

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting - Via Virtual GoToMeeting
April 27, 2021

The regular meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dan Heim at 5:45 p.m. via electronically due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Shawn Omann and Jeff Westerlund, Treasurer Vikki Dullinger were in attendance at their homes and Clerk Marlyce Plante was at the Town Hall, plus 3 interested parties joining the meeting virtually.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING NEW CULVERT UNDER ROAD REPORT, FAUSKE SITE PLAN UNDER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR, ROAD WORK HELP TO NEW BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Public Hearing – Jeff Anderson – Conditional Use Permit – Supv Heim read the hearing notice and opened the public hearing to the floor. Mr. Anderson stated he currently has an auto body shop on his parcel and would like to construct a 54 X 96 sq foot storage building for the damaged vehicles, vehicle parts etc. which result from the auto body business. The current facility he has will no longer be available to him. Mr. Anderson's parcel is zoned C-1, commercial legacy and is 20 acres in size.

Supv Westerlund stated he spoke with neighbor, Lloyd Traut, 1315 Southbridge Ave., who had no concerns about the construction of the new storage building. Mr. Anderson questioned the town board on whether a holding tank would be needed for fluids from vehicles. Supv Omann informed him to ask the township building inspector on what would be required, noting it may be a vapor-sealed container. No more comments were heard.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2021-09 FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A STORAGE BUILDING INCIDENTAL TO A COMMERCIAL USE FOR JEFF ANDERSON, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO RECESS THE MEETING TO ALLOW FOR THE JOINT PLANNING BOARD MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO RECONVENE THE REGULAR TOWNSHIP, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Jeff Anderson, 1427 35th St., Sartell – Site Plan – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR A 54 x 96 STORAGE BUILDING ON THE JEFF ANDERSON PARCEL, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Cody Busse, 1097 19th Ave. So., Sartell – Site Plan – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR CODY BUSSE TO CONSTRUCT A 54 x 36 SQ FOOT POLE TYPE BUILDING WHICH MEETS ALL SETBACKS AND IMPERVIOUS COVERAGE, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Dick Bitzan, 3054 Riviera Road, Sartell – Variance – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-11, ALLOWING A NON-CONFORMING BUILDING IN THE FRONT YARD, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Dick Bitzan, 3054 Riviera Road, Sartell – Site Plan – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR DICK BITZAN WHICH MEETS ALL SETBACKS AS STATED IN THE RESOLUTION, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Ross Blomme, 356 20th St. No., Sartell – Site Plan – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR ROSS BLOMME TO PLACE A UTILITY BUILDING ON HIS PROPERTY MEETING ALL NECESSARY SETBACKS, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Micah & Julianna Fauske, 2153 Monarch Court, Sartell – Site Plan – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR MICAH & JULIANNA FAUSKE TO CONSTRUCT A 928 SQ FT ADDITION TO THEIR EXISTING GARAGE BRINGING THE GARAGE TO 2024 SQ FT, WHICH IS UNDER THE CURRENT SQUARE FOOTAGE OF THE HOUSE FOOTPRINT, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Supv Heim will email David Barsody, township building inspector, of the various site plans that have been approved by the Town Board.

MINUTES:

SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED, THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2021 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS WRITTEN THE APRIL 14, 2021 BOARD OF REVIEW-APPEAL MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Speed Sign Resolution – Attorney Gilchrist drafted a resolution for the placement of 25 MPH speed limit signs in platted areas of the township. SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-10 DESIGNATION OF 25 MPH SPEED LIMIT SIGNS TO BE POSTED ON

RIVIERA ROAD, 7TH AVENUE NORTH, 61ST AVENUE AND PINE RIDGE ROAD, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Supv Omann will email the information to John Peterson of Sign Solutions, so he may revise an earlier proposal for placement of street signs in the township, adding the new speed sign placement to the proposal. Supv Omann will research the cost of the signs, whether they can be purchased through Mr. Peterson or ordered through M-R Sign Company. Supv Omann will report at the next meeting.

Northwest Associated Consultants - Supv Heim received an email from Scott Saeher, City of Sartell Assistant Administrator, questioning whether resolutions are needed for various township applications for conditional use permits, variances etc. Supv Heim consulted Atty Gilchrist who stated in Section 590 of the township ordinances and regulations, which states the conditions and other criteria for the applications, must be in writing.

Supv Heim & Clerk Plante met, via zoom, with Scott Saeher and Anna Gruber, Sartell City Administrator, to discuss the amount of work that is involved with the handling of the township's recent applications for variances, conditional use permits, minor sub-divisions etc. Along with city work, Mr. Saeher stated he does not have time or city staff resources to complete the work. It was suggested by Ms. Gruber to possibly use Stephen Gritman of Northwest Associated Consultants, to draft these documents and split the cost between the city and the township. Mr. Gritman is familiar with both the township and city regulations since he worked on the revision of the township ordinances & sub-division regulations. The hourly cost of Mr. Gritman would be between \$75 - \$175 per hour.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT:

Joe Meyer – Deck Site Plan Approval - David Barsody, township building inspector, emailed Supv Heim questioning whether Mr. Meyer has received site-plan approval. Supv Heim stated he had not received any information as of yet.

Frank Ulwelling, 551 27th St. No. – Mr. Ulwelling would like to add a deck to the home he purchased on 27th St., but will need to wait on the deck since he will need a variance from the side & rear yard setbacks in a U-1 zone. Mr. Ulwelling was given the OK to remodel areas of the inside of the home which are necessary.

TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Dullinger emailed the invoices, claim forms & copies of checks, to the Town Board for review and approval during the meeting. She noted that at the previous meeting, check #13558 was approved, but was not used and has been used in the checks for approval this evening.

Treasurer Dullinger reported she had been in contacted by a representative of the Dehler's about the possible reduction of the requested \$1000 escrow account fee for the minor subdivision. The Dehler's are considering a minor subdivision of their property on County Road 120.

Treasurer Dullinger also requested the Town Board to remind people who do work for the township, to put the name of the street, township resident, incident etc. it pertains to on their invoices in order to better track costs.

Invoices/Vouchers – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9550.63 (CHECK #13558 AND CHECK #13566 THRU 13570, PLUS EFT 190, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

SUPERVISORS REPORTS**Jeff Westerlund –**

Township Clean-up Day – Supv Westerlund reported that 23 township residents brought items to the clean-up day. He collected \$155 which he gave to Treasurer Dullinger to deposit. He noted the dumpster for miscellaneous items was heaping and there was some possible non-resident dumping since the gate between the town hall and old police station could not be locked. The invoice by Opatz Roll-Off & Recycling included tax and he is having a new invoice drafted which he will give to Treasurer Dullinger for payment.

Tire Pick Up on 322nd Street plus other items – Supv Westerlund picked up 38 tires on 322nd Street that were discarded near the Stangler farmsite. Stearns County Sheriff's department had contacted Clerk Plante requesting these be removed as soon as possible since the field was to be planted. Supv Westerlund took the tires to Northside Tire who charges \$4 per tire to recycle. He also picked up the shell of a television in the area. He was informed that another TV on 35th Street needs pick up and a two-piece sectional couch.

30th Avenue Potholes & 17th Street Grading – Supv Westerlund left a message for Lance of ASTECH requesting a proposal of the cost of filling potholes on 30th Avenue, but he did not hear back until later. Supv Westerlund purchased 400 pounds of cold patch in order to fill the larger potholes on 30th Avenue as soon as possible. Lance did return his call and informed him it would be \$150 per hour to have ASTECH patch potholes on township roads.

Dan Heim –

John Kothenbeutel – Office & Storage Rooms – Supv Heim was contacted by Mr. Kothenbeutel requesting to have Supv Heim open the office & storage areas for inspection by the new owners of the town-fire hall. They wanted to see exactly what size space they were dealing with.

Frank Ulwelling – Remodeling, Setback & Deck Questions - Supv Heim discussed this earlier in the meeting. The Ulwelling property is considered U-1, Urban Service District zoning which does not allow adequate setbacks for any type of expansion to the property. Mr. Ulwelling will be doing the inside remodeling and wait on possible deck plans until a future decision is made about other U-1 zoned parcels in the township such as his.

Ryan Fitzthum – Items in ditch on 35th Street - Mr. Fitzthum contacted Supv Heim regarding a TV and possible recliners in the ditch on 35th Street. Supv Heim did contact Supv Westerlund to pick these items up and to contact him if he needed help.

Jodi Teich – RAISE Grant – Supv Heim was contacted and discussed the change of the BUILD Grant to what is now called the RAISE Grant with Jodi Teich, Stearns County Highway Department. They are unsure whether the township would now qualify for the grant since the addition of “sustainability and ethnicity” has been added to the grant.

17th Street Culvert – Supv Heim received a quote from Joe Lahr for a 12-inch concrete culvert which would replace the old culvert on 17th Street and 30th Avenue. The culvert is concrete with flared ends for approximately \$3150. The total quote was for \$5150 with installation. Joe said could do the work immediately. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE JOE LAHR'S QUOTE FOR \$5150 TO REPLACE THE CULVERT ON 17TH STREET AND INSTALL A 12-INCH CONCRETE, FLARED END CULVERT, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

HEIM – AYE, OMANN – AYE, WESTERLUND – NAY.

Supv Heim withdrew the motion to be discussed later during the monthly road report.

Tim Farris – Pole Shed Replacement – Mr. Farris contacted Supv Heim questioning the process to remove an old building that is currently on his 33-acre parcel. He would like to replace the building.

Supv Heim informed him the property is located in the U-1 zoning district which would require a Type 4 review procedure through the Joint Planning Board. He gave him the contact information for Scott Saeher of the City of Sartell.

Gary Blascziek – 322nd Street Complaint – Mr. Blascziek owns a parcel at 32285 County Road 4 had contacted Supv Heim regarding the condition of 322nd Street. Supv Heim spoke with Bryan Schoenecker of the City of St. Cloud Highway Department who researched when 322nd Street is slated to be reclaimed and overlayed. Presently, the street is proposed to be redone in 2026 or 2027 unless development in the area would drive the project to be done earlier.

Shawn Omann –

Speed Limit Sign Changes – Supv Omann reviewed with board members the platted areas that will receive new speed limit signs, making sure the resolution reflects the correct areas. He will contact John Peterson of Sign Solutions to have his bid revised to include the new speed limit sign replacement.

Lloyd Traut Public Access Meeting W/Sartell – Supv Omann reported that he attended an on-site meeting with city of Sartell representatives, Scott Saeher, Jon Halter & John Kothenbeutel, to discuss possible solutions for Mr. Traut's public access. Joe Lahr attended the meeting representing Lloyd Traut. Moving the utilities to allow for access for a new driveway for the Traut's was discussed, but the liability for the cost of the moving them is unclear. A decision to bring the new property owners to meet with Lloyd or Joe Lahr to see if an easement to the Traut property could be worked out. Scott Saeher will keep everyone informed when that information is found and completion of the sale is done.

Storage Room Clean-up – Supv Omann spent an afternoon cleaning out the storage room prior to the pick up of the dumpsters from the township clean-up day. The folding chairs were in very poor shape so he placed the chairs in the dumpster for metal recycling. He suggested a review of the street signs that were remaining in the storage room to see which ones could be kept. Several of the signs are brand new and could be used even though they do not have the newest reflectivity. There are several brand new red & white striped boards that were used in the past for "end of road" areas. Supv Omann will check with John Peterson of Sign Solutions to see if these are used, checking whether he would use them. Several signs are no longer used on township roads. Once the signs have been gone through, Clerk Plante will contact a person she is aware of that purchase's old street signs.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – Supv Westerlund received an email from Michelle Hinnenkamp, Commercial Assessor for the township, who gave him information on what it costs to rent available places in the area. She stated rent is anywhere from \$8 - \$14 per square foot. Supv Heim reported the present meeting room is 936 square feet and the office & storage rooms together are roughly 268 square feet.

It was also noted that Kelly Schefers, who purchased the two buildings south of the town hall, will be renovating them, with maybe the possibility of renting that space for town meetings etc. Supv Westerlund will contact him to let him know the square footage that would be needed for the township.

After discussion for upcoming meeting places, SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE CLERK PLANTE SECURE THE LIBERTY ROOM AT THE SARTELL COMMUNITY CENTER FOR JUNE 9TH AND JUNE 22ND, IF AVAILABLE, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

Grebinoski Property – A certified letter has been sent with no reply yet.

Zander Vehicle & Property Clean Up – Ms. Zander signed for the certified letter. The Zander's have until the end of April to clean up their property. This will be viewed during the annual road inspection by the Town Board.

Thomas Property – Clerk Plante will contact Attorney Gilchrist for the next step to have this property cleaned up.

Kourtney Bradford-Houle Site Plan Approval – Remove from the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Road Work Help – Supv Westerlund reported to the Town Board that Treasurer Dullinger helped him with the pothole patching on 30th Avenue since Supv Heim or Supv Omann were not available, but the patching needed to be done. He asked that she get paid for the three hours she worked. After reviewing the Qualifications meeting minutes, it was the consensus of the board a motion to pay her for the time helping Supv Westerlund would not be needed since it states that all members of the Town Board will be paid \$20 per hour for work outside of the normal duties of their position.

Annual Road Inspection Meeting – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HOLD THE ANNUAL ROAD INSPECTION MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021 BEGINNING AT 4 P.M., SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, UPON ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN:

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

APRIL ROAD REPORT: Supv Westerlund had emailed his road report to all board members and reviewed several areas that need to be looked at. He suggested the township contact Midwest Asphalt to possibly do blow patching of several township roads that are needing some immediate care; 30th Avenue, Winnebago Road & Riviera Road are all in need of patching. He also stated that 322nd Street is in very poor condition. That particular road has been patched by the City of St. Cloud since the south side of the street is in St. Cloud.

Another area of concern is 17th Street (Pinecone Road & Udermann area). Supv Westerlund spoke with Lance of ASTECH Inc. who stated there is not enough road to grade on the Pinecone portion of 17th Street and it may take approximately 8 loads of Class 5 to build up the road. The Udermann portion of 17th Street will be graded at \$150 per hour and it will take approximately 2 hours.

CLERK REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE:

Dehler Land Subdivision Escrow Account – Clerk Plante reported she had a phone call as well as emails regarding the escrow account amount. The email received from Genia O'Malley requesting where to send the money. No check has been received yet. Clerk Plante spoke with David Engelmeyer, surveyor for the Dehler's, who has completed the preliminary survey of the Dehler property. She informed him the money must be received plus the variance & minor subdivision applications from the city of Sartell, will need to be completed before proceeding with the process.

30th Avenue Complaints – Clerk Plante received a phone call from Terri Gerdes and an email from Nancy Henderson, both concerned with the condition of 30th Avenue. Ms. Gerdes reported the large pothole by the bridge, which Supv Westerlund has filled. She emailed Ms. Henderson informing her the township is in the process of applying for grant money for 30th Avenue. She also told her the possibility of not receiving any grant money for reconstruction of the road due to the changes recently made to be eligible for the grants.

Noxious Weeds in the Township – Clerk Plante reported there will not be an annual weed inspector's meeting this year. Information regarding area noxious weeds were sent to her. Two property owners were identified with having plume & Canadian thistle on their properties. Both have been contacted.

BCA Background Check for Sue Dullinger – Clerk Plante received the requested background check for Sue Dullinger which indicated no concerns. Ms. Dullinger can be appointed as the Deputy Treasurer for the Township.

Township Copier and Printer – Clerk Plante discussed with the Board the possibility of moving the copier and printer from the Town Hall office to her home until the new area for the township is determined. She stated she uses them quite often for mailings etc.

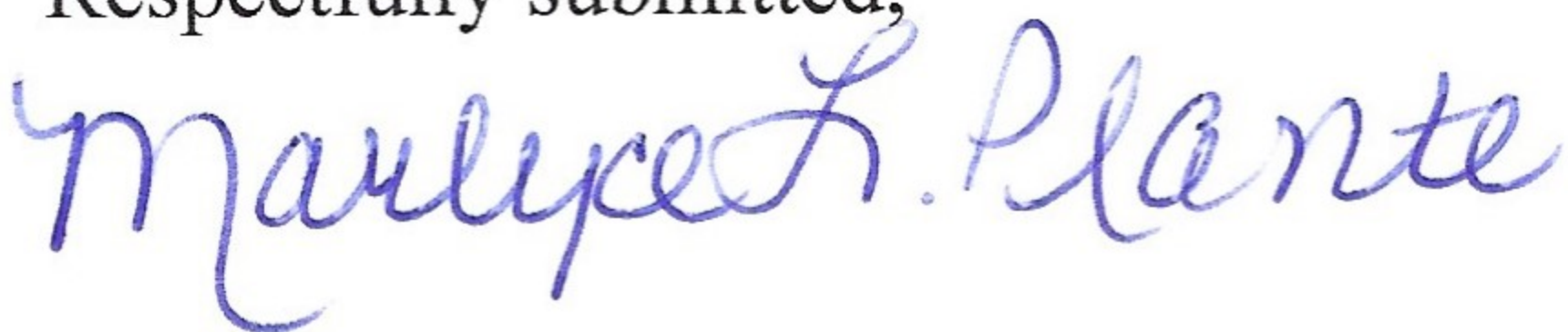
Polling Place - Clerk Plante informed the Board that a designation for a township polling place must be named since we will no longer have the Town Hall. She was contacted by Stearns County officials to update Township records for newly elected & appointed positions along with their term amounts plus a designated polling place. She had them put her home address as the polling place for the time being.

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