

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
July 13, 2023**

SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP TOWN HALL
20381 FAIRLAWN AVENUE, PRIOR LAKE, MN

Present:

Doug Berens - Supervisor
Melissa Hanson – Clerk

Lisa Quinn – Supervisor
Dave Johnson - Treasurer

Ted Kowalski - Supervisor
Sara Domer – Deputy Clerk

Also Present:

Matt Stordahl - Stantec

- 1) a) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kowalski at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.
- b) Changes to the agenda. Staff noted a change in speaker for item 3.b) to Alyssa Olson from Nathan Abney. Berens made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Quinn seconded. All in favor.

2) Public Commentary

- a) Christian Morkeberg, Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District (PLSLWD)-
 - i) Spring Lake
 - (1) Zebra mussels and milfoil were detected in 2022. With work by Spring Lake Association milfoil has been treated and was not detected during last survey of Spring Lake.
 - (2) Fish Lake Management Plan- Next update at September Board Meeting; land owner input meeting in October.
 - (3) Buck Lake Wetland – working with landowners on project approach and owner participation.
 - (a) Buck Lake- erosion concerns being reviewed, possible grant available to stabilize erosion.
 - ii) Conservation Easements- Quinn asked for recap from PLSLWD workshop.
 - (1) Troy Kuphal Scott Soil and Water Conservation District along with Joni Giese PLSLWD presented on issues of managing and enforcing conservation easement infractions. Morkeberg noted that generally there is collaboration with residents when there are infractions but if not resolved, the Board will discuss further about how to approach. Discussion regarding making easement signage more user friendly, particularly on residential property. PLSLWD will install new conservation easement signs for approximately \$10,000.
- b) John Gessner – 3091 Maple Drive- concern about his failing septic system.
 - i) Receiving letters from County about replacement and wants an alternative to mound system because the mound would make his backyard unusable.
 - ii) Contacted Prior Lake about annexation but with estimated cost of \$100,000 and unanimous agreement with neighbors, this is not feasible.
 - iii) Requesting help from the Board in getting a variance with Scott County.
 - iv) Given 3 years for compliance vs 10 years his neighbor was given.

- c) Doug Fontaine, 5780 Starview Lane – asked the Board to consider transferring a parcel of land in Starview that currently houses a tennis court but is no longer used by the homeowners. The homeowners pay taxes on the parcel. Fontaine stated that if the road had to be reconstructed in the future perhaps the parcel could help meet storm water requirements and asked the Board to consider timing for road replacement and use area as a pond. Stordahl noted this is in a low area and is approximately 1 acre and may be suitable but he would need to investigate. Fontaine noted there is another homeowner who may also be interested in storm water management. Staff suggested also checking with the county for grants for rain gardens.

3) Agenda Items

- a) Consent Agenda- Those items on the Board Agenda which are considered routine or non-controversial are included as part of the Consent Agenda. Unless a supervisor specifically requests that an item on the Consent Agenda be removed and considered separately, items on the Consent Agenda are considered under one motion, second and vote. Any item removed from the consent agenda shall be placed on the council agenda under Items Removed
 - i) Approval of June 8, 2023 Monthly Meeting Minutes.
 - ii) Approval of June 26, 2023 Planning Workshop Minutes.

Berens made a motion to approve consent agenda. Quinn seconded. All in favor.

- b) Regional Trail Corridor Master Planning Update- Alyssa Olson, County Park Planner and Patty Freeman, General Manager of Scott County Parks and Trails for Scott County shared the final trail corridor plan which anticipates connecting Cedar Lake to Doyle-Kennefick Regional Trail to Credit River Regional Park via a trail running along Mushtown Road. Identified in 2030 and 2040 comp plans. Draft plan will be out for 60 days for comment on August 14th. Presentation will posted will be posted on Spring Lake's website. Acquisitions are 5-20 years in the future.
 - i) Kowalski expressed concern over cost and maintenance.
 - ii) Fontaine expressed concern about who will use it as it is more suited for distance riders than families.
 - iii) Additional resident concern about crime from users on trail.
 - iv) Quinn supports plan for a trail but questioned purpose as trail length seems to serve transportation rather than recreational needs.
- c) Ben's Bay System's Update- Ben Rynda owner Advanced Septic Systems provided a summary of the last year of operations for Ben's Bay. No major concerns reported but one float needed to be replaced. The Board asked for an update on options for small lots with failing septic where standard systems are incompatible with regular use and enjoyment of property. Rynda stated alternative septic options require individual variances from the County which are granted only when no other options are available. The County will deny if a mound system can be utilized. Rynda suggested seeking changes to the County Ordinance in order to make the process more collaborative when alternative septic options are necessary. Rynda noted after much work and conversation, one home on John Deere Drive in Credit River was granted an alternative system recently. Staff to coordinate a meeting with Environmental Services, Spring Lake Township, Advanced Septic Systems Rep and Maple Drive residents to look at variance process and alternative system options.
- d) Request for Support for Second Driveway Variance at 1205 Butterfly Lane- Julie Westman, 1205 Butterfly Lane is requesting support for a variance for a 2nd driveway

- that does not meet the 2nd driveway criteria as 2.5 acres is required and her parcel is 1.95 acres. Westman expressed concern/hardship as driving over tanks if current driveways is used. Stordahl reviewed the area and is not concerned from an engineering perspective for traffic but driveway elevation would need to be carefully managed. The location of the shed could be tricky with the water flow impacting the shed itself, but it would not create a problem for their neighbor. Kowalski made a motion to approve the request for support for a second driveway variance at 1205 Butterfly Lane. Berens seconded. All in favor
- e) Request for Support for an Interim Use Permit (IUP) for Accessory Dwelling Unit at 17740 Panama Ave- Denis Koloshuk, on behalf of the homeowner, is requesting support for the issuance of an IUP to add a detached Accessory Dwelling Unit for a family member. The structure will have an approximate square footage of 1020, with a total habitable area within the allowable maximum of 800 square feet and is not more than 150ft from the principal building. Environmental Services notes the septic system will need to be reviewed. Stordahl reviewed road access and has no concern about traffic impacts. Berens made a motion to approve the request for support for an IUP for an ADU for a family member. Quinn seconded. All in favor
- f) ARPA Funding – Request for Support for payment of 2023 Fire Contract and Picnic Tables -Hanson explained that by the end of 2024 all ARPA funds (\$434,000) must be earmarked. Approximately \$136,000 for road maintenance (seal coating) was designated for funding in 2023 and with no major projects pending for 2024. Hanson requested utilizing \$294,753.00 for the 2023 fire contract and \$2,392 for ADA compliant picnic tables be funded with ARPA money. The remaining money, about \$2,000, could be used toward dust coating or audio equipment as the Board deems appropriate. Kowalski made a motion to approve the request for support for payment of 2023 fire contract and picnic tables. Quinn seconded. All in favor

4) **Engineer's Report**

Stordahl presented the July Engineer's Report.

- a) **Miscellaneous**
- Flag Trail Paving – McNamara Contracting has been awarded the project. The preconstruction meeting was held on June 1st, and they're planning to start the work in early July. Their submitted schedule shows the work to be completed in 2 weeks.
 - South Shore Drive Improvements – Bids were opened on June 7th and SM Hentges was the low bidder. The City of Prior Lake challenged the Township plan to forward the project costs at the time of annexation, therefore it was determined the Township would not take the financial risk moving forward with the project at this time. SM Hentges has been notified that the project has been cancelled. Letter will be sent to the residents about annexation in general and South Shore Drive project specifically.
 - 2023 Road Maintenance – Sealcoat work has been completed with striping work yet to be completed.
 - Dairy Lane & Hwy 282 – MnDOT is working with Scott County to prepare a cooperative agreement to pay for the needed road repairs.
- b) **Development**
- Orderly Annexation Agreement – A joint meeting is scheduled for August 2nd with the Township, Prior Lake, the CDA Board, and the County to

discuss zoning and annexation. Stordahl has requested additional pot hole filling for area. Kowalski noted that he and Hanson attended a premeeting to discuss issues of concern – 24.1, 24.2, services, rural development, road agreements.

- Developments –
 - Scenic Bay Estates – The base course paving has been completed and rough grading has been completed. Home construction has started on some of the lots. A project punchlist has been prepared and forwarded to the Developer.
 - Schieffer/Bassett Development Amazed Acres – The base course paving has been completed, and the storm sewer & pond construction is complete. The street signs need to be installed and the site will be ready for home construction. A project punchlist has been prepared and forwarded to the Developer. The Developer has stated that he would be agreeable to helping address the temporary cul-de-sac issue if an agreement can be reached regarding further reducing the project surety.
 - Vergus Estates South- Development has been reviewed and area looks good – recommend return of remaining escrow.
- GIS- information is being input with goal to have a demo at August meeting.

5) Road Report

- a) Some garbage (mattress) in the ditch will be picked up.
- b) 18144 Buck Lake Circle dead tree- Homeowner called regarding large dead tree in ROW. Estimate received and approved from Coles to remove the tree and stump in the amount of \$1775.
- c) Vergus Ash tree project- Estimate received from Ash Tree Treatments Plus in the amount of \$208 to mark all Ash trees and other dead trees to be removed. Estimated approved by Berens on 6/28. Next step is to request quotes for removal. Stordahl will lead process with a segmented approach to manage costs.
- d) South Shore Drive Mill and Overlay project- cancelled upon advice of attorney with unknown financial implications after 2024 annexation.

6) Town Hall and Parks Report

- a) Town Hall Audio discussion- Lavaliers were tested at the June meeting. Quinn noted she liked the lavalier but wanted to make sure that the system was expandable and to consider a Bluetooth option for use by renters. Discussion had regarding moving forward with town hall audio options. Board approved audio proposal with 7 lavaliers, 1 hand held microphone and speakers with Bluetooth connection option so long as access to equipment room is not necessary.
- b) Bottle Filler Follow up- Estimate received in the amount of \$2765 (including shipping) plus approximately \$1500 for install. Kowalski made a motion to approve up to \$5,000 for a bottle filler, with filter if possible. Berens seconded. All in favor.
- c) Fish Lake Park usage for dog training follow up-Discussion had about signage type/location. Board decided to leave signs as is but to provide letter to requesting resident granting permission to use training equipment when others are not around. Staff to contact Sheriff's department.

- d) Historical Society – requested \$500 donation. Board believes it is not the townships responsibility to donate on behalf of residents and denied request.
- e) Living Joy service project ideas- Paint shed, pull weeds in playground and in rocks around town hall.

7) Water Resources Report

- a) Quinn explained Spring Lake West is still a project of interest to PLSLWD and asked if Hentges would still consider collaborating after the initial business plan did not receive support. After brief discussion, Spring Lake Township Board continues to support the conversation but is uncertain of owner’s position.
- b) Spring Lake Association received a grant for fixing launch – timing still unknown.
- c) Quinn - WMO updates:
 - i) McMahan outlet grant transferred to SWCD.
 - ii) The SWCD will likely not reengage with the original LID but instead consider creating it’s own LID. It is still unknown how the taxing district will work.
 - iii) SWCD will choose from 3 proposed 90% plans costs ranging from \$300,000-\$900,000.
- d) Hanson attended a staff meeting regarding One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). Additional information to be forthcoming about how 1W1P impacts BWSR grants for metro area.

8) Treasurer’s Report

- a) Johnson presented the June, 2023 Treasurer’s Report. Income Statement provided for review. In June total receipts were \$639,398, total disbursements were \$20,860.42, and the ending cash balance was \$3,898,216.00. Kowalski made a motion to approve the June, 2023 Treasurer’s Report. Berens seconded. All in favor.
- b) Budget Meeting Initial Discussion- Proposed for August 16th at 3:00.

9) SCALE

July – no SCALE Meeting.

10) New Business/Old Business

11) Approval of Disbursements The Board reviewed the July, 2023 disbursement ledgers and approved checks numbered, 14425 to 14478, to be issued. The checks were signed and given to Hanson for mailing.

There being no further business before the Board, Kowalski made a motion to adjourn. Berens seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Melissa Hanson, Clerk
Spring Lake Township

Minutes approved _____

Ted Kowalski, Chairman

Melissa Hanson, Clerk