

LeSauk Township Regular Meeting
September 28, 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, Shawn Omann and Jeff Westerlund, Treasurer Vikki Dullinger, Clerk Marlyce Plante, plus 10 interested parties.

AGENDA APPROVAL: SUPV OMANN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Shawn Widmer, Stearns County Patrol Sergeant – Patrol Sergeant Widmer joined the township meeting remotely to report the sheriff's department calls in LeSauk Township. He stated in June, July & August of 2021, there were 254 calls in the township. 48 of the calls were traffic related, while others were call assists, medical assists, domestic assaults, stolen property etc. The sheriff's office has been making regular checks of the Peter Ferber property located on River Oaks Lane. The property has been boarded up and he reported that many of the previous residents have moved on to areas in Cold Spring & Fair Haven.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Paul Clark, 3106 Riviera Road – Site Plan – Mr. Clark had presented his site plan at the preceding Joint Planning Board meeting. He plans to replace his existing deck & lower-level patio plus add a small patio near the river. The Joint Planning Board recommended approval.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVAL THE SITE PLAN PRESENTED BY PAUL CLARK, 3106 RIVIERA ROAD, REPLACING THE EXISTING DECK AND THE LOWER LEVEL PATIO AND ADD AN ADDITIONAL 10 FT x 20 FT PATIO LOCATED A MINIMUM OF 20 FEET FROM THE RIVER, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Mr. Clark had also completed a shoreland permit application. The Town Board discussed whether a resolution is needed for the shoreland permit. Supv Heim contacted Attorney Troy Gilchrist who stated a resolution would not be needed. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SHORELAND PERMIT FOR PAUL CLARK, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Mary Sakry, 2668 Winnebago Road – Conditional Use Permit for Post-Frame/Pole Accessory Bldg.

The public hearing for Mary Sakry's conditional use permit to construct a post-frame/pole accessory building was held during the preceding Joint Planning Board meeting. The board discussed the additional condition that all lighting shall not be directed to surrounding neighbor's property.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-22, ALLOWING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A POST FRAME ACCESSORY BUILDING BY MARY SAKRY, 2668 WINNEBAGO ROAD WITH THE ADDITIONAL CONDITION THAT ALL LIGHTING ON OR BY THE BUILDING SHALL NOT BE DIRECTED TO SURROUNDING NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTIES, SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Supv Heim will email David Barsody, township building inspector, regarding the approval of the conditional use permit for the post-frame building applied for by Mary Sakry.

Steve Loehlein, 6204 322nd Street – Tree Trimming, Drainage on 61st Ave & Misc. Vehicles in area

Mr. Loehlein lives adjacent to a parcel that is an easement and owned by LeSauk Township. A tree on the easement is in need of trimming and he had asked whether he could trim it. The Town Board informed him the trimming must be done by a town board member or a company that has the adequate liability insurance. Mr. Loehlein was fine with that and just was suggesting the lower branches be trimmed. A township supervisor will view the tree during their October Road inspection.

Mr. Loehlein also had two other concerns; poor drainage onto 61st Ave after a rain fall and parcel owners in the Pleasant Dale Addition who have vehicles on their parcels which are not currently licensed or abandoned. The Town Board told him they would also view these concerns during the October Road inspection.

Krista Braun – Tech Check Equipment Presentation – Ms. Braun, a representative from Tech Check, explained the video & audio equipment she set up for the Joint Planning Board & Township meetings this evening. The equipment included a 65-inch TV monitor, 2 blue tooth microphones, a sound bar which has 8 speakers within it and an eye lens to follow who is speaking. All of the items are on a movable cart. She stated the approximate cost for the equipment used this evening was \$6000.00. She will send an exact proposal plus a separate proposal for 6 laptops for town board members. These items will allow for ease of both the joint planning board & township meetings with people attending remotely.

MINUTES:

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED, THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT: No report.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: Building Inspector David Barsody contacted Supv Heim regarding the site plan for the Sakry pole building. Supv Heim will email him the updated information from this evening's meeting.

TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Dullinger reported she received reimbursement for the 2019 3rd quarter taxes she had ran twice. The refund was for \$824.08.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,774.96 (CHECK #13651 THRU 13658), MOTION SECOND BY SUPV OMANN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Cindy Meyer, 1309 County Road 120 – Ms. Meyer contacted Supv Westerlund regarding excess abandoned items & vehicles at the Christopher Freeman parcel located at 1305 County Road 120. This will be viewed at the next monthly road inspection.

Gloria Zander, 271 27th St. No. – Property Clean-Up – Supv Westerlund met with Ms. Zander to view areas of the Zander property that has abandoned vehicles. Supv Westerlund reported the front of the Zander property looks good, two trucks in the back are not licensed as well as a camper. A white Chevy Colorado truck will be licensed by November 1st. Ms. Zander stated she hopes to have the damaged trucks that are unlicensed removed by December 1st. Supv Westerlund will view the area when these dates approach.

Stearns County Township Officers Meeting in Freeport – Supv Westerlund attending the Stearns County Township Officers Meeting in Freeport at which they discussed at length the ARPA funds that are available to townships. He asked whether our township meets the lost revenue allowed, assuming the 4% growth rate from year to year. Clerk Plante will look into whether the township would qualify for it and report at the 2nd meeting in Oct.

Well Testing Project – Supv Westerlund reported the CMWEA Well Testing project was a success with approximately 380 samples brought in. Since there was a reported 30–40-minute wait for results, residents were given the option of receiving the results via email.

Dan Heim –

Mark Traut, 2698 17th St. No. – Supv Heim received a call from Mr. Traut who asked that none of the oak trees be cut or trimmed on his property located on 17th St.

Cindie McCutcheon with ReSpec – Supv Heim was forwarded an email from Clerk Plante received from Ms. McCutcheon of ReSpec, which is a data collection engineering firm. Ms. McCutcheon requested copies of the shapefiles/zoning maps of LeSauk Township. Supv Heim contacted Derek Erickson of Stantec who after permission from Supv Heim, sent the files to Ms. McCutcheon.

Kurt Durrwachter, 2489 35th St. No. – Accessory Building – Mr. Durrwachter contacted Supv Heim questioning his parcel's zoning and constructing another accessory building. Supv Heim informed him he is zoned RO-10 (Residential Overlay – 10) and allowed one accessory building unless he would apply for a conditional use permit to construct another building. The Durrwachter's already have one accessory building that is 30 ft X 40 ft.

Chandler Cummerford, 35th St. No. – Mr. Cummerford contacted Supv Heim with questions on a parcel located on 35th St. No. He questioned where a buildable site would be located and whether he would be able to have a lawn care business on the property. Supv Heim provided him with Stearns County contact information regarding the wetland area on this site and also informed him he would not be able to have a lawn care business at this location without going through a conditional use permit process.

Brian Fasen, 484 30th Ave. No., - Mr. Fasen contacted Supv Heim with questions regarding the placement of an in-ground swimming pool on his property. Supv Heim stated he would need to go through the process of a variance and shoreland permits since his property is located on the Watab Creek. Mr. Fasen will contact him if he decides to go ahead with the project.

Melissa Wolf – Midco Communications – Supv Heim received an email from Ms. Wolf regarding the availability of broadband in LeSauk township. She stated the area is not underserved with Charter & Spectrum also available. Supv Heim asked that her company review the 35th Street area south of 40th Street and Pinecone Road – east on 27th Street specifically. She stated she would have the Midco team view those areas and report back to him.

Scott Saehr – OAA – Supv Heim reported he has been in discussions with Scott Saehr, City of Sartell's Assistant City Administrator regarding the clarification of whether it is 300 feet or 100 feet of city services which would trigger annexation of township properties to the city.

Storage Link Acreage – Supv Heim noted that in the city of Sartell's agenda information the acreage that Storage Link plans to split off from the Lodermeier property is 11.55 acres versus the 10 acres that was originally discussed.

Shawn Omann –

Joe Lahr – Beaver Dam Removal – Supv Omann reported that Mr. Lahr has removed the beaver dam and subsequent invoice was sent for \$800.

Mary Sakry – Builder – Ms. Sakry contacted Supv Omann stating she had a builder for her accessory building, but he is not unable to do it. Supv Omann informed her she has 12 months to begin the project and asked that she communicate with the township if an extension is needed.

Ed Traut – Platting Information – Mr. Traut contacted Supv Omann who thanked him for the information he had sent to him regarding the process of platting. Mr. Traut will get back to Supv Omann when a decision has been made.

Kamco – Road Projects – Supv Omann has been in contact with Ken Tormanen of Kamco regarding the progress of the township road projects – 30th Avenue has been worked on, but is not completed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – No further information at this time.

Zander Property Clean Up – Supv Westerlund reported on earlier in the meeting.

Thomas Property Clean Up – No progress has been made on the clean-up of the Thomas property. Clerk Plante was asked to send a letter to both Shirley Thomas & Ted Thomas requesting they attend the meeting on October 12th.

America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Discussion was held on whether other proposals should be attained for video & audio equipment for meetings, as well as for the purchase of laptops for town board members. It was the consensus of the Town Board to have another proposal by Windahl Technology. Treasurer Dullinger will contact them.

Tree Trimming – Supv Westerlund will get bids for trimming near the Loehlein property in the Pleasant Dale Addition and the elm trees located on 30th Street entering the Via Rivera Addition.

SEPTEMBER ROAD REPORT:

Supv Heim reviewed his road inspection report of the township roads. The majority of roads in the township are in good driving condition. He reported the City of Sartell will be taking over River Oaks Lane since a business development is proposed for the area and multiple parcels have annexed to the city of Sartell with only two parcels remaining in the township.

Two parcels in the township have multiple abandoned vehicles & property located on them. Clerk Plante was asked to send letters to Wayne Rosenow, 2734 Riverside Ave. No., and Bruce & Wendy Theisen, 140 County Road 120. Clerk Plante will mail a letter to both property owners requesting they attend the October 12th township meeting to discuss the clean-up of their property.

CLERK CORRESPONDENCE:

File Organizer – Clerk Plante reported she had ordered a file organizer for township correspondence without approval by the Town Board. Cost of the organizer was \$25.70. She will pay for it herself if not approved, but with so many items now at her home due to not having a town hall, she decided to go ahead and order it. It was the consensus of the Town Board to allow the purchase.

Joan Eisenbacher, 365 Pine Ridge Road – Adult Daycare – Ms. Eisenbacher contacted Clerk Plante questioning whether she would be able to have an adult daycare at her home located in the Bon Homie Valley Addition. She stated she would be taking care of mentally challenged adults during the day for families. She would not have more than two per day. Supv Heim viewed the township regulations which allows a daycare facility in a residential area. Clerk Plante will contact her with the information.

Pleasant Dale Addition Phone Calls – Clerk Plante received several calls questioning the public hearing that was held earlier this evening regarding the rezoning of the Pleasant Dale area from U-1 (Urban Service District) to R-1 (Town Residential District).

Orderly Annexation Agreement – Clerk Plante received requests from LaVerne Dehler and Doug & Donna Novak for a copy of the newly signed orderly annexation agreement.

Fine Reimbursement – The fine reimbursement for the month of August was \$306.63

October 12th Township Meeting – Clerk Plante informed the Town Board that Deputy Clerk Mary Barron-Traut will be taking minutes for the 10-12-21 township meeting since she will be out of the area during that time.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyce L. Plante

Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk