

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting
September 14, 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.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim and Jeff Westerlund, Treasurer Vikki Dullinger, Deputy Treasurer Sue Dullinger, and Clerk Marlyce Plante, plus 1 interested party. Deputy Clerk Mary-Barron Traut attended the meeting briefly. Supv Shawn Omann joined the meeting remotely.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING JOE LAHR BEAVER DAM ESTIMATE TO OLD BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Krista Braun – Tech Check – Ms. Braun discussed with the Town Board technical equipment, such as audio enhancement, they could provide for future township meetings held when meeting attendees are virtual. It was the consensus of the board to have Ms. Braun attend the next Joint Planning Board and Township Meetings, to set up video & sound equipment for demonstration.

The Town Board also discussed the need to upgrade town board members laptops & surfaces to accommodate the upgraded video & audio equipment.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: None

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED, THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 24, 2021 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: No Report.

TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Dullinger reported the townships fund balance is \$649,515.24.

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

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6891.90 (CHECK #13639 THRU 13650 PLUS EFT'S 201 & 202), MOTION SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Josh Skinner of Guardian Lawn Care – Mr. Skinner contacted Supv Westerlund informing him his insurance agent will provide his Certificate of Insurance for tree trimming in the township. He plans to do the trimming on October 2 and possibly October 3rd if he does not complete it. Supv Westerlund has personally spoken with all residents on 17th St. No. (Udermann area) except Mark Traut. Clerk Plante will send a letter to the 17th Street residents informing them of the upcoming tree trimming date.

Stearns County Township Officers Meeting in Freeport – Supv Westerlund plans to attend the meeting which is being held on September 16th.

Area Planning Organization (APO) Meeting – Supv Westerlund attended the APO held on September 9th. The APO consists of representatives from surrounding area jurisdictions. The Chairman for the APO is Joe Perske, who discussed the various road projects within the county. Mr. Perske & Brian Gibson, APO Director, will not be going to Washington D.C. this year.

Dan Heim –

Dave Pogatschnik, 3996 Riviera Road, Sartell – Supv Heim received a call from Mr. Pogatschnik questioning septic system installation. Supv Heim gave him the contact information for Stearns County Environmental Services.

Scott Saehr – U-1 to R-1 Rezoning – Supv Heim held a virtual meeting with Mr. Saehr, City of Sartell Assistant Planner, at which they discussed the parcels in the township that should be rezoned from U-1 (Urban Service District) to R-1 (Town Residential District). Mr. Saehr contacted Stephen Gritman, Northwest Associate Consultants, to draft the necessary resolutions etc. to hold the public hearing on 9-28-21.

River Oaks Lane – Supv Heim also spoke with Mr. Saehr regarding the annexation of two more properties on River Oaks Lane. He also discussed the possibility of the City of Sartell taking over the jurisdiction of River Oaks Lane since there will now be only two township property owners remaining on River Oaks Lane. Mr. Saehr stated they would take over the road.

Ferche 40-Acre Parcel Split – Supv Heim reported he has spoken with Scott Saehr, City of Sartell Assistant City Administrator, regarding a 40-acre parcel the Ferche Family Limited Partnership own near Baker Lake could be split into two 20-acre parcels. .

Joint Planning Board Communication – Supv Heim noted the City of Sartell Joint Planning Board members will continue to attend the Joint Planning Board meetings virtually. Knowing that, changes are needed to have a better sound and video communication during the meetings. Ms. Braun of Tech Check, spoke earlier in the meeting and she will demonstrate possible solutions at the September JPB meeting.

Melissa Wolf – Midco – Supv Heim has emailed Ms. Wolf of Midco Internet, but he has not heard back. Midco Internet is being contacted to see if what areas of the township may have poor internet access.

Marilyn Skurdahl, 32130 County Road 1 – Garage Damage – Supv Heim was contacted by Courtney of ServPro, questioning whether the Skurdahl's existing garage that was damaged in an automobile accident, could be rebuilt. Supv Heim informed her after researching the information, the garage would be grandfathered in and could be rebuilt at the same location and must remain the same size.

Ferber properties on River Oaks Lane – The Ferber properties located on River Oaks Lane, have been annexed to the City of Sartell. The Sartell Police have been given the authority to go into the structures located on the property at any time for one year. This authority has been given to them in order to continually check whether vagrants may be inhabiting the structures located on the parcels.

Shawn Omann –

17th Street Grading – Supv Omann spoke with ASTECH regarding the grading of 17th St. No (Udermann area). He was informed the equipment to grade the road is out of the area for at least the next 3 weeks. He

also spoke with Joe Lahr, who could grade the road within the week at \$175 per hour. Supv Omann gave permission to Mr. Lahr to go ahead and grade 17th St. No. (Udermann area).

Beaver Dam Removal – Supv Omann discussed with Joe Lahr the cost of removing the beaver dam located by the bridge on 30th Ave. Approximate cost will be between \$600-900. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE JOE LAHR REMOVE THE BEAVER DAM, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Ed Traut – Platting Questions – Mr. Traut again spoke with Supv Omann regarding platting of property. Supv Omann provided Mr. Traut with information regarding minimum lot size, surveying the property etc. He also suggested Mr. Traut attend a meeting to discuss his plans with the entire Town Board. Supv Omann also told Mr. Traut the township may consider building a new town hall in an area he would plat.

Mary Sakry, Conditional Use Permit Application – Supv Omann worked with Ms. Sakry who is applying for a conditional use permit to build a post-frame/pole-type accessory building on her property. She has completed the application and paid the necessary public hearing fee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – The Town Board briefly discussed the possibility of the Ed Traut property if they decide to plat their property located on Pinecone Road.

Zander Property Clean Up – No response to meeting invite.

Thomas Property Clean Up – No progress on clean-up.

America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Discussion was held earlier in the meeting to use some of the available ARPA funds for upgrading video & audio equipment, along with new laptops & surfaces for board members to accommodate the video & audio.

Tree Trimming Bids – Discussed earlier – Josh Skinner of Guardian Lawn Care plans to do the township tree trimming on October 2nd and October 3rd, if needed.

Beaver Dam – Discussed earlier in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

ASTECH Snow Plowing Bid for 2021-2022 – The Board reviewed the bid presented by ASTECH for the upcoming snow season. It is noted there is an approximate \$7 to \$8 increase for all the types of equipment used for snow removal. There is also a cost increase for the salt/sand mixture.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT AND APPROVE THE 2021-2022 SNOW PLOWING BID PRESENTED BY ASTECH, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Chairman Heim will sign the bid proposal and email it to ASTECH.

Smart Salting Training Sessions – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will be holding training sessions for smart salting procedures. No action taken.

SEPTEMBER ROAD REPORT: Clerk Plante noted for the upcoming September Road report, to view the Steve Loehlein property area where he has asked to have some trees trimmed.

CLERK CORRESPONDENCE:

Water Testing – Clerk Plante reported there was a huge turnout for the Free Nitrate Water/Well testing by Central Minnesota Water Education & Alliance. Results will be emailed to participating property owners.

Empire Solar Group Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Notice – Clerk Plante has received notification the Empire Solar Group has filed for Chapter 7 Bankruptcy.

Stearns County Township Association Meeting – The Stearns County Township Association Meeting will be held in Freeport on Thursday, September 16, 2021. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ALLOW TOWN BOARD MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE STEARNS COUNTY TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION MEETING AT THE REGULAR RATE OF PAY, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

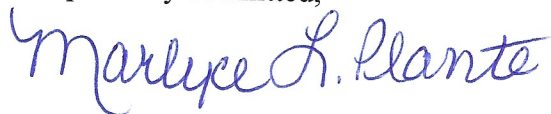
Township Road Mileage Certification – Chris Scepaniak, Stearns County Highway Department, is requesting all townships to certify their road miles. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CERTIFY THE TOWNSHIP ROAD MILEAGE AT 25.0 MILES, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ARPA Application & Training Sessions – Information on upcoming application & training sessions on the ARPA (America Rescue Plan Act) funds are being provided by Minnesota Association of Townships.

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