

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting
June 14, 2022

The regular meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dan Heim at 6:00 p.m. at the Sartell Community Center – Liberty Room.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Shawn Omann, and Jeff Westerlund, Treasurer Vikki Dullinger, Clerk Marlyce Plante and 2 interested parties.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING TOM OPATZ TO OPEN FORUM AND A TOWNSHIP PARCEL ANNEXATION TO ST. CLOUD TO NEW BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Tom Opatz, 448 Spruce Court – Mr. Opatz came before the board to discuss the recent surveying activity by Rory Mrozek and the future plans Mr. Mrozek may have for the 10-acre parcel he purchased. Mr. Opatz informed the board that fence posts were placed on his parcel and his neighbor's parcels by Mr. Mrozek. Their parcels are located to the north of the Mrozek 10-acre parcel. He was informed 3 non-barbed wires would be used as the fencing material. Concerned parcel owners spoke with Mr. Mrozek about the fencing and for the time being, the fence posts have been removed.

Mr. Opatz voiced his concern about the disruption of the natural drainage of the area south of their parcels, should Mr. Mrozek plan to construct further storage buildings. Supv Heim outlined the process Mr. Mrozek will need to follow should he want to develop the recently purchased parcel, but certainly will keep the drainage concerns in mind.

Adam Voegele, 2151 35th St. No. - Mr. Voegele came before the board to request approval for placement of an approach on 35th St. No. where he plans to construct a new home. He has received his new address from Stearns County Highway. The board reviewed the site plan Mr. Voegele provided and discussed the size of culvert Mr. Voegele would need. SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE VOEGELE SITE PLAN FOR A NEW APPROACH LOCATION WITH PLACEMENT OF A 15-INCH CULVERT TO ALLOW FOR PROPER DRAINAGE AND REMOVAL OF THE FIELD APPROACH, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Lenore Johnson, 3934 Riviera Road – The board reviewed Ms. Johnson's site plan for the replacement of a deck. Stephen Grittman of Northwest Associates Consultants, reviewed the site plan since it is located in shoreland, and found no issues since the deck will remain the same size, just configured differently. Scott Saehr, City of Sartell Assistant Administrator, reviewed the site plan and there were no concerns from the city. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE LENORE JOHNSON SITE PLAN FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE DECK ON HER HOME WHICH WILL REMAIN THE SAME SIZE, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Chad & Michelle Spoden, 3826 Riviera Road – The Spoden's have submitted site plans for remodeling of their present deck along with the addition of a 4-season porch. Since this property is within shoreland, Stephen Grittman of Northwest Associates Consultants, reviewed the site plan. Mr. Grittman stated that even though the new construction is 4 feet closer to the water line, there would be no need for a variance from the ordinary high-water line, but would need a shoreland permit to construct the deck & porch. SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO ISSUE A SHORELAND PERMIT FOR CHAD & MICHELLE SPODEN APPROVING THE SITE PLAN AND ALLOWING CONSTRUCTION OF A

DECK & 4-SEASON PORCH WITHIN THE ORDINARY HIGH-WATER LINE OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

MINUTES:

SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MAY 24, 2022 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Shipping Container Usage as Accessory Buildings – Attorney Gilchrist informed Supv Heim that shipping containers cannot be used as an accessory building or be able to comply under the present township ordinances. He did suggest the town board may want to consider reviewing this portion of the ordinance in the future.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: No report.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer Dullinger updated the Town Board on the townships fund balances as being \$683,563.48. Real estate tax payments to jurisdictions will be made within the next several weeks, the first payment will be approximately 70% of the taxes received, the second will be the remaining portion.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MAY TREASURERS REPORT AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,018.20 (CHECK #13800 THRU 13810 PLUS EFT'S 225 & 226), SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Tree on 35th Street -- Supv Westerlund received a call from the Stearns County Sheriff's office regarding a tree that had fallen on 35th Street during the recent storms. With help, he was able to remove the tree & branches that were blocking the street.

Majestic Woods – Tree on guardrail – Supv Westerlund received a call from Trobecs Bus Service informing him of a tree down on the guardrail on 40th Street. Supv Omann helped with the removal of the tree & branches on the guardrail.

John Uran – Park Fellowship Church – Supv Westerlund spoke with Mr. Uran about the license agreement drafted by the township attorney for the use of the church for elections etc. Mr. Uran was not sure of the dollar amount suggested by the Town Board, but will discuss it with the elders of the church.

Frank Kundrat – 322nd Street – Mr. Kundrat, who lives on 322nd Street, has been contacting involved jurisdictions to address the volume of traffic on 322nd Street, as well as the condition of the street.

Dan Heim –

Scott Hemmesch, Stearns County Assessor – Supv Heim spoke with Mr. Hemmesch who is the assessor for the township, regarding the valuation of the Lloyd Traut parcel.

Benno Kuhl, Bon Homie Valley Resident – Mr. Kuhl contacted Supv Heim regarding the surveying of Bon Homie Valley Addition and placement of the fence posts by Rory Mrozek. This was discussed earlier with Tom Opatz, another resident of Bon Homie Valley.

Jim Shaw, Bon Homie Valley Resident – Mr. Shaw also contacted Supv Heim regarding the fence posts being placed by Rory Mrozek.

Paul Ebnet, Mill River Estates, Firearm Shooting – Supv Heim received an email from Mr. Ebnet, who lives in Mill River Estates, across the Sauk River. They voiced their concern about the shooting of firearms on a parcel across the river. After research with various jurisdictions, the Ebnet's were informed there is no state law that prohibits target practice (if that is what is happening) and the shooting of firearms is legal 500 ft away from residential parcels.

Thomas Property Clean-Up – Troy Freihammer updated Supv Heim regarding the clean-up of the Thomas property on County Road 1. The Thomas's were given a deadline of June 3rd by Stearns County Environmental Services to clean-up. Mr. Freihammer noted a small amount of progress, but the deadline had not been met and he will be forwarding the case to the County Attorney's office. He informed the Thomas's they should continue to clean up the property to avoid the violation and ending up in court.

Traffic Study of 30th Ave. - Alex McKenzie, St. Cloud Area Planning Organization, forwarded a report to Supv Heim regarding the traffic study completed on 30th Avenue. There were 3 traffic counters which found there were an average of 1100 to 2800 vehicles per day. The average speed was between 45 – 55 miles per hour.

Alex Udermann, Property Questions – Supv Heim spoke with Mr. Udermann regarding options he would have to split property from the Meadowbrook Farm parcel in order to construct another home. If Mr. Udermann decides to go ahead with the split, he would probably need to plat the property.

Shawn Omann –

Tree Removal on 40th Street – Supv Omann helped with the tree removal on the 40th Street guardrail after the recent storms.

Rory Mrozek – Supv Omann received a call from Mr. Mrozek who questioned the townships fence regulations. He provided the regulations to Mr. Mrozek.

Able Tree Service 30th Street Tree Removal Proposal – Supv Omann received a proposal from Ken Blommer for the removal of trees on 30th Street. Mr. Blommer removed an approximate 40-foot section of trees by cutting the trees, then remove the stumps with a skidster. He tried this method in order to determine how long it would take to complete the job. His proposal was for \$7483.00. The proposal from Guardian Tree Service in November, 2021, was for \$2000.00, cutting the trees, then applying a herbicide to the remaining stumps.

Kamco – Via Riviera Road – Supv Omann spoke with Ken from Kamco Inc. regarding the unfinished portion of Riviera Road & 30th Street his company did not complete in 2021. He stated they had issues with their tri-axle truck. He did say they would complete the project, but they are extremely busy and would not be able to do it until August.

David Blommel – Supv Omann spoke with David Blommel, township engineer, regarding the viewing of township roads for possible repair. Mr. Blommel estimated the cost to view and do a simple memo, with pictures proposal, would be approximately \$2000. After discussion on particular township roads and what they are in need of, SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE DAVID BLOMMEL VIEW THE FOLLOWING ROADS IN THE TOWNSHIP, 22ND STREET, RODEO ROAD, RIVIERA ROAD, WINNEBAGO ROAD & 17TH STREET (UDERMANN AREA) FOR UP TO \$2000, PROVIDING A MEMO FORM TO THE TOWN BOARD, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Omann will also ask Mr. Blommel to provide a timeline for the road projects. They are available for general road maintenance as of August.

Austin Dyckmann, 1671 Riverside Ave. No., - Supv Omann reported that Mr. Dyckmann has removed the abandoned vehicle from his rear yard to his front yard and he will continue to monitor this situation.

OLD BUSINESS –

Town Hall – No new information.

Thomas, Theisen, Rosenow & Weyer Property Clean-up – The Thomas property clean up was discussed earlier in the meeting. Supv Westerlund has not set up a date to view the Weyer property. He will view it before the next meeting.

Removal of 30th Street Trees & Shrubs – The town board reviewed the bid proposal from Guardian Tree Service. A call was placed to Josh of Guardian, who stated the proposal remains at \$2000 which will include cutting the trees & disposing of them along with treating the remaining stumps with a herbicide. Josh will provide a certificate of insurance prior to beginning this project, along with his licensure to use herbicides. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE BID OF \$2000 BY GUARDIAN TREE SERVICE FOR \$2000 TO REMOVE TREES & SHRUBS ON 30TH STREET THEN TREATING THE STUMPS WITH A HERBICIDE, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Fog Lines – 322nd St. – Supv Westerlund spoke with Brain Schoenecker of the St. Cloud Highway Department. St. Cloud will be placing fog & center lines on 322nd Street sometime this summer.

30th Avenue Bridge – No further information has been received from Stearns County Highway Department regarding the areas on the bridge that need to be corrected.

License Agreement with Park Fellowship Church – This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS –

Election Judge List – Clerk Plante provided the election judge list for the Town Board for approval. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVING THE ELECTION JUDGE LIST, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

St. Cloud Annexation – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE ANNEXATION OF PARCEL 17.09426.000, NORTHSIDE ACRES ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CLERK CORRESPONDENCE REPORT:

32130 Riverside Ave. – Survey Issues – Clerk Plante received a call from Cody Rieland questioning whether the township had any information that would help him clarify the legal boundaries of the Marilyn Skurdahl property.

Town Code – Unkept Yards – The Town Board briefly reviewed the portion of the Town Code that pertains to unkept yards within the township.

May Fine Reimbursement – The fine reimbursement for the month of May was \$236.65.

Gabrielson & Orth Driveway Easement – Clerk Plante received a call from Colleen Orth, daughter of Wanda Orth. She is handling the sale of her mother's home and has encountered an issue with the shared driveway with the Gabrielson property located to the south. Clerk Plante informed her when there is a dispute between township property owners, the township does not get involved.

David Terry, 27th St. No. - Mr. Terry contacted Clerk Plante regarding a theft that occurred on his property and who he should contact. She gave him the contact information for the Stearns County Sheriff's department.

Northern Natural Gas – Clerk Plante received a call from a representative from Northern Natural Gas questioning whether the township requires any type of permit for the placement of Natural gas lines. Their company is placing lines on the Weber parcel located on 19th Ave. She suggested he contact the

city of Sartell since they are reconstructing 19th Avenue shortly.

Election Judge Training – Clerk Plante informed the board election judge training will be taking place within the next month. Most training sessions will be on-line, with some head judge and the clerk training being done in-person.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marlyce L. Plante". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk