

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting
May 9, 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 – Liberty Room.

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

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING JESSE HAGEMEIERS RIGHT-OF-WAY EXCAVATION PERMIT TO OPEN FORUM & 15TH STREET RGU (RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT) RESOLUTION TO NEW BUSINESS) SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Jesse Hagemeyer, Right-of-Way Excavation Permit, 32532 River Vista Lane – Mr. Hagemeyer owns Hagemeyer Excavating and has been contracted to drill to the Hagen property at 32532 River Vista Lane. He has applied for an excavation permit to directional drill a sewer pressure line under the road to a manhole located south of the Hagen property. There will be no disturbing of the road itself when drilling this pressurized line, but it will be fixed by Hagemeyer Excavating should there be any damage to the road way. SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY EXCAVATION PERMIT FOR HAGEMEIERS EXCAVATING AT THE HAGEN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 32532 RIVER VISTA LANE TO DRILL A PRESSURE LINE UNDER THE ROAD BED TO A MANHOLE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE HAGEN PROPERTY, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED THE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2023 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2023 ANNUAL ROAD INSPECTION MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Township Code Violations – Supv Heim spoke with Chad May, Stearns County Attorney, regarding the prosecution of township code violations. Mr. May informed Supv Heim the township would be responsible for prosecuting the minor code violations, but it can be done, but there are larger issues the county deals with. It was the consensus of the board to not continue with the coding of township regulations within the county's legal process.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

Legacy Restoration Building Permit Reimbursement – Supv Heim was contacted with a request to reimburse a building permit fee to Legacy Restoration due to a change in contractors. Supv Heim requested Treasurer Dullinger to reimburse the fee minus the state surcharge. It was the consensus of the board to consider for discussion at a future date, requests for reimbursement of this type. It will be placed on future agendas under old business.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Deputy Treasurer Dullinger updated the Town Board of the townships fund balance which is \$898,589.24. The transfer of the \$400,000 into Certificates of Deposit at Falcon Bank has not been completed yet.

SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE APRIL TREASURERS REPORT AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,681.93 (CHECK #14016 THRU #14031, PLUS EFT'S #255 & 256) NOTING THAT FUND ALLOCATIONS BE CHANGED ON BOTH SUPV HEIM & SUPV WESTERLUNDS VOUCHERS SINCE THEY ARE INCORRECT, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Treasurer Dullinger has asked to have escrow processing placed on the next meetings agenda. Supv Heim has reviewed the past escrow accounts established in the township that have not been completed. Two remain incomplete, Andrew Swartout & Paul Clark. He has searched the last several years of invoices and made copies of the necessary documents to calculate the amount due to them.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Jeff Westerlund:

Township Clean Up Day – Supv Westerlund reported on the recent township clean-up day stating he believes we have lost focus on why the clean-up day was established. Supv Heim contacted Wayne Cymbaluk requesting information on the township's obligations for our stormwater permit. The clean-up day is an event that needs to be held to fulfill the townships obligations for this permit.

Supv Westerlund stated he needed to order another 30-yard dumpster as well as a 20-yard dumpster and needed more physical help with the loading and unloading of the various items brought to the clean-up day. He also suggested the list sent to township residents should be reconsidered since it allows many types of items, such as furniture, construction lumber, carpet, windows etc. Clerk Plante did state that Gary Opatz reviewed and OK'd the list as well as the town board members. Supv Westerlund took in \$479 for TV's & mattresses that were brought in. He gave the money to Treasurer Dullinger to deposit. This item will be placed on agendas under old business in order to discuss changes to be made for the next clean-up event.

ASTECH Inc. - Doug Welk, Blow Patching – Supv Westerlund spoke with Doug Welk of ASTECH. The blow patching will be done on Thursday, May 11th in BonHomie Valley, Countryside Acres & Pleasant Dale Additions. Any leftover material will be placed on 35th Street adjacent to the Lloyd Traut property first, then on 30th St. No. Class 5 will be placed by ASTECH in the sinkhole at 40th Street and at the corner of 1st Street & 30th Avenue North.

Dan Heim:

911 Sign Removal – Supv Heim removed the “1835” 911 sign that was placed at the intersection of 27th Street & Pinecone Road. There is a 911 sign of “1835” at the correct parcel near the water treatment plant on 27th Street. It was the consensus of the Town Board to remove the sign at their annual road inspection meeting.

Jeremy Mathieson – Updated Zoning Map – Supv Heim received current zoning maps from Jeremy Mathieson of Stantec Inc. 11 X 17 copies were given to all supervisors and Clerk Plante will post the updated zoning map on the township website.

Brian Bohlig, Stearns County Deputy – Supv Heim had contacted Deputy Bohlig requesting a search of a police report of an accident on 30th Avenue North near the bridge which caused damage to the guardrail. Deputy Bohlig could not locate a police report. No further action will be taken on this issue – the estimated damage was \$6000, but damage does not affect the purpose of the guardrail.

Craig Wensmann, Friedrich Plat & House Plans – Supv Heim was contacted by Mr. Wensmann who stated that house & site plans for the Friedrich home are complete. The Friedrich’s rezoning & plat public hearings will be held on May 23rd. The site plan for the new home will also be on the agenda. The home located on the property at the present time will be demolished.

Winnebago Road Overlay – Supv Heim has been in contact with David Blommel, township engineer, who informed him the upcoming overlay project for Winnebago Road is for the entire length of the road.

Solar Garden/Farm Moratorium – Supv Heim noted the city of Sartell has approved up to a 3-month solar garden/farm moratorium within the city in order to update and revise their regulations regarding solar gardens & farms.

County Road 4 Tree Removal – There has been substantial tree removal near the water treatment plant located on County Road 4. Supv Heim contacted Kari Theisen, Project Supervisor for the city of Sartell, who stated the area was being cleared for a bee & butterfly habitat project.

Brian Gibson, APO Director – Mr. Gibson informed Supv Heim the township is invited to attend an upcoming public information meeting regarding a study being done regarding the intersection of County Road 1 & County Road 120. It is being held at the Sartell Community Center on May 23rd at 5 p.m. He suggested board supervisors attend.

Anna Gruber – AIM/Paper Mill Landfill Purchase – Supv Heim was contacted by Anna Gruber, Sartell City Administrator, questioning whether the township had concerns about the city of Sartell purchasing the former AIM/Paper Mill Landfill property. It was the consensus of the board to inform her the board had no issues or concerns with this purchase by the city.

Troy Hennen, 2921 35th St. No. – Accessory Building – Mr. Hennen would like to construct a 40 X 90 square foot accessory building on his 20-acre parcel. Supv Heim informed him he would need a conditional use permit in order to construct the building.

John Udermann, House Construction Questions – Supv Heim was contacted by John Udermann who questioned whether he would be able to construct a new home between his present home and another home owned by Tom Skaj near his property. Supv Heim gave him information on what would be needed, but first they should have the area surveyed to see if the minimum parcel size of 30,000 square feet could be met along with the necessary setbacks from the nearby homes.

Townline/30th Avenue – Supv Heim received an email from Nicole Warrick, legislative assistant to Jeff Howe. She informed him the transportation bonding bill is still a possibility, but the legislature adjourns on May 22nd, so time is limited for possible discussion and passing of the bonding bill.

Matt Magney, Shady Oaks RV Park Questions – Supv Heim was contacted by Mr. Magney regarding the possibility of a RV Park area on a portion of the Shady Oaks property. Mr. Magney was informed the township does not allow a RV Park, the area is also located near wetlands, but he could discuss the annexation into the city of Sartell or St. Cloud to further pursue this request.

JK Landscape Permit & Hagemeyer Permit – Supv Heim discussed the cost of the JK Landscape (Perius) & Hagemeyer permits which were both \$400 each as stated in our fee schedule. JK Landscaping, contractor for Chad Perius, needed to establish a \$1000 escrow account to cover a Northwest Associates shoreland review, as well as the \$400 permit fee. Supv Heim stated that since neither of these permit applications needed shoreland, attorney or engineering reviews or a public hearing, the permit fee may be set too high for these types of applications. Supv Heim suggested a separate meeting of the town board to discuss the changes the board may need to make in the fee schedule. This will be placed on the agenda under old business to discuss at a future meeting.

Filling of Potholes on Township Roads – Supv Heim met with Supv Westerlund to fill potholes beginning on 30th Avenue and if possible, several other township roads. They used 40 bags of cold patch on 322nd Street and 20 bags for 30th Avenue. Supv Westerlund plans to purchase at least 12 more bags for 322nd St.

Paul Wagner:

Margaret Starry – Ms. Starry contacted Supv Wagner questioning whether the township could have Rick Wylie speak at an upcoming meeting regarding Common Law for townships. Greg Smith had contacted the township in the past to have Rick Willey speak regarding the same topic and it was the consensus of the board at that time, to not have him speak at a meeting due to the content of the information that was sent to the board. Supv Wagner would like to hear him speak and see what he has to say. Clerk Plante forwarded him the information she received with the content matter Mr. Willey speaks about.

Stearns County Township Association Meeting – Supv Wagner attended the Stearns County Township Association meeting held in Freeport. 32 of the 34 townships were represented at the meeting. He said it was very interesting and informative. He also discussed the MAT (Minnesota Association of Townships) payment of insurance premiums that was hacked and they are trying to recover the funds.

Troy Hennen Accessory Building – Mr. Hennen also spoke with Supv Wagner regarding questions he had about constructing an accessory building on his property. This was part of Supv Heim's report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – No new information.

Coding Ordinances for Violations – Supv Heim discussed earlier in the meeting. This will be removed from old business since it was the consensus not to pursue this any further.

NEW BUSINESS:

County Road 1 & County Road 120 Reconfiguration – Supv Heim was contacted regarding the planned reconfiguration of the roundabout at this intersection. The county plans to move and expand the roundabout and questioned whether the township had issues with removing the stub or dead-end area of River Vista Lane located in this area to expand the area for the roundabout. It was the consensus of the board to have Supv Heim contact them and question whether compensation will be received for giving up the roadway.

Apple Duathlon – An email was received from Heather Corcoran, new director of the Apple Duathlon which will be held on May 21st. She questioned whether any road projects were being considered for the roads they use for the biking portion of the race. Pinecone Road & 40th Street will be closed to traffic from 8:30 – 11 a.m. for the safety of bicyclists.

15th Street RGU (Responsible Governmental Unit) Resolution – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE CITY OF SARTELL TO BE THE RGU FOR 15TH STREET IN ORDER TO CONTINUE WITH THE EAW (ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET PROCESS), SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Bueckers Property Annexation – Supv Heim discussed an incorrect number and spelling in the Bueckers property annexation to the city of St. Cloud. He is trying to get clarification on both. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE INITIAL ANNEXATION OF THE BUECKERS PROPERTY CONTINGENT AND CLARIFICATION OF THE CORRECT NUMBER AND SPELLING ON THE RESOLUTION, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Friedrich Public Hearing – The public hearing is set for Tuesday, May 23rd at 6 p.m. at the Joint Planning Board meeting. Supv Wagner has stated he will be out of town and unable to attend the next meeting, which will then mean there needs to be at least two city of Sartell Joint Planning Board members in attendance in order to have a quorum. Clerk Plante will email Kari Theisen to clarify whether there will be two city members attending the joint planning meeting.

CLERKS CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:

Fine Reimbursement – Clerk Plante reported the township received \$73.33 in fine reimbursements for the month of April.

Sartell Fire Department SOP – Clerk Plante received an email from Brian Heim with attached Sartell Fire Department standard operating procedures, as did Supv Heim. Supv Heim researched and checked with Brian Heim whether he sent them and he hadn't, so Supv Heim deleted the email. Clerk Plante did open the email and sent copies of the operating procedures to the town board members.

Josh Kirby, 306 Pine Ridge Road – Property Clean Up – Mr. Kirby contacted Clerk Plante and apologized for his property becoming out of hand with the abandoned property and vehicles. He is in the process of selling one vehicle and licensing another as well as cleaning up the various junk on his property. He stated he hopes to have it cleaned in the next few weeks.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk