

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – Sartell Community Center – Liberty Rm
June 11, 2024

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, Deputy Clerk Mary Barron-Traut and 9 interested parties.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING 17TH STREET NORTH RESIDENTS, SHARON & EDWARD EMSLANDER, MARK & JACKIE TRAUT AND STEVE HENGEL TO BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR WITH ALEX, JOHN & MARY LOU UDERMANN, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM: No open forum items

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

17th Street North (Udermann Area) – Alex Udermann asked to be placed on the agenda along with his father and mother, John & Mary Lou Udermann, to discuss 17th Street North.

Alex Udermann presented the Town Board with a letter signed by residents that live on 17th Street; Tom & Cindy Fish, John & Mary Lou Udermann, Alex & Kirsten Udermann, Mark & Jackie Traut, Edward & Sharon Emslander, Eric Emslander & Steven Hengel. The letter stated that Meadowbrook Dairy Inc (Udermann family) had purchased a blade for their tractor to grade 17th Street and had graded the road due to a number of potholes on the road at a cost of \$450. The letter further stated that grading to maintain the road in a proper condition would be billed to the township at \$225 per grading and this letter would serve as an invoice to the township for payment. The Udermann's requested the town board approve the hiring of Meadowbrook Dairy to keep the road in proper shape until 17th Street gets repaved with asphalt with the agreement that 17th Street will be the next road to pave after the town line road (30th Avenue) is reconstructed and overlaid. The residents in attendance all stated they have dealt with the poor condition of 17th Street long enough. The black top was removed, ground up then relayed years ago, relayed on the road and the road has not been properly maintained for many years.

Supv Heim spoke on behalf of the Town Board informing the Udermann's that road maintenance on 17th Street should only be done by approval of the Town Board and by someone who has current liability insurance and has been contracted by the township. He will discuss this with the township attorney. He also informed the residents the township had received an estimate from ASTECH Inc., and discussed it at the prior township meeting to place 250 tons of crushed Class 5 material on 17th Street plus grade and crown the road for \$7605.00. It was not approved since it was the board's consensus to get another estimate from Bertram Asphalt, which he has not received yet. He did state, however, that he spoke to Lance of ASTECH about the bid and Lance thought the road may need up to 350 tons of Class 5.

Residents of 17th Street spoke and shared the following:

John Udermann, 2611 17th Street – Mr. Udermann stated he is tired of taking the “blame” for the condition of the road due to his heavy farm equipment on the road as stated in recent township minutes. He said he uses heavy equipment on the road approximately 3 times per year.

Steve Hengel, 2850 17th Street – Mr. Hengel questioned whether 17th Street could be added onto the upcoming town line road/30th Avenue Road project. Supv Heim informed him it could not be – the state and federal money the townships are receiving to reconstruct town line road is strictly for that road as

stated in all the applications for the funds that have been received.

Mark Traut, 17th Street – Mr. Traut stated the crushed class 5 placement would be a short-term fix and the residents have waited a long time for replacement of the asphalt that was on the road. He also said more attention should be given to the road than what has been done in the past years. Mr. Traut questioned if the bid from ASTECH is approved, when will the work be completed. He has an auction scheduled at his property on June 22nd and it would be nice to have it done prior to that day.

Edward & Sharon Emslander, 2762 17th Street – The Emslander's both reiterated their frustration in the maintenance of the road since there are 8 residences located on the road and grading the road just twice a year is not sufficient.

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE ASTECH INC. BID TO PLACE 250 TONS OF CLASS 5 ON 17TH STREET (WEST SIDE), BLADE AND CROWN THE ROAD FOR \$7605.00 COMPLETED THE PROJECT PRIOR TO JUNE 22ND, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Supv Heim will contact ASTECH immediately on Wednesday in order for the work to be completed.

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 28, 2024 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Orderly Annexation Agreement w/St. Cloud – Supv Heim reported that Attorney Gilchrist is working on the draft for the orderly annexation with St. Cloud for township properties south of County Road 120. This has been prompted by the future reconstruction of County Road 1 and the fact that Sartell cannot accommodate city services should township residents in this area need city services in the future. He also received an email from Atty Kirsten Luchen, Assistant City Attorney for St. Cloud, informing him she has found no record stating the Foley/321st Street township residents cannot be annexed to St. Cloud for 100 years as stated by residents on Foley/321st Street.

Zander Summons – Supv Heim reported that he received an email from Attorney Bob Alsop regarding the Zander Summons & Complaint. Supv Heim also received an email a neighbor that 3 new loads of junk which included a camper, had been brought onto the Zander property. Supv Heim had pictures and videos of the Zander abandoned property and vehicles. Atty Alsop will draft the abatement letter to the Zanders allowing them to July 31st to clean up the property after which time the township will step in to remove the abandoned property and vehicles.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT:

Derek Kiffmeyer, 2607 7th Ave. No. – Sidewalk & Concrete Removal – Mr. Kiffmeyer would like to remove his current sidewalk and pour a new concrete slab. Supv Heim has not received a site plan yet for approval.

James Anderson, Mechanical Permit Reimbursement – Supv Heim questioned Treasurer Bentley whether the reimbursement of \$75 had been completed yet. Treasurer Bentley stated it is this evening checks for signing and reimbursement.

Former Struffert Property- 2051 1st Street North - Remodel – Kari Haakonson, Sartell Project Planner, contacted Supv Heim questioning whether a building permit had recently been issued to remodel the former township property owned by Dale Struffert and is now owned by Amy Legatt. Supv Heim contacted David Barsody, the township building inspector. Mr. Barsody has been the township building

inspector since 2011 and he has no record of issuing any building permit at this address. The property is now in the city of Sartell.

MAY TREASURERS REPORT & CLAIM VOUCHER PAYMENTS:

Treasurer Bentley reviewed the May Treasurers report with the Town Board, noting how he recorded the townships' matured CD along with the interest of \$17,949.67 it had made and then split it into two new Certificate of Deposit's for 9 month and a 12 month. The ending balance in township funds is \$917,181.25. June real estate settlement should be received in mid-June. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MAY TREASURERS REPORT AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Claim Voucher/Invoices - Treasurer Bentley presented checks & EFTs for payment to the board. Invoices totaled just over \$22,000 with the largest invoice being \$16,500.00 to Bertram Asphalt for the blow patching of township roads.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,200.96 (CHECK #14253 THRU #14263 PLUS EFT'S 286 & 287), SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

George Fedor, 2152 Riverside Ave – Car in Ditch - Supv Westerlund received a call from Mr. Fedor informing him there was a car in the ditch on his property. Supv Westerlund informed him to contact Stearns County since he is located on County Road 1 and it would be handled by the county.

MS4 Permit Audit – Supv Westerlund reported on the upcoming MS4 Permit Audit. Ken Zeke, MPCA representative, would like to meet with the Town Board. Supv Westerlund had contacted Clerk Plante of the date that was suggested, July 2nd. Clerk Plante has arranged with the community center for the reservation of a meeting room on July 2nd from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. From 10 a.m. to Noon, Wayne Cymbulak of CMWEA, would like to meet with the board to discuss possible questions Mr. Zeke may have for the town board.

Dan Heim –

Mark Traut, 17th Street North – Mr. Traut had contacted Supv Heim regarding his upcoming auction. He spoke earlier in the meeting regarding 17th Street North's condition and possible repair prior to his auction on June 22nd.

Mark Skudlarek – Mr. Skudlarek contacted Supv Heim regarding the town line road projects planned start date. Supv Heim provided him with the information.

322nd Street Road Project Contract – Supv Heim signed the 322nd Street contract with the original of the contract being sent to the city of St. Cloud. The upcoming assessment hearing for the project is being held on June 24th. Clerk Plante will send the notice to the 4 township residents on 322nd Street, but will also inform them they are not being assessed for the road repair project.

Stephen Hobb's, 1392 Riverside Ave – Remodel of house - The Hobb's septic system has been recertified and they can continue with their remodeling project in their home without having to annex to the city of Sartell. The Hobb's want to raise the walls of their home as part of a remodeling project on their home. Since the Hobb's home is within shoreland, Supv Heim had Stephen Grittmann view the property. Mr. Grittmann informed Supv Heim and the Hobb's they would not be able to raise the walls

since it will create a non-conforming building and no expansion could be done in the shoreland area. The Hobb's will leave the walls & height of the home as is.

Bertram Asphalt Blow Patching Project – Bertram Asphalt blow patched Pine Ridge Road in the Bon Homie Valley Addition with the 3rd load of blow patch material, but did not blow patch the extending streets; Spruce, Snail, Stork and Spider. Another load will be brought on Friday, June 14th, for completion of blow patching. Supv Heim will email them to finish Bon Homie Valley Addition.

Town Line Road/30th Avenue Road Project – Supv Heim had a Teams meeting regarding the Town Line Road/30th Avenue Road project. Several items were discussed, namely whether geo tech fabric should be used in areas of the road and receiving bids for approximately 1 mile of guard rail in areas of the road.

Peter Kedrowski, Sartell Fire Chief – Fire Contract Information – Fire Chief Kedrowski, provided Supv Heim with a red-lined updated fire protection agreement. The city of Sartell's finance director was able to put in the market value numbers of the township along with population, fire calls etc. to update the contract which has not been done since 2015. A meeting with the city of Sartell representatives and Fire Chief Kedrowski will be set up in the future. This will be placed on the agenda under old business.

Paul Wagner –

Deer Pick Up – Supv Wagner was contacted to pick up a dead deer on 30th Avenue, which he did and brought to the Traut farm for disposal.

Clerk Report –

Sartell Fire Response w/Roundabout Closure – Clerk Plante received an email, as well as Supv Heim, from City of Sartell Fire Chief Peter Kedrowski, regarding the fire department's agreement with the city of St. Cloud and Sauk Rapids to handle and answer fire calls from residents south of the County Road 1 and County Road 120 due to the roundabout closure.

MS4 Permit Materials Request – Wayne Cymbulak, Central Minnesota Water Enhancement Alliance, emailed Clerk Plante requesting materials for the upcoming MPCA Audit. She provided him with the necessary materials.

Cannabis Moratorium Public Hearing – Stearns County is holding a public hearing to place a moratorium regarding cannabis business in the county until ordinance regulations can be drafted and passed regarding the cannabis business.

Inclusive Playground Restroom Site & Plans – Stu Giffin, Sartell Lions, provided copies and plans for the inclusive playground restroom site. A representative from the Lions will attend the special meeting on Wednesday, June 12th, to discuss and present the plans to the town board.

MAT Township Officers Identification Cards – Clerk Plante received and distributed township officers' identification cards to town board members. These cards should be signed and used whenever and wherever a government worker discount would be available.

2023 State Demographers Report – Clerk Plante received the 2023 state demographers report which indicated the township households went from 571 to 569 in 2023 and population was down; 1478 from 1496.

Certificate of Insurance – Chuck Ertl – Chuck Ertl provided his certificate of insurance covering him when mowing township ditches and cutting brush within the township.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall – Clerk Plante provided information to the Town Board regarding a possible site for sale located on 4th Avenue near the old Town Hall. The site was suggested by Shawn Omann, former township

supervisor. No action was taken at this time.

Zander Property Clean-Up – Discussed under the attorney report.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – This property will be viewed by Supv Heim during his monthly road inspection and report at the next meeting.

Website Redesign – Clerk Plante has not received a reply from Brockway Township Clerk as of yet.

Solar Farm/Garden Presentation - Park Fund – Upcoming meeting will be on June 12th at 6 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante,
LeSauk Township Clerk