

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting
July 13, 2021

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 Sartell Community Center – Liberty Room. Township meetings are now being held in person and at the community center.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Shawn Omann and Jeff Westerlund, Treasurer Vikki Dullinger, and Clerk Marlyce Plante, plus 6 interested parties.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING MARY SAKRY TO THE OPEN FORUM, TRAVIS THEIS W/ANIMAL CONTROL TO NEW BUSINESS AND LLOYD & MARYANN TRAUT & JOE LAHR TO BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Mary Sakry, 2668 Winnebago Road, Sartell – Variance – Ms. Sakry provided a completed variance application and payment for a public hearing. She would like to construct an accessory building in her front yard. Ms. Sakry questioned if the variance is granted, how long is it good for if construction doesn't begin immediately. She was informed that construction would need to begin within 12 months of approval of the variance. If that is not possible due to lumber prices, she can attend a meeting and request an extension. She was also asked to submit a new site plan which shows the size of her planned accessory building, septic & drainage systems and setback footage.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Ken Heim, 201 Heritage Drive – Lot Line Adjustment

Mr. Heim came before the Board to request a lot line adjustment to his parcel. Mr. Heim's mother, Luella Heim, owns a parcel to the west of his parcel. They have agreed to split off 64 feet from the east side of her lot which will then be added to his lot. Mr. Heim has completed the application for a lot line adjustment and surveyor, Sam DeLeo, is working on the certificate of survey. Discussion was held by the board whether a public hearing, along with the fee, is needed. The board informed Mr. Heim the Joint Planning Board will need to recommend approval of the split and the Town Board approves it. This will be placed on the July 27th meeting agenda.

Lloyd & MaryAnn Traut, 1315 Southbridge Ave. – Public Access - The Traut's came before the Town Board to discuss the latest meeting they had with representatives from the city of Sartell & Supervisor Omann, regarding the public access to their property. Also attending, was the owner of the lot the access is located on, Jason Stock. Jeff Kolb, Sartell City Council member, suggested the cost of moving utilities and constructing a new access, should be split between the city, township and the Traut's. He also suggested the Traut's could annex to the city.

Scott Saehr, City of Sartell Assistant City Administrator, stated that according to records they have been searching, the township road leading to the Traut access, was not vacated, so therefore, the township would also have some responsibility in getting a new access to the Traut property. Supv Omann did not feel the township would be responsible since the city annexed the entire parcel which was platted as Savannah Oaks including the public access area. Jeff Kolb suggested that if the Traut's annexed to the city, then the

situation could be worked out with the city. The Traut's stated they are not interested in annexing to the city and feel they should not be responsible for any cost to move utilities or construction of a new public access to their property.

Joe Lahr – Proposed Revisions of the Orderly Annexation Agreement (OAA) – Mr. Lahr attended the meeting to again voice his concern of the proposed revisions to the OAA. He does not agree with the proposed revisions and stated it is not a good idea to allow deferred assessments be placed on parcels listed in the proposed revisions to possibly save annexations of township property to the city of Sartell. Mr. Lahr did thank the Board for working with the city to have his property be changed to a future deferred assessment and not an annexation, but would like to see the board not agree to the proposed revisions.

MINUTES:

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED, THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 22, 2021 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Orderly Annexation Agreement – This will be discussed under Old Business

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: Supv Heim received an email from building inspector, David Barsody, who was contacted for a building permit for the new Pediatric Dental office building being constructed on County Road 120 near the Just for Kix building. The parcel was thought to be in the township, when it is actually in the city of Sartell.

MAY TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Dullinger gave updated financial balances in all township fund accounts. The total amount of revenue, prior to the payment of this evening's invoices is \$546,744.26. She stated the township has received two partial payments of real estate taxes along with the townships portion of the sale of the government center

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

Invoices/Vouchers – Supv Heim questioned the invoice sent from the city of Sartell for operating costs of the Government Center from January 21 thru May 2021. According to the invoice, the township was charged for the entire electrical cost of the building when it should only be 40%. Treasurer Dullinger was asked to contact the city and verify this amount.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,579.54 OTHER THAN CHECK #13609 MADE TO THE CITY OF SARTELL FOR THE GOVERNMENT CENTER (CHECK #13603 THRU 13615 PLUS EFT'S 195, 196 & 197), SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTIONED CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Park Fellowship Church – John Uran – Supv Westerlund was contacted by Mr. Uran who questioned whether the Town Board has decided to use the church for its meetings and polling place. It was the consensus of the board to continue with meetings at the community center for the next few months, then

make a decision in October whether to use Park Fellowship Church. The church meets the townships needs, but internet in the area is spotty.

Dennis Traut – 911 Sign – Supv Westerlund was contacted by Mr. Traut who stated there are two separate houses on the Edgar & Kitty Traut farm site, and only one has received a 911 sign. Mr. Traut asked to have a 911 sign for 1849 27th St. No. Clerk Plante will contact M-R Sign Company to order a sign.

5th Avenue Sprinkler Installation – Supv Westerlund was contacted by a resident of 5th Avenue who questioned where a sprinkler system could be installed on 5th Avenue. Supv Westerlund will contact the property owner informing them that nothing can be installed in the road right-of-way.

Dan Heim –

Preusser Plat Approval – Supv Heim informed the board the Preusser Enterprises plat located on the west side of County Road 1 was approved by the City of Sartell at their council meeting.

Scout & Dehler Drive – Final Design – Supv Heim received the final design of the Scout & Dehler drive which will run through township parcels.

911 Sign – Supv Heim questioned whether a 911 sign was ordered for the new home being constructed at 91 30th Ave. No. Clerk Plante stated she has ordered the sign and expects it shortly.

Vibhu Kapoor Building Permit – Ms. Kapoor contacted Supv Heim questioning whether a building permit is needed for a patio or tree house. Supv Heim informed her a permit is needed as well as the site plan which is needed and must be approved before the permit is issued and construction could begin. He asked that a site plan be sent to him. Alex Meyer is the Kapoor's contractor.

Adam Laidlaw, 3898 Riviera Road – Landscaping & Remodel – Mr. Laidlaw contacted Supv Heim regarding landscaping and remodeling of their home. Supv Heim asked to have more information along with a site plan which will need approval by the Town Board.

Chris Hauck – Certificate of Survey – Lot Line Adjustment – Supv Heim received the Certificate of Survey for Chris Hauck completed by Sam Deleo, surveyor for Mr. Hauck. Mr. Hauck will be adding a pie-shaped parcel to his parcel from the neighboring parcel owned by Richard Adamson, located south of the Hauck parcel. The lot line adjustment will not conflict with the home and Mr. Hauck will not need a variance. Supv Omann questioned whether the new owner has been made aware of the lot line adjustment. The town board has only been contacted by Mr. Hauck. Supv Heim will contact Mr. Adamson or Mr. Hauck prior to make sure all parties are aware of the lot line change. After discussion, SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO NOT CHARGE A LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT FEE FOR CHRIS HAUCK & KEN HEIM SINCE NO VARIANCES ARE NEEDED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Cameron Schreifels, 3630 Riviera Rd., Sartell – Supv Heim reported that David Blommel, township engineer from S.E.H. Engineering, has marked the high-water area for the Schreifels property. Mr. Schreifels public hearing for a variance is scheduled for the July 27th Joint Planning Board meeting.

Shawn Omann –

Mary Sakry, 2668 Winnebago Road, Sartell – Variance – Supv Omann provided papers for Ms. Sakry to follow for her variance to construct an accessory building on her parcel. Ms. Sakry was in attendance and this was discussed with her earlier in the meeting.

Travis Theis – Animal Control – Beaver Dam Removal – Supv Omann contacted Mr. Theis, who was in attendance, to come to the meeting to discuss the removal of the beaver dam by the bridge located on 30th Avenue. Mr. Theis reported that he has walked the area around the beaver dam with permission from Jeff & Terri Gerdes who own the property on the north & south sides of the Watab river. Mr. Theis owns Dick's Nuisance Animal Control. He stated the cost to set up the traps for the beavers is \$125 and \$100 per animal removal. He is not sure how many beavers there may be on site, but guessed there are at least

a pair. A permit from the Department of Natural Resources would be needed prior to beginning the trapping and the beavers must be buried on site since the trapping is being done outside of the November to May trapping season. He will provide a W-9 and a certificate of insurance.

SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO AUTHORIZE UP TO \$1000 TO HAVE TRAVIS THEIS TRAP AND REMOVE THE BEAVERS AT THE 30TH AVENUE BRIDGE SITE, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Mr. Theis stated that once the beavers are trapped and removed, the dam will need to be dismantled, but the dam will need to be done by a backhoe since it is so large. Mr. Theis will keep in contact with the board. He will also write up a contract for Supv Heim to sign and provide the insurance certificate prior to beginning to trap the beavers.

John Peterson – Sign Solutions – Supv Omann reported that Mr. Peterson completed all sign placement and replacement of signs on township roads. Supv Omann was informed of someone damaging one of the new 25 mph signs in the Bon Homie Addition. Supv Omann contacted Mr. Peterson who stated he would replace it free of charge if it indeed was his fault, but Supv Omann viewed the area and could see it was not caused by Mr. Peterson. Mr. Peterson gave Supv Omann an estimate of fixing the sign and he conferred with Clerk Plante whether he should go ahead and have the sign fixed, she agreed he should have Mr. Peterson fix the sign immediately. Mr. Peterson fixed the new 25 mph sign which required a new post & insert replacement.

Jerry Burau, 325 27th St. No. – Mr. Burau contacted Supv Omann questioning the County Road 1 overlaying project. Mr. Burau was informed to contact the Stearns County Highway Department.

Traut Public Access Meeting – Supv Omann attended the meeting held at city hall to discuss the Traut public access to their property. Supv Omann was disappointed with no solution for the Traut's, along with the suggestion to the Traut's they annex to the city and they may work with them for access to their property.

Ken Tormanen – Kamco – Bid Decision – Mr. Tormanen contacted Supv Omann questioning if a decision had been made regarding the bid he proposed for work on various township roads. Supv Omann informed him that it would be discussed at tonight's meeting and he will be contacted.

Joe Lahr – Proposed Revisions to the Orderly Annexation Agreement (OAA) – Mr. Lahr contacted Supv Omann to let him know he was not in favor of the proposed revisions to the OAA. Mr. Lahr also was in attendance at the meeting to inform the entire town board.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – Discussion was again held regarding options for a town hall. Clerk Plante reported that insurance wise, we would be covered by our policy at MATIT for any liability issue the township has. For example, if someone were to get hurt at the church and it was because of the township's negligence, the MATIT insurance would cover that. However, if a person would be injured because of the church's negligence, they would have to cover that. Also discussed was whether the contents of our storage unit would be covered under the same policy at MATIT. Presently, the contents are covered under the insurance taken out with the storage facility rent. Clerk Plante will check into this and report at the next meeting.

Proposed Orderly Annexation Agreement – The town board discussed the proposed revisions discussed at the meeting the board held with township attorney, Troy Gilchrist. The consensus was the revisions would benefit the township and the proposed revised agreement would be a binding agreement. Since the new revised agreement was not received until 4 p.m. today, it was the consensus of the board to place this on the July 27th meeting agenda to act on. This would allow all board members to fully review the proposed revisions in the entire agreement.

Zander Vehicle Clean Up – No new information.

Thomas Property Clean Up – The Thomas's have until August 15th to clean up their property and remove the abandoned vehicles and miscellaneous junk in the yard.

NEW BUSINESS:

Road Improvement Bids – The town board reviewed bids from Midwest Asphalt and Kamco for road improvement projects. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM KAMCO FOR \$30,250.00 WHICH INCLUDES \$16,000 FOR WHEEL RUT PATCHING OF 30TH AVENUE, BLOW & SEALING OF 40TH STREET (\$4500), 1ST STREET NORTH (\$4500) AND OVERLAY OF THE INTERSECTION OF RIVIERA ROAD & 30TH STREET (\$5250), SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Omann will contact Ken Tormanen and ask for Kamco's certificate of insurance and check for possible start and completion dates.

CLERK CORRESPONDENCE:

Fine Reimbursement – Clerk Plante received notice the township received \$299.96 in fine reimbursements during the month of May.

Stearns County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) – Private Well Testing – Clerk Plante had forwarded information to the town board regarding information regarding the private well testing that will be held on September 9th. The email outlined when & where the event will take place, the request for help from township & cities to cover the cost of mailing a post card and possible promotion of the event on our website.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk