

**Regular Meeting Sunrise Township
Thursday, March 15, 2018
Royal Wilcox Community Center**

Chair Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson called the Regular Sunrise Township Board Meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present:

Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson, Chair
Jeske Noordergraaf, Vice Chair
Gerald Bjork
Eric Leivian
Mark Osland

Treasurer: Karen Anderson
Clerk: Wendy S. Kowalke

Others Present:

Lynn Wolleat, Maintenance
Jane Qualey, US Solar Energy
Dennis Decheine
Laird Mork, Chisago Co. Parks Director

Adam Rydberg
Erica Forsman, US Solar Energy
Cristina Mlejnek, Engineer (Bolton & Menk)
Peggy Pearson

New Officer Oath: Mark Osland, Charlotte Wilcox, Gerald Bjork and Wendy Kowalke took the new officer oath

Appoint Chair: Nomination by Eric Leivian, second by Jeske Noordergraaf to appoint Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson as Chair. Motion carried.

Appoint Vice Chair: Nomination by Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson, second by Eric Leivian for Jeske Noordergraaf to be Vice Chair. Motion carried.

Approve Agenda: Motion by Jeske Noordergraaf, second by Gerald Bjork, to accept the March 2018 agenda. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Jeske Noordergraaf, second by Eric Leivian to approve the January 2018 minutes. Motion Carried.

Clerk Update: No Update.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Karen Anderson went over treasurer’s report. Motion by Eric Leivian, second by Gerald Bjork to accept the treasurer’s report as presented with claims list claims 5354 through 5380 with additional claim expenditure of:

Webduck Design.....\$125.00
Motion carried.

Commissioner Rick Greene Update: Commissioner Greene not present.

Laird Mork, Chisago Co. Park Director – Land Donation to Co Parks Dept.: Potential opportunity of 20 acres to be donated to Chisago County Parks. Chisago County Parks has no plans to develop this parcel at this time. It would be considered park reserve land that at this point does not have any plans to be developed. The Chisago County Parks Dept. has gone out and walked this piece of property and has determined it is worth accepting it as a piece of park reserve land. The Sunrise Township Board is generally in favor of the park reserve land, but want to check into high speed internet fee. Place on April agenda.

USS Kost Trail Solar LLC – Dennis and Sharon Decheine (7.31 Solar Energy Systems Admin. Appeal): Erica Forsman representative of US Solar which is an Owner / Operator of solar gardens. US Solar is based out of Minneapolis, MN. Went through the steps with Xcel. Field Wetland Study and Finding of Aggregate Impact to the North Star Facility is required by Chisago County which will delay this project until May. *They are appealing the Finding of Aggregate Impact to the North Star Facility.* This site is planned for fall construction of 2018. The whole property is 34 acres with 20 tillable. The Solar area will be 8.04 acres of land. This will be a 1 MW system. Pollinator friendly. Fencing is going to be a rural farm style fence. Landscaping plan has been updated to meet the new County Ordinance which requires there be 2 rows of trees one be coniferous, 6 feet at planting. They are voluntarily offering updating. This solar garden is separated from the North Star by at least 2 parcels. US Solar has a 25 year lease with Dennis Decheine and have a signed contact with Xcel Energy to buy energy from this project for 25 years. *Motion by Eric Leivian, second by Jeske Noordergraaf to accept this Administrative Appeal because the Aggregate Impact Rule does not apply to this application because there is no line of site, it is approximately 1300 feet and there is woods between the North Star Facility for this project and request USS Kost Trail Solar follow their revised plan along with notifying all adjoining property owners by certified mail at least 10 days prior to the Sunrise Town Board and Chisago County meetings.* Motion carried

430th Street – Attorney Miller Letter / Kevin Mann:

The Board reviewed a letter dated March 1, 2018, from Vincent Stevens, attorney at law, wherein he requested on behalf of his client KLM Farms/Kevin Mann that the Township "reinstate" 430th Street as a minimum maintenance road. Charlotte Wilcox presented a copy and read portions of the letter dated September 19, 2017, from the Township's attorney, Robert Ruppe. This letter had previously been presented to the Board and members of the public at the Town Board meeting on September 21, 2017. Chairman Johnson reiterated the Township attorney's positions stated in that letter and the Board took no action.

CenturyLink Subsidy Agreement: No actions taken

Gravel Crushing and Hauling: 1 quote received from Rydberg & Sons, Inc. Rydberg would like to get into the pit in July. Taking 10,000 yards. \$9.47 per cubic yard. (for crushing, hauling and casting). No action taken. Place on the April agenda.

Town Law Review Training Opportunity: Town Law Review Training opportunity on April 19 2018.

Spring Short Course: No action taken.

MN Officer List Update & Signatures: Signatures completed

County Auditor Certification: Forms to be delivered to auditor.

Board of Appeal: April 25 at 9:30 a.m.

Citizens Forum: NONE

CenturyLink Fiber Optic Update: Problems are happening with people getting hooked up with CenturyLink saying they can't get hooked up

Tiller Update: Representatives from County Administration, County Attorney, and myself have identified a path forward requiring Tiller to follow thru with a full site Environmental Assessment Worksheet and an IUP for new areas of proposed mining. Existing CUP permit documents and entitlements have been thoroughly reviewed in this process.

Board Member Meeting Updates:

Gerald Bjork attended zoning meeting regarding solar.

Eric Leivian, Lynn Wolleat and Gerald Bjork met with Caterpillar to discuss grader.

Eric Leivian: Attended Caterpillar meeting – the new grader would be less cost per hour based on the maintenance schedule. Went to East Central Broadband meeting.

Jeske Noordergraaf: CCATO and budget meetings

Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson: CCATO meeting, budget, gravel meeting.

Keystone Ave. Graveling – North Star: Pete will continue to work with North Star.

Maintenance Update: North Branch wants a map of the road to chloride. Need to chloride so we do not lose the binder and saving tax dollars for the rest of the citizens. Discussion on roads, grader and loader. Impact study, counter. Motion by Eric Leivian, second by Gerald Bjork to make Wilcox Road a 5 ton road. Lynn Wolleat to remove 7 ton signs. Motion carried.

Other Items: Almelund Fire needs to give credit for radio costs that was listed in their budget. Charlotte Wilcox asked if Dan Harrington gave part of the land north side of road to Sunrise.

Motion by Eric Leivian, second by Gerald Bjork to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Clerk Wendy S. Kowalke

Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson, Chair