

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting - Via Virtual GoToMeeting
April 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dan Heim at 7:00 p.m. via electronically due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Shawn Omann and Jeff Westerlund, 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 5 interested parties joining the meeting virtually.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING LLOYD & MARYANN TRAUT & LARRY STRACKE TO OPEN FORUM AND CRAIG TANGEN SITE PLAN, SIGN SOLUTIONS ESTIMATE TO NEW BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

OPEN FORUM:

Larry Stracke, Apple Duathlon Coordinator – Mr. Stracke introduced himself as the coordinator for the Apple Duathlon. He stated the apple duathlon that has been held in the Sartell area will be in its 40th year in 2022. The 2021 duathlon will be held on May 22, 2021. Mr. Stracke was very appreciative of the support the township has given the event in the past years and looked forward to working with the township, the city of Sartell and other jurisdictions involved with the duathlon.

Lloyd and MaryAnn Traut, 1315 Southbridge Ave – Public Access Concern – The Traut's joined the meeting to discuss the letter they received stating they will no longer be able to use the driveway they have used for the past 13 years. The driveway is currently crossing over a Savannah Oaks parcel (3301 12th Ave. No.) that was in foreclosure but now has been purchased by a private owner.

A paved turn around area was placed at the end of Southbridge Ave in 2008 to allow for possible further development. In 2013 the developer, Viking Development, went bankrupt and remaining parcels were placed in foreclosure. The Traut's have used this area to access their property since their driveway has always been located there, but have never had a recorded easement to do so. The Traut's felt that since this was originally a township-owned road, they came to the township for possible help and direction. Several items (2 power poles, fire hydrant & an electrical box) are located near the area where a new access to their property could be built.

Mr. & Mrs. Traut asked the Town Board to contact the township attorney on their behalf. Supervisor Heim stated he is reluctant to spend townships funds on what he considers to be a landowner dispute and civil issue. The road is no longer in the township and was taken over by the city of Sartell when the development was done. Supervisor Omann suggested the Traut's consult with a lawyer to guide them. Supervisor Heim also suggested they contact Scott Saehr, City of Sartell Assistant City Administrator, to meet with them and show them where access could be.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Rory Mrozek, 3303 Riverside Ave. – Site Plan Approval for Storage Buildings – Mr. Mrozek presented a new site plan which was requested by the Town Board when they approved his site plan for storage buildings at the 3-23-21 township meeting.

He had also provided a Town Hall plan, lease & rental agreement for the Town Board to review. The Town Board questioned whether the proposed Town Hall could be rented out to private parties. Mr. Mrozek stated it could not be since the septic system would be a self-contained holding tank and according to Stearns County regulations, rental of commercial properties is not allowed if the septic system has a holding tank.

The Town Board informed Mr. Mrozek they will review the rent & lease agreement.

MINUTES:

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED, THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 23, 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: No report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT:

Craig Tangen – Deck Site Plan Approval - David Barsody, township building inspector, emailed Supv Heim questioning whether Mr. Tangen has received site-plan approval. This is scheduled in new business.

MARCH TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Dullinger gave an update of available township funds with a breakdown of each fund. We presently have a total of \$319,493.46 which includes all funds.

March Treasurers Report – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MARCH TREASURERS REPORT AS WRITTEN, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Treasurer Dullinger emailed the invoices, claim forms & copies of checks, to the Town Board for review and approval during the meeting. Clerk Plante noted the Rengel Printing invoice & check issued was the incorrect amount. Clerk Plante will contact Rengel for an updated invoice for the government envelopes ordered and email the correct one for payment to the treasurer. The check for escrow account reimbursement for Deb Weihrauch did not have an address and no CTAS claim form was attached to Supv Heim's reimbursement claim.

Invoices/Vouchers –

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6606.85 (CHECK #13553 THRU 13559, PLUS EFT'S 188 & 189, VOIDING CHECK #13559 MADE OUT TO RENGEL PRINTING), SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Clerk Plante asked Treasurer Dullinger for an updated disbursement sheet indicating the voided check and updated check total.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS**Jeff Westerlund –**

Township Clean-up Day – Supv Westerlund will be in attendance for Saturday's Township Clean-Up Day, April 17th from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. He has had several calls for items that are allowed to be brought to the clean-up day and has provided the approved list to township residents.

Lloyd Traut, 1315 Southbridge Ave. – Township Clean Up & Public Access Issue – Mr. Traut contacted Supv Westerlund requesting garbage bags, gloves & vests to Lloyd Traut who plans to clean up the township road ditches near his property. He will be delivering those items to Mr. Traut. Mr. Traut also spoke with him about his public access issue to his property, which was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Jodi Wilken, 2660 7th Ave. N., Sartell – Supv Westerlund received a phone call from Jodi Wilken concerned about lot lines with a neighboring parcel owner, Tyler Morford and spring clean-up day. Supv Westerlund informed her the township does not get involved with lot line issues, it is between the parcel owners and considered a civil issue. Ms. Wilken also questioned when the upcoming spring clean-up day is being held. He gave her the necessary information.

John Kothenbeutel – Early Items in Dumpster Placement Area – Supv Westerlund had items he wanted to drop off early for the township clean-up day. He contacted and received the OK to place items in the fenced in area between the old Sartell Police department and Town Hall where the dumpsters will be located for the township clean-up day.

John Kothenbeutel – Sauk Rapids Town Hall Rental – Mr. Kothenbeutel informed Supv Westerlund the Sauk Rapids Township Hall may be available for rental for meetings if our township may need an area to conduct township meetings.

Dan Heim –

Midco Broadband Internet Services – Supv Heim received an email from Midco stating they had received a grant for placement of internet services in the township area of 40th Street. They will not be charging residents the \$239 per household to bring services to the area. Midco plans to install the services during the 2021 summer season.

U-1 Zoned Township Properties – Supv Heim has been in contact with Scott Saeher regarding the township properties that are in the U-1, urban service district, that may not be able to meet the setbacks now in place for that particular zoning district. The designated properties should be considered R-1 and have similar setbacks which they could meet. Mr. Saeher stated this may take some time to recognize those properties and will look at it at a later date with the Town Board.

Alex Udermann – Grading of 17th Street (Udermann Area) – Mr. Udermann contacted Supv Heim concerned about the poor driving condition of 17th Street. Supv Westerlund will contact Doug Welk of ASTECH Inc. and request to meet with him on site to provide an estimate for fill & grading of 17th Street (Pinecone Road) and grading of 17th Street (Udermann Area).

ASTECH Inc. Sweeping of Township Platted Areas – Supv Heim was contacted and informed that ASTECH Inc. will be sweeping the township platted areas next week.

Crystal Erickson, 2606 7th Ave. No. – Speed Sign - Ms. Erickson contacted Supv Heim concerned about the speed in the Countryside Acres addition. Supv Omann stated the area would qualify for a 25-mph speed sign without a speed study being conducted, only a resolution would need to be drafted and passed by the Town Board to make it effective. It was the consensus of the Town Board to have Supv Omann review areas in the township where it would be advantageous to have a 25-mph speed sign. Areas suggested were: 7th Ave (Countryside Acres), Pine Ridge Road (Bon Homie Valley) and Riviera Road. Supv Omann will also check to see how many signs would be needed in each area.

Once the number of signs and where they should be placed is determined, Supv Heim will request township attorney Troy Gilchrist to draft the resolution.

Kristine Rouser – Ms. Rouser represented Relevant Life Church. She contacted Supv Heim questioning whether there are any regulations against the church having a garage sale in their parking lot. Supv Heim stated there were none.

Carolyn Rademacher – Ms. Rademacher contacted Supv Heim questioning who would provide them with a 911 sign when they construct their home on 30th Avenue. The Rademacher's home will be on the west side of 30th Avenue in St. Wendel Township. This portion of 30th Avenue is in LeSauk Township so we will be providing the 911 sign once an address is given to the Rademacher's.

Gary Blascziek – Various Complaints – Mr. Blascziek owns a parcel at 32285 County Road 4 and is concerned about the street sweeper placing chips in his front lawn and the poor condition of 322nd Street. He also stated there has been semi's using 322nd Street which is a 5-ton road. He suggested the township move the weight limit sign prior to the intersection to warn drivers of the weight limit before they enter the street. Supv Heim informed him the city of St. Cloud has swept the road and does the majority of the maintenance of the road. The weight limit sign is in an area that drivers can see on 322nd Street. It cannot be placed on County Road 4. Most semi-truck drivers are aware of weight limits on roads and take the chance of a ticket if driving this road. It was the consensus of the Town Board to keep the 5-ton weight limit sign on 322nd Street.

Mark Traut, 2698 17th St. - Culvert – Mr. Traut contacted Supv Heim informing him the culvert on 17th Street and 30th Avenue has a large hole in it. Supv Heim will email Joe Lahr to look at it and possibly replace it with a used concrete culvert. David Blommel, township engineer, had informed Supv Heim a used concrete culvert may be available. He will report at the next meeting.

Bob Landwehr – Tree Removal – 32512 County Road 1 – Supv Heim received an email from the DNR regarding a report they received of clear cutting of trees on the Landwehr parcel. Supv Heim was in contact with parcel owner, Bob Landwehr. He took pictures of what Mr. Landwehr had done and sent them to the representative from the DNR. Mr. Landwehr was only cutting up trees that had fallen and clearing some overgrown brush. The Department of Natural Resource representative was informed the township had adopted the county's shoreland ordinance and require permits for shoreland alterations.

Preusser Property – 32759 River Oaks Lane – Supv Heim noted the Preusser property located on River Oaks Lane has been annexed to the city of Sartell.

Jack Pierskalla, 1210 19th Ave. No., Sartell – Mr. Pierskalla has a 40-acre parcel and questioned whether he can split off a portion of the property. Supv Heim provided Mr. Pierskalla with the information to split his property which would include a variance and minor subdivision process.

Jeremy Mathiasen – Stantec – Zoning Map Revision – Mr. Mathiasen has completed the revisions of the township zoning map and will provide a large one and several 11 X 17 copies. He sent a pdf file of the new zoning map to be placed on the agenda.

Brian Gibson – Build Grant Update – Mr. Gibson, Area Planning Organization Director, informed Supv Heim of the increase to \$1 billion in building grant money. The Build Grant is now being referred to as the RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity) Grant.

Shawn Omann –

Dick Bitzan, 3054 Riviera Road – Accessory Building Public Hearing – Supv Omann was checking whether Mr. Bitzan's public hearing has been scheduled. Clerk Plante stated it has been for April 27th.

Joint Planning Board Meeting Link – Supv Omann questioned whether a "live link" can be placed on the township website for township residents to log into these meetings. Clerk Plante said she will place a live link on the home page and forward a live link to the Town Board to make sure they can easily log into the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – The Town Board discussed the proposed rent and lease agreement from Rory Mrozek. It was the consensus of the Town Board, the Mrozek rent & lease agreement would ultimately be very expensive at this time. Supv Omann questioned what are the townships options for building a new town hall, must it be approved by the electors. Townships and cities can bond for funds to build, but is it worth building a new town hall or would renting a space be a better option?

Grebinoski Property – No information has been received.

Zander & Weinand Vehicle Clean Up – Certified letter has been sent to Ms. Zander and certified receipt has been received back. The Zander's have until the end of April to clean up their property.

Thomas Property – The certified letter sent to the Thomas property owner has been returned. Our next option would be to have a letter sent by our attorney.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

June Meeting Date Change – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CHANGE THE JUNE 8TH MEETING TO WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9TH BEGINNING AT 7 P.M. TO ALLOW FOR THE RECONVENING OF THE ANNUAL MEETING ON JUNE 8TH AT THE SARTELL COMMUNITY CENTER, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

April 27th Meeting Time Change – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CHANGE THE MEETING TIME FOR THE APRIL 27TH MEETING TO 5:45 P.M. TO ALLOW FOR THE ANDERSON PUBLIC HEARING PRIOR TO THE JOINT PLANNING BOARD 6:00 P.M. MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Sign Solutions Estimate – Supv Omann received an estimate of \$647.45 from John Peterson of Sign Solutions to replace and repair street signs on Winnebago Road and placement of the 3-tier sign on Pinecone, 40th Street & 55th Ave. No action was taken since the Town Board is considering placement of new 25-mph signs in platting areas of the township which may be added to this estimate.

Craig & Molly Tangen, 2109 35th St. No. - Deck Site Plan – Supv Heim noted the Tangen site plan falls under a Type 1 review procedure which does not have to be recommended for approval by the Joint Planning Board. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE DECK SITE PLAN FOR CRAIG & MOLLY TANGEN, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Road Report – Annual Road Inspection Meeting – This will be placed on the next meeting's agenda to be discussed to set up a possible date for the full Town Board to view township roads.

Potholes on 30th Avenue Near the Bridge – Discussion was held regarding the potholes on 30th Avenue along with a pretty large pothole near the bridge that should be taken care of. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE SUPV WESTERLUND CONTACT DOUG WELK OF ASTECH TO FIX THE POTHOLES UP TO AN EXPENDITURE OF \$1000 TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN ONE WEEK, IF ASTECH IS UNAVAILABLE TO FILL THE POTHOLES, SUPV WESTERLUND WILL PURCHASE COLD PATCH FOR THE LARGER POTHOLE AND CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER TO HELP WITH THE PATCHING DUE TO THE DANGEROUS DRIVING CONDITIONS ON 30TH AVENUE, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

CLERK REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE:

Fine Reimbursement – The March fine reimbursement to LeSauk Township was \$65.99.

David Terry – 245 27th St. No – Fence Regulations – Clerk Plante received a call from Mr. Terry inquiring about fence regulations in the township. She provided him with the regulations from the township ordinances.

Paul Stark – River Property Owner – Clerk Plante received a call from Mr. Stark who was looking for someone to remove a dead deer floating in the river. Clerk Plante informed him the township did not have any type of equipment to remove the deer, but suggested he contact the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Stark stated he had done that, but he was told they did not have the resources to remove the deer.

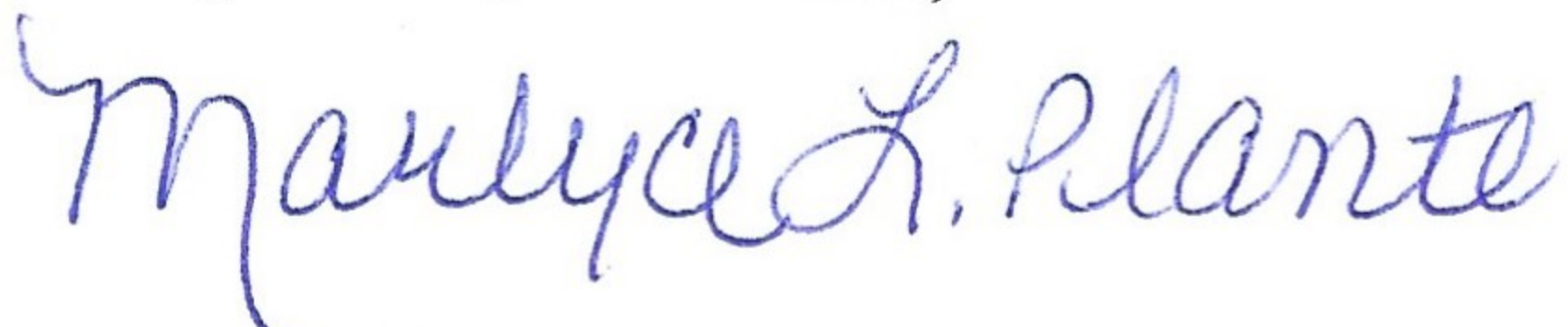
Relevant Life Church Garage Sale – Clerk Plante received a call from Kristine Rouser of Relevant Life Church questioning whether they can hold a garage sale in their parking lot. Supv Heim also spoke with her and informed her there were no regulations against holding a garage sale.

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