faber – Overweight Permit – Supv Westerlund received a call from Clerk Plante who questioned him about issuing a 2-day overweight permit for David Faber on 30th Avenue, so he could have a boom-truck enter his property to remove trees in his yard before the ground thawed. Since it was a quick turnaround time, Mr. Faber had contacted the Stearns County Highway department regarding their spring road restrictions who told them it was fine but they would need to check with their township, it was decided to issue the overweight permit with the 2-day restriction.

Road Closed Sign/Cold Patch Material – Supv Westerlund spoke with Jon Kothenbeutel, supervisor of maintenance for the City of Sartell regarding the use of road closed sign and cold patch material.

Dan Heim –

15th Street Corridor Study – Supv Heim attended the latest informational meeting regarding the 15th Street Corridor Study. There was not a lot of further information that was given, but as of now there is not a definite timeline for the 15th Street construction, but it may be done in phases.

Kevin Blascziek – Mr. Blascziek contacted Supv Heim regarding the removal of a fence between his property and the neighboring property owned by Duane Blascziek. Also discussed was the township ordinances regarding shed size & number of sheds a resident can have. Mr. Blascziek has two sheds on his property and a shed on his empty lot.

Mark Posch – Accessory Building Questions – Supv Heim received a call from Mr. Posch who lives on 27th Street North, questioning the possible construction of a pole-type accessory building.

Renee Traut – An email was forwarded to Supv Heim from Renee Traut regarding township regulations for the removal of an oil tank. Supv Heim informed her the township had no regulations, but suggested she contact Stearns County Environmental Services for their recommendations.

Jeff Rasmussen – Zoning Map – Supv Heim received an updated zoning map from Mr. Rasmussen. He will contact him to have two large zoning maps printed so the Town Board can review the changes easier than viewing them on a computer screen.

David Schwinghammer – Thomas Property – An email Clerk Plante received was forwarded to Supv Heim from David Schwinghammer regarding the amount of junk vehicles and property at the Thomas property on County Road 1. Supv Heim referred them to Chelle Benson at Stearns County Environmental Services.

David Faber – Mr. Faber contacted Supv Heim regarding an overweight permit for the removal of trees on his property located on 30th Avenue.

Shawn Omann –

Mark Posch- Accessory Building – Supv Omann also received a call from Mr. Posch regarding the townships regulations for pole-type accessory buildings.

Steve Wilson – Realtor – Klaverkamp Easement Vacation – Supv Omann received a call from Mr. Wilson regarding the Klaverkamp's request to vacate the drainage easement in Majestic Woods. This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Township Road Work Information – Supv Omann reported that surrounding townships have various ways of handling road work within their township. Brockway Township has one person who handles different types of road work, but wasn't sure if was as an employee or contractor. Holding Township has an employee that is hired for 40 hours per month to handle jobs given to him by the Town Board. Palmer Township has an employee.

Supv Omann stated at the Minnesota Association of Townships Short Course, they discussed contract law and the possibility of a conflict of interest when township supervisors do various road work. It was suggested to have resolutions drawn up for each supervisor, with the supervisor who is named in the resolution abstaining from the voting process.

OLD BUSINESS

Then & Zimmerman Property Clean Up – Supv Omann will discuss during his road report.

30th Avenue Bridge – Will be viewed during the annual road inspection in the spring.

Striping of Township Roads – This item will be left on until spring of 2017 at which time bids will be received.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE –

Government Center Meeting – The Annual Government Center Meeting date has been set for April 13, 2017 beginning at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Levy for 2018 - The separation of levy funds will be placed on the next meeting's agenda for discussion.

MARCH ROAD REPORT

Supv Omann reviewed his road inspection report with the Town Board members. He stated most township roads were in good driving condition. He noted the corner of 30th Avenue & County Road 1 may need some fill if it is in the township's authority or Stearns County. Supv Omann discussed the conditions of Pinecone Road & 30th Avenue.

He stated he did not view the Zimmerman property since he was uncomfortable entering an individual's property without their permission.

VOUCHERS

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2100.11 (CHECK #12603 THRU CHECK #12608), SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyce L. Plante (s)

Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk