

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – Sartell Community Center – Liberty Rm
September 12, 2023

The Regular Township 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, Jeff Westerlund and Paul Wagner, Clerk Marlyce Plante, Treasurer Josh Bentley and seven interested parties.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING JULIAN LUETMER TO OPEN FORUM AND SARTELL-ST. CLOUD ORDERLY ANNEXATION PROPOSAL TO BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR, STEVEN CARLSON CONCEPT PLAN TO NEW BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Julian Luetmer, 2987 Winnebago Road – Paving of Driveway – Mr. Luetmer came before the board to question whether a gravel portion of his driveway could be overlaid during the upcoming road project planned for Winnebago Road. Mr. Luetmer contacted the project engineer of the road project, but he was informed to discuss this with the Town Board since according to an overlay of the Stearns County Interactive mapping system, the portion of road Mr. Luetmer uses to enter into his property is possibly the townships right of way. After discussion by the board and reviewing pictures township engineer, David Blommel, provided, it was the consensus to have Supv Heim contact Attorney Gilchrist to ask for the correct procedure with this request. Supv Heim will contact Mr. Luetmer when an answer is received from Atty Gilchrist. Mr. Luetmer did say he is willing to pay for the cost of overlaying the gravel portion he uses to enter his property.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Kari Theisen – Sartell Project Supervisor – County Road 1 Reconstruction & Orderly Annexation of surrounding properties

Supv Heim had a virtual meeting with Ms. Theisen, Anna Gruber, Sartell City Administrator, Matt Glaesman, St. Cloud Planner and April Ryan, City of Sartell Engineer, regarding the future road project to reconstruct County Road 1. The road project jumpstarted discussion of the possibility of releasing a portion of township parcels from the orderly annexation agreement the township has with the city of Sartell and developing an orderly annexation agreement with the city of St. Cloud. This is due to the fact that Sartell can not service the parcels in this area should they need city services and the city of St. Cloud's services are close to the area and would be able to service them.

This would include 74 parcels that would be affected by this agreement. Also discussed was the inclusion of the Heim's Mill. The first step would be to conduct an informational meeting with the owners of the township parcels. Days and times will be discussed and all parties will be notified.

Jodi Wilken, 2660 7th Ave. No. – Tree Removal – Ms. Wilken came before the Board questioning when two trees, an ash tree and a blue spruce, will be removed since they are in the road right of way. This has been discussed in the past and nothing has ever been done. Clerk Plante has contacted former Supv Shawn Omann, who had gone out to Ms. Wilken's property to measure whether the trees are indeed in the right of way. No message had been returned and in searching the minutes and road

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – Sartell Community Center – Liberty Rm
September 12, 2023

The Regular Township 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, Jeff Westerlund and Paul Wagner, Clerk Marlyce Plante, Treasurer Josh Bentley and seven interested parties.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING JULIAN LUETMER TO OPEN FORUM AND SARTELL-ST. CLOUD ORDERLY ANNEXATION PROPOSAL TO BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR, STEVEN CARLSON CONCEPT PLAN TO NEW BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Julian Luetmer, 2987 Winnebago Road – Paving of Driveway – Mr. Luetmer came before the board to question whether a gravel portion of his driveway could be overlaid during the upcoming road project planned for Winnebago Road. Mr. Luetmer contacted the project engineer of the road project, but he was informed to discuss this with the Town Board since according to an overlay of the Stearns County Interactive mapping system, the portion of road Mr. Luetmer uses to enter into his property is possibly the townships right of way. After discussion by the board and reviewing pictures township engineer, David Blommel, provided, it was the consensus to have Supv Heim contact Attorney Gilchrist to ask for the correct procedure with this request. Supv Heim will contact Mr. Luetmer when an answer is received from Atty Gilchrist. Mr. Luetmer did say he is willing to pay for the cost of overlaying the gravel portion he uses to enter his property.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Kari Theisen – Sartell Project Supervisor – County Road 1 Reconstruction & Orderly Annexation of surrounding properties

Supv Heim had a virtual meeting with Ms. Theisen, Anna Gruber, Sartell City Administrator, Matt Glaesman, St. Cloud Planner and April Ryan, City of Sartell Engineer, regarding the future road project to reconstruct County Road 1. The road project jumpstarted discussion of the possibility of releasing a portion of township parcels from the orderly annexation agreement the township has with the city of Sartell and developing an orderly annexation agreement with the city of St. Cloud. This is due to the fact that Sartell can not service the parcels in this area should they need city services and the city of St. Cloud's services are close to the area and would be able to service them.

This would include 74 parcels that would be affected by this agreement. Also discussed was the inclusion of the Heim's Mill. The first step would be to conduct an informational meeting with the owners of the township parcels. Days and times will be discussed and all parties will be notified.

Jodi Wilken, 2660 7th Ave. No. – Tree Removal – Ms. Wilken came before the Board questioning when two trees, an ash tree and a blue spruce, will be removed since they are in the road right of way. This has been discussed in the past and nothing has ever been done. Clerk Plante has contacted former Supv Shawn Omann, who had gone out to Ms. Wilken's property to measure whether the trees are indeed in the right of way. No message had been returned and in searching the minutes and road

reports, no information was found. Ms. Wilken stated she would like to be informed when they will be removed in order to be at her residence when it is being done. Supv Wagner will view the trees during his road inspection and report at the next meeting.

Steve and Shirley Thomas, 32502 County Road 1 – Property Clean-up – Steve Thomas provided updated pictures of his mother's property on County Road 1. Many items have been removed with some items covered with tarps remaining in the front of the garage. A step ladder should be removed and vehicles that are behind bushes must be currently licensed. The town board thanked the Thomas's for the work in cleaning up their property and hope that it can remain that way for quite some time. It was the consensus of the Town Board to remove the Thomas property clean up from the agenda, but the property will be viewed by the supervisors during their monthly road inspections.

Kim Hemberger, 2550 Winnebago Road – Winnebago Road Reconstruction – Ms. Hemberger came before the board to discuss the upcoming paving of Winnebago Road. She stated she believes the area near her driveway has been overlayed further than it should have been and also discussed with the board the incorrect process used to survey the county drainage ditch located to the south of her parcel. Before the overlaying project on Winnebago Road is to begin, she plans to look further into where her property lines legally are located.

Kevin Starry, 1223 3rd St. So. – Wood Shed Construction – Mr. Starry discussed with the board his possible plan to construct a wood shed on his property. Mr. Starry has two other sheds on his property which will require him to apply for a variance or remove the two sheds and build one larger accessory building. Also discussed with Mr. Starry was the orderly annexation agreement approved in 2020 which may allow the city of Sartell to proceed with annexation of encompassed township parcels. The list of parcels is in the agreement and Mr. Starry's parcel is one of the parcel's listed.

MINUTES:

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED THE MINUTES OF THE 8-22-23 REGULAR MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Ordinance Changes & Resolution – Supv Heim received Attorney Gilchrist's resolution he drafted for the ordinance changes regarding fences, storage containers, treasurer & clerk appointment and park fee requirement removal. These will be placed on the Joint Planning Board meeting agenda for September 26th for recommendation for approval.

Fine Reimbursement Joint Powers Agreement – Attorney Gilchrist drafted the resolution for a Joint Powers Resolution with the Minnesota Department of Highways to continue the fine reimbursement program. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE JOINT POWERS RESOLUTION REGARDING FINE REIMBURSEMENT, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. The resolution will be in effect for 5 years.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: No report.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer Bentley reviewed with the Town Board the account balances. The total balance in the township accounts is \$1,029,318.86 not including the outstanding checks as of August 31st and the

vouchers being paid this evening. He noted the necessary paperwork for signers on all bank accounts has been completed due to the change in treasurer position. He informed the board that he has transferred funds within the Falcon Bank to Bank Vista, in order to keep the prime investment account under the \$250,000 limit for FDIC coverage.

Treasurer Bentley also reported the township has received \$3000 from the SCORE grant which covers the majority of the expenses incurred during the township clean-up day in April.

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

Claim vouchers and invoices were reviewed by the Town Board.

SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,722.74 (CHECK #14090 THRU 14100 PLUS EFT'S 265 & 266), SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS:

Jeff Westerlund –

Shannon Sullivan, 1954 4th Ave. No. – Yard & Weed Clean-Up – Supv Westerlund viewed the Sullivan property – they have mowed a portion of the yard. He will continue to monitor.

Zander Property Clean Up, 271 27th St. No. – Supv Westerlund has left 2 voice mails and a text message for the Zander's regarding the clean-up of their property and licensing of the many vehicles on their property with no return calls or messages. In his previous discussion with Ms. Zander, they were given until September 18th to have this completed. After that date if nothing has been done, it was the consensus of the town board to contact the township attorney to send a letter to the Zander's.

Dan Heim –

Brian Schoenecker, 322nd Street Bid – Supv Heim contacted Mr. Schoenecker who works in the public works department for the city of St. Cloud. Mr. Schoenecker plans to arrange a meeting with all of the jurisdictions located on 322nd Street to discuss this project. The road is traveled extensively and is in very poor condition.

Request for Proposals (RFP) for 30th Avenue – Jodi Teich, Stearns County Highway Department has sent out RFPs to 8 different companies. A meeting will be held after the proposals are returned to begin the selection process.

Matt Welinski – Udermann Parcel Split – Supv Heim has not received further information regarding the proposed split for John Udermann.

Jon Dennis – Roof Solar Panel Project – Supv Heim is waiting for information on the site plan to place roof solar panels on the Jon Dennis home located on County Road 1.

Alex Udermann, 2611 17th St. No – Grading – Mr. Udermann contacted Supv Heim questioning when 17th Street will be graded since it is quite rough and like a washboard. The town board will have 17th Street graded after the heavy equipment of fall harvesting is completed.

Mike McCabe, Oakleaf Energy – Solar Garden/Farm – Mr. McCabe emailed Supv Heim questioning the process of placement of a solar garden on the T & A Properties located on 17th Street. Supv Heim informed him the township only allows residential roof solar panels on homes or on the ground. He would need to annex the property into the city of Sartell in order to pursue a solar garden.

He also told him a moratorium on solar garden developments is still in effect in the city. They are in the process of revising the ordinances regarding solar gardens/farms.

Ron Traut, 1835 27th St. No. – Property Split – Mr. Traut contacted Supv Heim questioning the process of splitting a possible 5–10-acre parcel from the Traut Family property. The property is zoned U-1 (Urban Service District). Supv Heim provided Mr. Traut with information he needed to pursue the split.

Zander Property Clean-Up – Complaints were again received regarding the Zander property.

Paul Wagner –

30th Avenue & 35th Street Sign – Supv Wagner reported the dual street sign for 30th Avenue & 35th Street is gone. He will stop the next day to check whether it is laying in the ditch or someone has taken the sign.

Street Sign Proposal – A proposal for placement of 40 mph speed signs on 1st Street and straightening of the stop sign on 17th Street & 30th Avenue was received from John Peterson of ID Sign Solutions. Clerk Plante will have Mr. Peterson send a new proposal adding the placement of the 30th Ave/35th Street sign (if it is found) on the stop sign at this intersection and the removal of the post the street sign was on. If the street sign is not found, she will contact M-R Sign company to order a new one.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – No new information at this time.

Ordinance Revisions – A meeting will be held with the Joint Planning Board on September 26th.

Township Clean-Up Day – No further information at this time.

Thomas Property Clean-Up – Completed and can be removed from the agenda.

Zander Property Clean-Up – Discussed under Supv Westerlund and Supv Heim's reports.

Beaver Dam Removal – Supv Heim has not received a proposal from Joe Lahr yet.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – Supv Westerlund will monitor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Solar Ordinance Survey for Township Residents – Anna Gruber, Sartell City Administrator has contacted Supv Heim and Clerk Plante requesting the townships help in having township residents complete the survey regarding the city's solar ordinance. She stated that possible requests for solar gardens or farms may be from township residents since they have the size of parcels that would be needed to develop a solar garden or farm. The solar ordinance survey can be placed on the township website. Clerk Plante has forwarded the survey to Mary Barron-Traut, township deputy clerk, and a township parcel owner that may be approached by a solar garden-farm developer.

Steve Carlson, 2013 35th Street – Parcel Split – Mr. Carlson owns a 10-acre parcel located on 35th Street and is part of the Fenlason Woods Plat. He would like to split the parcel into 2 parcels (3.34 & 6.47 acre parcels). Supv Heim provided information to Mr. Carlson regarding the process of this minor sub-division.

CLERK CORRESPONDENCE & REPORT:

John Uran – New Church Sign – Mr. Uran emailed Clerk Plante questioning the regulations regarding replacement of their church sign since it is now being changed from Park Fellowship to Faith Journey Church. The church has not yet decided what type of sign, though it will remain the same size

and possibly be a canister style sign in order to be changeable. No further information regarding the sign size limit for the church was found by Clerk Plante. If the sign remains the same size, no variance or conditional use permit may be needed.

August Fine Reimbursement – The August fine reimbursement was \$53.32. Supv Heim received the resolution draft from Attorney Gilchrist approving a joint powers agreement on behalf of its prosecuting attorney. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-07 APPROVING THE STATE OF MINNESOTA JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH LESAUK TOWNSHIP ON BEHALF OF ITS PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Meeting Change Time – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CHANGE THE TOWNSHIP MEETING START TIME TO 6:30 P.M. BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 26TH, DUE TO THE COMMUNITY CENTER RETURNING TO ITS FALL HOURS OF OPERATION, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk