

**Regular Meeting Sunrise Township
Thursday, September 18, 2008
Royal Wilcox Community Center**

Chairperson Jack Kopp called the Sunrise Township regular Board Meeting to order at 7 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present:

Jack (John) Kopp
Stephen Merten
Gerald Bjork
Manley Olson

Treasurer: Karen Anderson
Clerk: Wendy S. Kowalke

Board Members Absent:

Lyle Thompson

Others Present:

Lynn Wolleat, Lead Maintenance
Gregg Strom, Planning Commission
Bobbi Harrington
Tom Chakalos
Shane Stepp
Van Jwanouskos, Citizen
Larry Ferrier, Assistant Chief Almelund Fire
James McCarthy
Mark Young and Jessica Young (variance – addition)
Stephen and Liz Lelm (Variance – install 120’ wind turbine)
Patricia Peters – Sunrise River Pub and Grill
Engineer Warren White
Wade Olson, Planning Commission
Wyatt and Vickie Olson

Adopt Agenda: Motion by Stephen Merten, second by Manley Olson to accept the September 2008 Agenda with the following additions: New Business: Almelund Fire Department and Pay Review Raise for Lead Maintenance and remove light pole.

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Manley Olson, second by Gerald Bjork to accept the August 2008 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Manley Olson, second by Gerald Bjork to accept the treasurer’s report with claims list #2458 through #2474 for approval with the following additional disbursements:

Office Max:.....	\$138.84
Nextel.....	\$78.82
Brinks Home Security.....	\$111.79

Cheri Cunningham Graphic Design.....	\$15.00
Dustcoating, Inc.	\$5,355.00
Chisago County.....	\$599.00
Colton Olson (gopher Bounty).....	\$16.00

- Recommend to move \$50,000 from the savings Road and Bridge Fund to the General road and bridge
- Recommend to \$10,000 from the general saving to general fund

Motion carried.

Treasurer Anderson created an account for Parks to be discussed at the October 2008 Meeting. Currently the employee paid insurance is being paid out of the general fund. The Employee Paid Insurance will be taken out of the road and bridge fund in 2009.

Need liability form from x-treme.

Motion by Manley Olson, second by Gerald Bjork to amend the additional disbursements to include Colton Olson for gopher bounty in the amount of \$16.00. Motion carried.

Lead Maintenance Review: Motion by Stephen Merten, second by Gerald Bjork to approve a raise in the amount of \$1.50 per hour raise, which was discussed at the annual review held on September 18, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.. Along with the raise the Board will have monthly directives for the Lead Maintenance position. Motion carried.

Election Judge Recommendations: Motion by Gerald Bjork, second by Stephen Merten to accept the Election Judge recommendations for the November 2008 General Elections. Motion carried and recommendation signed by Board members present.

Mark and Jessica Young – Addition Variance: Planning Commission Member Greg Strong (speaking just for himself and not for the Planning Commission Board) indicated the house has been grand fathered in. Planning Commission Member Greg Strom does not see any issues with this variance. Motion by Manley Olson, second by Stephen Merten to accept variance with no issues. Motion carried.

Stephen and Liz Lelm – Wind Turbine Variance: Again, Planning Commission Member Greg Strom (speaking just for himself and not for the Planning Commission Board) stated cell phone towers are more of a public use. Greg Strom doesn't see where this falls into public use. Greg Strom is not in favor of this variance. Board Member Jack Kopp stated if this variance is granted this is setting a precedence. Motion by Stephen Merten, second by Gerald Bjork to deny variance. Motion carried. Board told Mr. Lelm that he can come back with more information.

Alley Block 10 Vacation: A Complaint was received at the July 2008 meeting by Patricia Peters regarding the alleyway being block. Clerk Kowalke was given the directive to gather information from the Almelund Fire Department, Chisago County Sheriff's Department, and from the Town Attorney regarding alternative options to be taken regarding this alleyway. Chairperson Jack Kopp informed the citizens present that now that there has been an issue with

this alleyway, the Board is obligated to deal with the situation. Chairperson Jack Kopp also informed the public that the previous Board did not know there was any issue.

The following information was gathered:

- Almelund Fire Department: Chairperson Jack Kopp read the letter from the Almelund Fire Department signed by John L. Almelund Fire Department Representative Larry Ferrier informed the Board that Stepp Manufacturing is one of the biggest SOP's they are concerned with. Representative Ferrier stated the Almelund Fire Department needs every access they can get. This would be a 5 or 6 alarm fire. The fire department needs a designated fire lane if the alleyway was abandoned.
- Chisago County Sheriff Letter: Chisago County Sheriff's Department does not see any issues with closing this alleyway.
- Township Lawyer Al Tschida: Read letter. July 23, 2008.
- There was a letter submitted from Stepp Manufacturing regarding the alleyway.
- Stepp Manufacturing Letter: Read Stepp Manufacturing letter. Shane Stepp indicated that there has been no parking in the alleyway in the last 90 days.

Chairperson Jack Kopp looked for some direction from Planning Commission Member Greg Strom. Greg Strom indicated the need for additional information because they didn't have any information for them to review.

Motion by Manley Olson, second by Stephen Merten to send alleyway item to the Planning Commission to research and report back to the Town Board at the October 2008 meeting. Motion carried. Board Member Manley Olson would like to see the Alleyway resurveyed.

Chair Person Jack Kopp asked Shane Stepp, Stepp Manufacturing, and Patricia Peters, Sunrise River Pub and Grill, if they are willing to help with the cost concerning Block 10 Alleyway. Shane Stepp stated he is willing to participate in the cost sharing of a new survey. Patricia Peters said "I don't know, probably not, I need more time."

Patricia Peters – Alley Block 10: Patricia Peters started out by giving a background. She stated she asked the Town Board at the July 2008 Meeting if the alleyway was a fire lane. Town Board informed Ms. Peters they would investigate and find out. Ms. Peters indicated there have been vehicles blocking alleyway. Ms. Peters said she called and asked Shane Stepp to have his employees move their vehicles. Ms. Peters indicated she needs the alleyway for her business for tubing business.

Ms. Peters gave a 20 minute presentation to the Town Board and the citizens that were present. Chairperson Jack Kopp indicated that this is not a public hearing and this presentation is meant for a public hearing.

Shane Stepp posed the question as to who is liable when an accident occurs on private property. The alleyway as driven is mostly on Stepp Manufacturing property.

Consensus to move to the next agenda item. Patricia Peters made accusations against of Jack Kopp and Clerk Kowalke. Patricia Peters also stated that she was not invited to the Town Board meeting. All Town Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the 3rd Thursday of every month. This is also published on the Sunrise Township web-site at www.sunrisetownship.com.

Town Board Vacancy: Motion by Stephen Merten, second by Gerald Bjork to accept Lyle Thompson resignation because of obtaining a position which will not allow him to attend regular meetings. Motion carried.

Three people are interested:

- *Joel Peterson:* Spoke with both Vice Chair Stephen Merten and Chair Jack Kopp regarding the vacancy.
- *Tom Chakalos:* Has Held leadership positions, committee members, comfortable doing this type of work, well versed with this type of work. Would like to get more involved with the Township and government. Tom has been working with Chisago County on the ATV ordinance.
- *Bobbi Harrington:* The Board does a great job. Bobbi completes the financial aspect of husband's business. Bobbi indicated the Board need a little bit of a different perspective because she is a women and the Board is all men.
- Shane Stepp would be interested only if no one else is interested.

Motion by Stephen Merten to nominates Joel Peterson, second by Gerald Bjork. Motion carried.

Special Use Ordinance regarding Large Events: The Board feels this is a County issue.

Planning Commission Road Legal Descriptions: Planning Commission Member Greg Strom indicated that we are probably maintaining more road that what we should.

Sunrise Park Needs: The Sunrise Park needs a gutter on the shelter otherwise it will wash out the new seeding. It is the consensus of the Town Board to install a rain gutter on shelter.

Old Business:

Chisago County Road Turn Back: Chisago County is in the very early stages of proposing to turn back some roads to the townships. Two roads of concern would be County Road 70 and County Road 56. Again, this is in the very early stages at the County level and it is the consensus of the Town Board that this will more than likely not happen, but the Township will need to keep informed on this situation.

Harris Fire Tour: Have not received notice from Harris.

Harris Payment: No invoice has been received to date.

Sunrise Park update: Richard Peterson pay request for \$83,469.80 was approved. Engineer Warren White presented three (3) change orders for the Sunrise Park to be approved.

- Change Order 1: Contractor offered a deduction of \$2,000.00 for prevailing wage raise. Motion by Gerald Bjork, second by Stephen Merten. Carried.
- Change Order 2: modified quantities adding to the power house net affect of \$22,491.00 to the contract. Motion by Stephen Merten, second by Gerald Bjork. Carried.
- Change Order 3: Remove ADA sidewalk to the shelter - \$8,486.00. Motion by Manley Olson, second by Stephen Merten. Carried.

R.E. Peterson was paid \$83,469.80. The total contract bid to date is \$93,111.33.

Motion by Stephen Merten, second by Gerald Bjork to pay R.E. Peterson an additional \$6,885.96

Sunrise Township will hold \$2,755.57 in case reseeding needs to be complete. Motion carried.

James McCarthy would like to see the park being brushed out a little more, lettering on old sign can't be read, picnic tables could be bolted down and paint outhouse. The Park Board would like to come to the Town Board with long range plans. Shane Stepp would like the Town Board to put together a budget for the volunteer Park Board so they know what they have to work with.

Clerk Kowalke to check on the proper procedure to accept donations for the park.

Engineer Warren White stated he has been paid in full for this project. No additional bills will be received by Engineer White for the Park project.

Other Park Concerns: Tear down jungle gym and dispose of. Check into temporary fencing for winter sliding at the park so kids do not go through to the river.

Maintenance Directives: Picnic tables bolted down. Clean up brush. Lettering on the sign. Painting outhouse. Richard Widmark Site: Remove stumps, mow and bush hogged. Outhouse at Royal Wilcox Community Site needs to be removed. Jungle gym at park needs to be tore down and disposed of. Fix the bench at park. Move flag inside Royal Wilcox Community Center.

Volunteer Township Beautification Clean-up Committee: Tom Chakolas and Bobbi Harrington are willing to be on a committee to clean-up Sunrise. Tom indicated they need to come up with a plan to see the town should be looking at. Clerk Kowalke to put on internet asking for volunteers to be on committee. Place on the October Agenda.

Motion by Manley Olson, second by Gerald Bjork to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Clerk Wendy Kowalke

John (Jack) Kopp, Chairperson