

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting  
April 25, 2023

The regular 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 – Maker Space Room.

**PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Jeff Westerlund and Paul Wagner, Treasurer Vikki Dullinger, Clerk Marlyce Plante and 4 interested parties.**

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING ANGELA TRULSON SITE PLAN, CHUCK ERTL TO OPEN FORUM & 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET GRADING QUOTE TO NEW BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

**OPEN FORUM:**

**Paula Capes & Ann Thelen – Falcon National Bank** – Ms. Capes, Deposit Sales & Development Officer & Ms. Thelen, Business Development Coordinator, were asked to attend tonight's meeting to discuss the possible transfer of a portion of township funds from Falcon's R & T Fund into a Certificate of Deposit. They provided folders outlining Falcon's history, CD interest rates and other banking opportunities they can provide to the township. Review and discussion of the amount of township funds that will be needed to operate and pay for upcoming road projects was held by the town board. The board wanted to make sure those necessary funds for costs of road projects & operation of the township were not going to be locked in a 12-month certificate of deposit. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO TRANSFER \$400,000 FROM THE R & T FUND INTO A 12-MONTH CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT AT A 4.5% INTEREST RATE, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Even though only one signature is required by a town board member for transfer or removal of funds, it was the consensus of the town board to have two signatures, the chairman and treasurer.

**Scott Peterson – Park Fellowship Church** - Mr. Peterson introduced himself to the town board as the pastor of Park Fellowship Church. He wanted to check with the Town Board whether there was anything the township needed for the upcoming township clean-up day on April 29<sup>th</sup>. He stated they are grateful for the relationship the church has with the township for the use of its building for elections and the area for the clean-up day. Scott and church members will be available on clean-up day with coffee and donuts.

**Chuck Ertl, Township Ditch Mowing Quote** - Mr. Ertl presented his quote for township ditch mowing: \$880 for the first cutting and \$1815 for the second cutting. The first cut increased from \$800 to \$880 and the second cut from \$1650 to \$1815. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE CHUCK ERTL'S QUOTE FOR TOWNSHIP DITCH MOWING AT \$880/FIRST CUTTING & \$1815/SECOND CUTTING FOR A TOTAL OF \$2695, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

The town board questioned Mr. Ertl whether his brush cutter is now in working order and whether he would provide a quote for brush clearing in areas of the township. Mr. Ertl stated his brush cutter is in working order. Discussion was held with Mr. Ertl regarding the areas that need to have brush trimmed and what he would charge. SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO HAVE MR. ERTL CLEAR BRUSH NEAR AND AROUND THE GUARDRAIL ON 40<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND BY THE 30<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE BRIDGE FOR UP TO \$600, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

**Angela Trulson – Site Plan -2652 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. No.** – Cameron Mulcahy, contractor for Ms. Trulson, provided a site plan for Angela Trulson which is planned to be done in two phases. The first phase will be to remove the decking above the existing garage with a new addition being added on the existing garage. The addition will be 32 X 26 square feet which will include a vaulted-type roof, new baseboard heating and a new gas fireplace. The siding of the new addition will match the house. The second phase will be to remove the existing roof on the existing house (no remodel is planned on the existing house) along with new insulation and installation of new shingles on the entire structure (existing house and the new addition roof area).

Supv Heim provided the site plans to Kari Theisen, Sartell Project Supervisor, since the property is located in the R-1 zoning district. She stated there were no concerns from the city's perspective with the remodeling project. SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR ANGELA TRULSON SINCE NO CHANGES TO THE FOOTPRINT OF THE HOME ARE BEING DONE, SIDING & COLOR FOR THE NEW ADDITION WILL MATCH THE EXISTING HOME WHEN PHASE TWO WILL BE COMPLETED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

#### **ATTORNEY REPORT:**

**Park Fees** – Supv Heim contacted Attorney Troy Gilchrist regarding the establishment of park fees for new plats developed in the township. Since the township does not have any parks and presently has just over \$24,000 in the park fund, money is being placed in a fund that essentially can not be used. Atty Gilchrist stated that park fees must be made under current state statutes and our present ordinances state that park fees or land must be dedicated to parks. The current ordinances must be followed unless the ordinances are amended. It was the consensus of the town board to review this portion of our ordinances in the near future.

#### **BUILDING INSPECTOR:**

Building Inspector David Barsody received an email from a contractor who is placing drain tiles around a home located in the township at 1995 1<sup>st</sup> St. So. owned by Terry & Lynn Thene. The contractor questioned whether a building permit is needed to do so. Mr. Barsody informed him that yes, a permit is required to do so.

#### **TREASURERS REPORT:**

Treasurer Dullinger updated the Town Board of the townships fund balance, also informing them she is unable to attend the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting but Deputy Treasurer Sue Dullinger will be in attendance. The board reviewed the vouchers and EFTs presented.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,714.28 (CHECK #14011 THRU #14015, PLUS EFT'S #253 & 254), SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

#### **SUPERVISORS REPORTS:**

**Jeff Westerlund:**



**Wayne Paquin, 7230 322<sup>nd</sup> St.** – Mr. Paquin contacted Supv Westerlund regarding the poor condition of 322<sup>nd</sup> Street stating the road needs maintenance.

**Tom Fish, 2332 17<sup>th</sup> St. No.** – Mr. Fish contacted Supv Westerlund questioning when 17<sup>th</sup> Street (Udermann's/West portion) was going to be graded. This road will be discussed later in the meeting.

**Brian of St. Cloud Public Works – 322<sup>nd</sup> Street** – Supv Westerlund contacted Brian questioning whether they plan to fill potholes located on the St. Cloud portion of 322<sup>nd</sup> Street. Supv Heim said that St. Cloud has been filling the potholes on this road for quite some time since the south side properties are all located in the city of St. Cloud other than the Bueckers property which will be annexed shortly, then the entire south side will be in the city of St. Cloud.

**Pick Up of Deer & Filling of potholes on 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue** – Supv Westerlund met with Supv Heim to pick up 3 deer on 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It was noted the deer were hit in roughly the same area since a property owner in the area feeds the deer consistently. Supv Westerlund purchased 1000 lbs. of cold patch which they used on various roads in the township. He plans to pick up another 1000 lbs. to fill potholes in other areas of the township and on 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

#### **Dan Heim:**

**Brian Fasen 494 30<sup>th</sup> Ave. No.** – Mr. Fasen contacted Supv Heim questioning whether a building permit is needed for a shed he would like to put up. The shed is less than 220 square feet without a permanent foundation, so a permit is not necessary.

**Building Permit Question** – Supv Heim received a call from Mike, an insurance agent for Farmers Insurance questioning when or not a permit for re-shingling was issued for 3142 321<sup>st</sup> St. Supv Heim informed him that David Barsody, township building inspector, has issued permits for the township since 2011 and he did not have a record of issuing a permit for this property.

**Jim Mueller – Items in the ditch on 40<sup>th</sup> St.** – Mr. Mueller, a resident on 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue off of 40<sup>th</sup> Street, contacted Supv Heim informing him there was various items and a TV in the ditch located at the intersection of 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 40<sup>th</sup> St. Supv Westerlund will pick up these items and dispose of them during the township clean-up day on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Transportation Bill @ the Legislative Session** – Supv Heim received information that Scott Volkens, Glen Lauer, Jeff Howe & Joe Perske all testified in favor of the transportation bill during the discussion of the bill. They all spoke of the need for funding for the 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue reconstruction project.

**Matt Glaesman, City of St. Cloud – Bueckers Annexation & County Road 1 Study** – Supv Heim attended a meeting regarding the discussion of annexation of the Bueckers property to the city of St. Cloud and the current study that is being done regarding the exchange of properties and servicing of properties on the south and north sides of County Road 1 by either Sartell or St. Cloud.

**Joe Perske Email** – Supv Heim was sent an email that Joe Perske received from DeWayne Mareck, former supervisor for St. Cloud Township and Stearns County Commissioner. Mr. Mareck had concerns on the dangerous condition of 322<sup>nd</sup> Street. Jodi Teich, Stearns County Highway Director, was also copied on the email. 322<sup>nd</sup> Street has a lot of traffic since it is a short cut from County Road 4 to County Rd 133 and is a quicker route to St. Joseph.

**40<sup>th</sup> Street Pothole** – There is a large pothole on 40<sup>th</sup> Street which had not been filled with cold patch because it was unavailable. Currently the pothole was filled with gravel. The pothole falls between Brockway & our township's jurisdiction. Brockway township plans to have Hanson Paving cut out the pothole this summer and fill it with hot mix.

**Karell Sartell & Bonnie Mehr Properties** – Supv Heim spoke with Kari Theisen, Sartell City Project Supervisor, who informed him the Karell Sartell property at 411 19<sup>th</sup> Ave So. & the Bonnie Mehr property at 2439 6<sup>th</sup> St. So., are both being annexed to the city of Sartell for development.

**15<sup>th</sup> St. No. Extension EAW** – Supv Heim emailed April Ryan questioning whether the necessary resolutions had been drafted regulating the city of Sartell as the governing unit for the 15<sup>th</sup> Street extension EAW (Environmental Assessment Worksheet). He had not received an answer as of yet.

**Jon Dennis, 32170 County Road 1 – Greenhouse** – Mr. Dennis would like to place an 8 X 10 greenhouse on a deck. Supv Heim contacted David Barsody, building inspector and Stephen Grittmann, shoreland reviewer. Building Inspector Barsody stated a building permit would not be needed since the structure is less than 220 square feet. Mr. Grittmann stated a shoreland review would not be needed if the structure is not permanent and would be located on an existing deck. If Mr. Dennis plans to construct another deck, then a shoreland review would be necessary. Supv Heim has not received definite plans from Mr. Dennis.

**Mark Traut, 2698 17<sup>th</sup> St.** – Mr. Traut contacted Supv Heim stating he would like to split his 41-acre parcel. No definite plans have been made, but he questioned Supv Heim on what the regulations are so that he can move forward on the project.

**Guard Rail Damage on 30<sup>th</sup> Ave.** – Supv Heim provided pictures of the damage to the guard rail located on 30<sup>th</sup> Ave. due to an accident. He received an estimate from H & R Construction Co. for \$6000 to repair the damage to the guard rail. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Town Board to have Supv Wagner research the accident report with the sheriff's department. If an accident report is found, the township could possibly proceed to recoup damage repairs through the person's insurance company.

#### **Paul Wagner:**

**Brian Fasen** – Mr. Fasen spoke with Supv Wagner regarding the placement of a shed on his property. Supv Heim reported on this during his report.

**Land Use Legal Training Meeting** – Supv Wagner attended the Land Use Legal Training Meeting held at the Stearns County Service Center. Attorney Jay Squires who specializes in local government land use & legal issues, spoke at the meeting. Supv Wagner stated the training was interesting and Atty Squires presented many good points regarding local government land & legal issues in regards to township regulations, conditional use permits, variances etc.

**ROAD REPORT:** Supv Wagner discussed his first road report done with the guidance of Supv Westerlund. He noted that several of the roads had many small & shallow potholes. He also reported at the corner of 40<sup>th</sup> Street and 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue there was junk and TV dumped in the ditch. These items will be picked up by Supv Westerlund. 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue is in need of more cold patch and 17<sup>th</sup> Street (west end) is in need of grading as soon as possible.

The Town Board discussed the bid received from ASTECH Inc. for blow patching of township roads. The bid was for one load of blow patch material for \$9000. After discussion, it was the consensus of the board to have Supv Westerlund contact Doug Welk asking him to drive the township roads with him and list the township roads in the greatest need of blow patching.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Town Hall** – No new information.



**Township Ordinance Violation Coding** – No new information.

**Friedrich Properties Plat** – The public hearing fees will be \$600.00 and the park fee will be \$5305.00 and will be scheduled for May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sweeping of Township Platted Areas** – Supv Heim received ASTECH's proposal for the sweeping of township roads. The proposal costs were the same as in 2022. SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE ASTECH'S PROPOSAL FOR THE SWEEPING OF TOWNSHIP PLATTED AREAS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Heim signed the proposal and will scan it to Doug Welk.

**2024 Levy** – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO SET THE 2024 LEVY AT \$350,000 WITH THE FUNDS DIVIDED THE SAME AS 2023: GENERAL FUND - \$60,000 – ROAD & BRIDGE - \$250,000 – FIRE - \$40,000, SECONDED BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

**Bueckers Property Annexation** – Supv Heim received a resolution from the City of Sartell which will annex a 16-foot road portion of the Sylvester Bueckers property located on 322<sup>nd</sup> Street. This will allow the entire 40-acre Bueckers parcel to be annexed to the city of St. Cloud and be removed from the orderly annexation agreement with the city of Sartell. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-05 ANNEXING A 16-FOOT ROAD PORTION OF THE BUECKERS PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. After this annexation, all the property on the south side of 322<sup>nd</sup> Street will be in the city of St. Cloud.

**17<sup>th</sup> Street Grading** – ASTECH Inc. provided a proposal for \$1620.00 to grade and shape 17<sup>th</sup> Street (west portion) with a crown. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE ASTECH'S PROPOSAL FOR THE GRADING AND SHAPING OF 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET (WEST PORTION) FOR \$1620.00, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Heim signed the proposal and will scan it to Doug Welk of ASTECH Inc. in order for the work to be done as soon as possible.

**Annual Road Inspection** – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HOLD THE ANNUAL ROAD INSPECTION OF ALL TOWNSHIP ROADS ON TUESDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> BEGINNING AT 4 P.M., SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

### **CLERKS CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:**

**Weed Inspector Meeting** – Clerk Plante attended the annual weed inspector meeting. She briefed the town board on various issues Bob Dunning, Stearns County Weed Inspector, discussed. Mr. Dunning informed those in attendance that the emerald ash borer had made its way into the county and voiced his concern of losing many of the county's ash trees unless they are treated. Mr. Dunning also noted that two species, the rust-colored bumble bee and monarch butterfly will be placed on the endangered species list in 2024. Jake Pidde, Stearns County Assessor, also gave a report on the valuations of county properties.

**Cable Franchise Call** – Clerk Plante discussed a phone call she received from a previous township resident questioning why the township is receiving franchise fees since their property was annexed to the city of St. Cloud many years ago. She informed him he would need to contact the cable TV company since the township is not involved with the financial distribution of the franchise fees.

**1835 - 911 Sign** – Clerk Plante emailed Jon Kothenbeutel, city of Sartell public works director, regarding the 911 sign that has been placed near the roundabout at 27<sup>th</sup> Street and Pinecone Road. Mr. Kothenbeutel was not aware of the sign being placed in that location.

**Stearns County Public Hearing** – Stearns County will be holding a public hearing on May 9<sup>th</sup> regarding changes to minor subdivisions in the county.

**New Deadlines for Classified Ads** – Clerk Plante shared the new deadlines for classified ads & legal notices published in the St. Cloud Times.

**Schindler Overweight Permit** – Clerk Plante was contacted by Ray & Karen Schindler, 1062 30<sup>th</sup> Ave. requesting their annual overweight permit for their farming business. The Schindler's were approved for an annual overweight permit without attending a township meeting to request one. Clerk Plante issued the overweight permit for the Schindler's.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante  
LeSauk Township Clerk