

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting
May 28, 2019

The regular 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, Shawn Omann and Jeff Westerlund, Treasurer Vikki Dullinger, Clerk Marlyce Plante and 5 interested parties.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED, ADDING CHRIS KADOUN TO OPEN FORUM AND BONHOMIE VALLEY SURVEY TO OLD BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Chris Kadoun – Site Plan Approval – Mr. Kadoun lives at 435 Coneflower Court and is requesting site plan approval for a 12 X 16 deck he would like to add to his home. The Town Board reviewed all necessary setbacks and regulations. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR CHRIS KADOUN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 12 x 16 SQ. FOOT DECK, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Mark Traut – 17th St. No – Construction of a Pole Shed – Mr. Traut came before the Town Board with a site plan of his property which included a new 30 X 48 square foot pole shed he would like to construct. When viewing the site plan, the new pole shed was only 36 feet from the side yard, but a 50-foot setback is required in an agricultural zone. Mr. Traut stated he will move the new building closer to the present building to meet the side yard setback. SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR MARK TRAUT PROVIDED THE 50-FOOT SIDE YARD SETBACK IS MET, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Rory & Jessica Mrozek – Site Plan Approval – 444 Coneflower Court - Mr. Mrozek provided building and site plans for the new home construction at 444 Coneflower Court. SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR THE NEW HOME LOCATED AT 444 CONEFLOWER COURT WITH ALL SETBACKS BEING MET, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Rory & Jessica Mrozek – Site Plan Approval – Storage Buildings – Mr. & Mrs. Mrozek provided site plans for three new storage units, one at 70 X 154 square feet and two units will be 36 X 156 square feet. Mr. Mrozek noted he adjusted the footage between the buildings on the new site plan. He had a previous site plan with the 5 buildings located on it, but needed to make some minor changes. He is constructing the three buildings all at the same time. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR THE THREE NEW STORAGE UNITS WHICH MEET ALL TOWNSHIP SETBACKS, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Town Hall Construction Possibility – Mr. Mrozek discussed with the Town Board the possibility of constructing a town hall on the west side of the Ryan Nguyen property which was formerly the Schnobrich property.

Lighted Billboard Sign for Sartell Storage – Mr. Mrozek discussed the possible placement of a lighted LED billboard on his property where he has his storage units. He is aware it is not currently allowed in

the township ordinances, but questioned whether this would be something that can be drafted into the new ordinances or whether he would need to apply for a variance for the sign. Mr. Mrozek had previously given the town board suggestions for new sign regulations in the township. The sign would have 24 rotating lines and he would dedicate 4 to the township and city of Sartell for advertising. He would mirror the regulations for signs that are presently allowed in the city. The Town Board did review the present regulations regarding signs allowed in the township and did inform Mr. Mrozek no changes were put in the newly drafted ordinances that are being reviewed at the present time.

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 13, 2019 REGULAR MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Ron Naber Lot Line Adjustment – Supv Heim spoke with Attorney Jason Hill who informed him the lot line adjustment that Mr. Naber would like to do (adding 5 feet from Lot 3 to Lot 4) would be allowable under the moratorium that is in place in the township since Mr. Naber is not creating any new parcels. The moratorium does not allow any new plats or zoning changes for one year.

Brian Donnay – Conditional Use Permit – Supv Heim discussed with Attorney Hill the process of conditional use permit; when does it begin, when would an extension be needed etc. Attorney Hill stated that if the construction commences and he is proceeding substantially within 6 months to a year, there shouldn't be a problem if the building etc. is not completed within the timeframe. If it does become an issue, an extension can be requested.

Ferber Mobile Home – Attorney Hill will draft a letter to Mr. Ferber requesting the removal of the mobile home with another deadline. If he does not respond to the letter, a possible civil abatement litigation could be started. Attorney Hill stated he did not see a lot in the township ordinances that would fall under nuisance issues at the Ferber property.

Memorandum of Understanding – Attorney Hill drafted and sent a letter to Angie Berg of Stearns County Environmental Services regarding the authority issues regarding Shoreland permit issues. We will wait to see what the county's response is.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT:

Anthony Murphy Site Plan – Building Inspector David Barsody issued a building permit to Ehren Timmers, contractor for Tony Murphy, since site plan approval had been received.

TREASURERS REPORT:

April Treasurers Report – SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS AMENDED THE APRIL TREASURERS REPORT, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Invoices/Vouchers – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5203.64 (CHECK #13125 THRU 13129 & CHECK #13141), SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Larry Frache – Apple Duathlon – Pot Hole Fixing – Supv Westerlund reported that Larry Frache, Apple Duathlon Event Organizer, fixed potholes on 40th Street. He requested possible help from Supv Westerlund and reimbursement for the money he spent on cold patch mixture. Supv Westerlund informed Mr. Frache the Town Board had told him they would fix the larger potholes on 40th Street prior to the duathlon event (which they did on May 23rd), the Town Board refused Mr. Frache's offer to help to fix the potholes due to the liability issues. Supv Westerlund did say that he could request reimbursement of the cold patch, but it would be a decision by the Town Board whether to do so.

Dale Zika Abandoned Vehicle Complaint – Supv Westerlund received a call from Dale Zika regarding a neighboring parcel owned by Dylan Wienand, 2612 7th Ave. No. Mr. Zika stated there are 2 abandoned vehicles on the property as well as unmowed grass. Clerk Plante was asked to send Mr. Wienand a letter regarding the townships regulations regarding abandoned vehicles.

Karen Overmann – Potholes on 19th Ave. – Ms. Overman contacted Supv Westerlund and Clerk Plante regarding potholes on 19th Ave. No. She was informed the road is in the city of Sartell and was given Jon Kothenbeutel's name to contact.

Doug Borud Lilac Bush Removal – Supv Westerlund viewed the progress of the lilac bush removal on the Borud property in Pleasant Dale Addition. Mr. Borud has made some progress – Supv Westerlund will view the area prior to the next meeting.

Pothole Repair – Supv Westerlund reported that he and Supv Heim went out on May 23rd to repair potholes on 40th Street & 30th Avenue – they used approximately 18 bags of cold patch. They filled the larger pot holes on the north side of 40th where the bicycle riders participating in the duathlon would be riding. Supv Westerlund will also put more cold patch in the pothole on 30th Avenue near the bridge.

CMWEA (Central Minnesota Water Education Alliance) Meeting - Supv Westerlund attended the CMWEA Meeting held on May 23, 2019.

Dan Heim –

Joe Perske/Ferber Home – Joe Perske, Stearns County Commissioner contacted Supv Heim regarding the Ferber mobile home removal and the progress of the home clean up. Supv Heim shared the email he received from Stearns County Deputy Sheriff Hemmesch.

Wayne Paquin – Mr. Paquin contacted Supv Heim regarding his request for a certificate of compliance to split off 10 acres of the Stangler property. Mr. Paquin will not be able to go forth with the request for one year due to the moratorium placed on the township for no new developments or zoning changes.

Karen Overmann – 19th Ave. Potholes – Ms. Overmann contacted Supv Heim, as well as Supv Westerlund and Clerk Plante regarding the potholes on 19th Ave. She was informed the road is located in the city of Sartell.

Rory Mrozek – Site Plans – Mr. Mrozek contacted Supv Heim regarding site plan approval for his storage units which was completed earlier in the meeting. Mr. Mrozek had stated he thought he had already received approval, but nothing was stated in the minutes.

Results Title – Lahr Parcel – Sara of Results Title contacted Supv Heim regarding the Peter & Kathryn Lahr parcel title change.

Sharon Pfau – Ferber – Street Light at end of River Oaks Lane – Ms. Pfau contacted Supv Heim requesting the township replace/fix the street light at the south end of River Oaks Lane. Supv Omann will contact Xcel Energy for an approximate cost replacement and monthly fee for this light. Having the light in this area may help with the issues in the area the neighbors are currently having.

Shady Oaks Variance, Conditional Use Permit & Septic – Supv Heim has been in contact with Stearns County Environmental Services regarding their meeting on site at the Shady Oaks Mobile Home Park. The county has many issues with the present septic and its capabilities in handling the park's mobile homes and duplex. They are requiring a new septic system design and implementation. Supv Heim reviewed the past history of the mobile home park; possibly constructed in 1953, construction of a storm shelter in 2002 and a community building in 2001.

With the many issues, it was the consensus of the Town Board that Supv Heim contact Attorney Jason Hill regarding the next steps in the process and Supv Heim will contact Brenda Magney, manager of the mobile home park, request withdrawal of their applications for the variance and conditional use permit for the time being and refund the \$600 public hearing fees. When the owner of the mobile park has completed the county's requirements regarding the septic system and a detailed site plan is received of the mobile home park as requested by the city of Sartell, they can then apply for the variance & conditional use permit originally applied for.

Shawn Omann –

John Peterson – Sign Solutions – Supv Omann was in contact with John Peterson of Sign Solutions regarding the replacement of the “end of road” signs on River Oaks Lane. Mr. Peterson quoted Supv Omann \$206.18 for the replacement of the two signs. SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO HAVE JOHN PETERSON OF SIGN SOLUTIONS REPLACE THE TWO “END OF ROAD” SIGNS ON RIVER OAKS LANE FOR \$206.18, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Doug Welk – ASTECH Inc. - Supv Omann will be driving and viewing township roads with Doug Welk of ASTECH Inc. on Thursday, May 30th. Mr. Welk will discuss possible future options to maintain township roads. Supv Omann will report at the next meeting.

Rory Mrozek – Storage Buildings Site Plan – Supv Omann stated that even though there was some question whether Mr. Mrozek had received site plan approval for his 5 storage buildings a couple of years ago, he was glad the township had him come to a meeting to review and approve the current site plan. Mr. Mrozek needed to change several items from the original site plan which the Town Board was able to view and approve.

Supv Omann stated his concern regarding Mr. Mrozek's suggestion for a new Town Hall on the Ryan Nguyen property since it wasn't his property but was originally a part of Monarch Meadows Plat 3.

OLD BUSINESS:

Stearns County Memorandum of Understanding – Discussed during the Attorney Report.

Fine Reimbursement – Treasurer Dullinger reported this is in progress and may be just a couple of weeks before it is finally complete.

Trees & Shrubs in Road Right of Way – The Broda shrub/hedge has been trimmed. This will be removed from the agenda and viewed on a case by case basis.

Peter Ferber Mobile Home – Discussed during the Attorney Report.

Shady Oaks Rental Unit/Set Back/Septic Issues – Discussed earlier in the meeting during the Attorney Report & Supv Heim's report.

Bonhomie Valley Survey of Perimeter – Survey has not been completed. Township Engineer David Blommel sent a General Engineering Contract for odds & ends, small & miscellaneous projects in the township. SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO ENTER INTO A GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT WITH S.E.H. ENGINEERING FOR SMALL & MISCELLANEOUS TOWNSHIP PROJECTS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Wayne Rosenow – Abandoned Property – Supv Westerlund has viewed the property and stated some abandoned property has been moved on to a trailer. He will check prior to the next meeting and report then.

Ron Naber – Lot Line Changes – Reported on earlier in the meeting under Attorney Report. Mr. Naber was not in attendance at this evening's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consultant for Township/City Meetings – Supv Heim discussed the two consulting firms the City and Township are considering to mediate discussions between the city and township regarding zoning authority in the township. N.A.C. @ \$147/hr. (Northwest Associated Consultants) and Hometown Planning @ \$125/hr. After reviewing bios of both consulting firms, it was the consensus that NAC had more experience dealing with township property and were not local so they would be able to look at both sides objectively. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE N.A.C. FIRM AT \$147/HR BEING SPLIT 50/50 BETWEEN THE CITY OF SARTELL AND LESAUK TOWNSHIP, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

MAY ROAD REPORT

Supv Omann provided copies of his May road report to board members for review. He was concerned about a large pothole by the bridge on 30th Avenue. Supv Westerlund will be filling this particular pothole as soon as possible. He reported that township roads are in good driving conditions with 35th Street & 30th Avenue having some issues with small potholes.

CLERK & CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:

Special Election Report – Clerk Plante reported the special Township Election held on Tuesday, May 14 for a single ballot question of whether the township clerk and treasurer's positions be changed from an elected position to appointed positions passed 55 yes and 29 no. This will take effect at the end of the clerk and treasurer's terms unless either resign prior to that time.

Minnesota Association of Township Summer Specialized Course – SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ALLOW ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE SUMMER SPECIALIZED SHORT COURSE AT THE REGULAR RATE OF PAY, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Brian Johnston – Site Plan Approval - Clerk Plante reported she had just received an email from Brian Johnston prior to the meeting requesting approval of a site plan for a car port on his township parcel. Supv Heim will check with the township attorney whether a car port would qualify as an accessory building. Clerk Plante will email Mr. Johnston regarding the Town Board's concerns and hopefully will have an answer at the next scheduled meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk