

**LESAUK TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING**  
**March 10, 2020**

Clerk Marlyce Plante called the Annual Meeting of the Township of LeSauk to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall in the City of Sartell with 17 people present.

Clerk Plante opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. She asked the residents in attendance to sign the attendance sheet. She stated there were agendas & Annual Reports for residents if they chose to pick one up. The residents were also told that individual monthly expenditure and revenue reports for 2019 were posted on the wall for residents to review.

Clerk Plante called for nominations for a moderator for the meeting. Dan Heim nominated Benno Kuhl as moderator for the annual meeting, second by Mary Barron Traut, upon vote being taken, Benno Kuhl was unanimously voted in as the moderator for the 2020 Annual LeSauk Town Meeting.

**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED**

**READING OF MINUTES OF 2019 ANNUAL MEETING**

KATHY RASMUSSEN MOTIONED TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, SECOND BY SHAWN OMANN, MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**REGULAR BOARD MINUTES FOR 2019**

KURT RASMUSSEN MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS WRITTEN THE REGULAR BOARD MINUTES OF 2019, SECOND BY ADOLPH LANGE, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**TREASURER'S REPORT OF 2019 – READING OF REPORT OF AUDIT & MOTION**

Treasurer Vikki Dullinger reported the ending balance of the township's treasury is \$341,276.42 which is roughly \$190,000 lower than 2018, but two large road projects, 40<sup>th</sup> Street and Pinecone Road, were both paid for during 2019. She stated the road & bridge fund sees the most expenses in the township, spending over \$408,000 during 2019. This amount included the two large road projects, blow-patching & crack filling of township roads plus snow plowing.

**Benno Kuhl, 348 Pine Ridge Road, Sartell** – Mr. Kuhl questioned whether there is any area she sees with upcoming significant expenses for the township. Treasurer Dullinger stated there will be expenses relating to snowplowing in 2020. Snowplowing and sanding areas due to a significant snowfall & subsequent ice storm in late November & December of 2019 had to be done the first part of 2020. Snowplowing & sanding can be very expensive and funds should be maintained in the township budget for that purpose.

MARY BARRON TRAUT MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS WRITTEN THE TREASURERS REPORT FOR 2019, SECOND BY KATHY RASMUSSEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**LEVY FOR 2021 – SUPERVISORS ESTIMATE OF FUNDS FOR ENSUING YEAR**

Dan Heim, Supervisor on the Town Board, informed the township residents present, last year the levy was increased from \$290,000 to \$350,000 due to the 40<sup>th</sup> Street & Pinecone Road resurfacing projects. The road project planned for this year is 35<sup>th</sup> Street. An estimate to reclaim and resurface the 1-mile roadway, was received during 2019 at an approximate cost of \$235,000. Currently the township board has authorized boring tests to be done on 35<sup>th</sup> Street. Supv Omann did state that if

anything would be done to improve 35<sup>th</sup> Street, it would only be to reclaim & resurface the present road. To widen or add wider shoulders to the road, would involve getting permits from wetland agencies which would increase the cost of the project tremendously.

He also discussed the current situation with 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue which is in poor condition, but also involves 5 jurisdictions, who all need to be a part of trying to get funding to reconstruct the road. Even with just reclaiming & resurfacing 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the cost is extensive and the township could not afford to do their 2-mile portion without help from outside funding.

**Lloyd Traut, 1315 Southbridge Ave. No., Sartell** – Mr. Traut questioned whether the township could replace the culvert at the intersection of 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue & 35<sup>th</sup> Street. He was informed this particular culvert is located in the St. Wendel Township portion.

**Kathy Rasmussen, 389 Pine Ridge Road, Sartell** – Ms. Rasmussen stated she is very confident the town board is spending the levy money wisely and is in favor of keeping the levy at \$350,000.

ADOLPH LANGE MOTIONED TO SET THE 2021 LEVY AT \$350,000 AND ALLOW THE SEPARATION OF FUNDS UP TO THE DISCRETION OF THE TOWN BOARD, SECOND BY LLOYD TRAUT, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **TRI-REC PROGRAM/SARTELL SUMMER REC PROGRAM**

District 748 Community Education Director, Kristine O'Brien discussed the move and partnership between the Community Education Department and the city of Sartell. The Community Education Department has been in the Sartell Community Center for a year and even though they are the coordinators of the summer recreation & community education programs, they all feel they are there to promote the use of the new Sartell Community Center.

She stated their summer registrants numbered 2369 students. Aquatics & soccer are their most popular programs. Overall number of participants was 4038 which would include classes for seniors & young adults. She urged everyone to come and check out the many activities at the community center. Last year, LeSauk Township contributed \$3,000.

KATHY RASMUSSEN MOTIONED TO CONTRIBUTE THE DONATION OF \$3000 TO THE SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM BY LESAUK TOWNSHIP FOR 2020, SECOND BY DEREK HENTGES, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Supv Shawn Omann has been appointed the townships representative on the Summer Recreation Program/Community Education Advisory Program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**2021 Annual Meeting** – KURT RASMUSSEN MOTIONED TO SET THE TIME OF THE ANNUAL MEETING IN 2021 TO BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M., SECOND BY MARY BARRON TRAUT, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**LeSauk/Sartell Government Center** – This was placed on the agenda to keep township residents informed of where the Town Board is in the process of whether a new town hall should be built or whether they should lease an area for future meetings.

Supv Heim stated at the present time, the government center building has not been placed on the

market. If it is sold at the assessed value of \$585,000, the township would receive 40% of the sale price since that is the portion the township owns. The town board has contacted property owners, but the value of land is very high. Township engineer, David Blommel, did a cost estimate for the Town Board last year for a 3000 square foot building, which came in at \$400,000 and included a \$20,000 price for land purchase.

**Adolph Lange, 1771 Riverside Ave. No., Sartell** – Mr. Lange stated it would be too costly to build when we don't know if there will be a township in the next 10-15 years. He was not in favor of a new town hall/building.

**Mary Barron Traut, 3872 Pinecone Road, Sartell** – Ms. Traut felt it would be a better option to rent or lease a space for township meetings etc.

**Shawn Christen, 2255 Riverside Ave. No., Sartell** – Mr. Christen is also in favor of renting or leasing a space and suggested looking into the former Wells Fargo site located on Pinecone Road.

**Ken Heim, 201 Heritage Drive, Sartell** – Mr. Heim suggested contacting Dean Wick who is currently building a town hall in southern Minnesota. He felt the township would not be able to construct a new town hall for \$400,000 with all of the regulations in place, plus all of the costs to maintain a building. He stated it would be more feasible to lease space that would accommodate meetings, elections, an office area plus storage for township signs & various equipment. Mr. Heim suggested contacting the owner of strip mall in Sartell, where the former bank was located, to check the cost of renting that particular space.

**Shawn Christen, 2255 Riverside Ave. No., Sartell** – Mr. Christen also felt a new town hall is not needed and suggested the town board not rush into anything.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Fire Department Update** – Fire Chief Jim Sattler provided a report of the fire calls during 2019. He was unable to attend the meeting. Clerk Plante read the report – there were 18 fire calls in the township with an estimated loss of structures of \$635,000. This included a structure fire in Bonhomie Valley which was a total loss. The fire department had 4 mutual aid calls and there were 169 fire calls in the city of Sartell. These include calls such as false alarms, service calls, traffic accidents and various other calls.

The new safety complex is scheduled to be completed in late June-July of 2020 at which time the fire department personnel will move to the new building along with all trucks, equipment etc. Ken Heim, township resident and former fire chief, thought the present building may be used for storage of maintenance vehicles until it was sold.

**Township Clean Up Day** – The Annual Township Clean Up Day has been set for one day only on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The township is contracting with Opatz Metals and Roll-Offs this year. All township residents can view the items they can bring for a fee on the township website. Opatz Roll-Offs will be providing a dumpster for regular trash and another for iron.

Also available, will be gloves, bags and vests for residents to clean up township ditches. If anyone would like to receive these items, they can contact a Town Board member.

**Zoning & Sub-Division Regulations Draft – Public Hearing** – Township residents recently received a postcard informing them of the upcoming public hearing regarding the updated zoning & sub-division regulations and zoning district changes. The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Supv Dan Heim stated if anyone would like a copy of the ordinances & regulations, several were on hand or they can be read on line on the township website. There is also a map of the new zoning districts on the website and here at the town hall.

Supv Dan Heim gave a brief timeline of when the revision of the zoning ordinances and sub-division regulations began and the work that has gone into revising them. The ordinances and regulations have not been updated since 1992 and needed revision to meet today's new statutes. Also being revised are the Joint Planning Board Agreement and Orderly Annexation Agreement. These will not be revised immediately, but need to be done.

There being no further business, KATHY RASMUSSEN MOTIONED TO ADJOURN THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING, SECOND BY ADOLPH LANGE, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marlyce L. Plante (s)*

Marlyce L. Plante  
LeSauk Township Clerk

*Benno Kuhl (s)*

Benno Kuhl  
Annual Meeting Moderator