

**Regular Meeting Sunrise Township
Thursday, October 19, 2023
Royal Wilcox Community Center**

Chair Jeske Noordergraaf called the Regular Sunrise Township Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present:

Jeske Noordergraaf, Chair

Mark Osland, Vice Chair

Dan Kaiser

Greg Strom

Carl Peter “Pete” Johnson (absent)

Treasurer: Karen Anderson

Clerk: Wendy S. Kowalke

Engineer: Cristina Mlejnek, P.E.

Maintenance: Troy Montague (absent)

Others Present:

Peggy Pearson

Dave Kadlec

Tyler Richter

Erica Heinen

Deah Szymanski

Lynn Wolleat

Janelle Agnes

Kate Campbell

Bill Campbell

Michael Tauer

Approve Agenda: Motion by Mark Osland, second by Dan Kaiser to approve the October, 2023 agenda. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Mark Osland to accept the September, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Clerk Update: Barb at Midwest Compliance assured Clerk Kowalke that the pool picks for random drug and breathalyzer tests are random. 2 employees were selected for random drug testing again. Clerk Kowalke received notice from Chisago County Zoning for the Sunrise New Town Hall CUP off County Road 9. Clerk Kowalke to send 2nd request letters to property owners for 911 sign reimbursements, Ferry Road driveway entrance so no further damage is caused to township road.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Greg Strom to approve Treasurer Anderson’s Report with claims list 7119 through 7151 with additional claims as follows:

Terral Edson (140 pair of gopher feet at \$4.00 per pair)\$560.00
Hardy Boyce (22 pair of gopher feet at \$4.00 per pair).....\$88.00
Motion carried.

Sunrise Township New Town Hall CUP off County Road 9: Greg Strong reported he attended the Chisago County Technical Review Committee – all looked complete. There was a suggestion made that the new town hall include a grease trap for the kitchen. Greg Strom will attend the Chisago County Planning Commission in 2 weeks. November 15 will be the final Chisago County Board decision.

Motion by Greg Strom, second by Dan Kaiser to accept the Sunrise Township Planning Commission recommendations to accept the Sunrise Township New Town Hall CUP off County Road 9. Motion carried.

The Sunrise Town Board discussed 2 separate bidding process:

Shell: shell is exterior structure – no concrete, no insulation, no heating, no electrical, etc. With this, the Board could act as contractor and hire subcontractors.

Turn Key: everything is complete, except septic, well, parking lot

Greg Strom noted that by State Statute if the cost of the contract is \$175,000 or less, a contract can be made by receiving two written quotes. Sealed bids with public notice are not required at this level.

Jeske Noordergraaf feels Sunrise Township should have a general contractor to make sure the building process is done correctly. The general contractor would be responsible for any discrepancies and would coordinate all the subcontractors.

A general contractor could cost up to 15% of the cost. Greg Strom commented that the Township is protected by the contracts with the sub-contractors and the State building codes that include required warranties from the sub-contractors.

Motion by Mark Osland, second by Greg Strom for Sunrise to obtain bids for shell and turn key – 2 separate quotes once Chisago County makes a decision on Sunrise Township's CUP. Motion carried.

JNR Letter – Notice of Tort Claim – CenturyLink: Jeske Noordergraaf talked with Lead Maintenance Troy Montague. Troy discussed with Supervisor Noordergraaf that he hit the fiber optic pillar hit with ditch mower in 2022. Clerk Kowalke will be informed if bill should be turned over to insurance once Troy Montague measures to see if CenturyLink placed the fiber optic pillar in the road right-of-way. If fiber optic pillar was placed in the road right-of-way have Attorney Ruppe write a letter to CenturyLink. Engineer Mlejnek mentioned that fiber optic pillars, etc. do need to be set in ROW as they cannot be set on private property.

Snow Plowing Easement Letters – Greg Strom: Greg Strom reported that easement letters were sent: 2 property owners on 465th, 2 on Locke Avenue and 4 on John Avenue requesting a response by December 1. The next step would be to contact a surveyor if the property owners agree. It has to be a unanimous decision for each road. Place on November agenda.

Voting Operations, Technology & Election County / Municipality Allocation Agreement: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Mark Osland to accept the Voting Operations, Technology & Election County / Municipality Allocation Agreement.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

VOTING OPERATIONS, TECHNOLOGY & ELECTION RESOURCES (VOTER) ACCOUNT
COUNTY/ MUNICIPALITY ALLOCATION AGREEMENT

This Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") is made on this day 19th of October, 2023 between Chisago County ("County"), and Sunrise Township ("Municipality"), to allocate VOTER Account funds consistent with the following, Recitals and Terms and Conditions.

Motion carried. (Please see file for full agreement)

Election Polling Place Resolution: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Greg Strom to accept the Election polling Place Resolution. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-10-19-01
SUNRISE TOWNSHIP
CHISAGO COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING POLLING PLACE FOR 2024 ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, Sunrise Township has one voting precinct:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF SUNRISE TOWNSHIP, CHISAGO COUNTY, MINNESOTA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The polling place for the 2024 elections will be held at the Royal Wilcox Community Center, 41259 Oak Street, North Branch (Sunrise), MN 55056

Adopted by the Town Board of Sunrise Township on October 19, 2023.

Corrected July Sunrise Township town Hall Meeting Minutes: Motion by Greg Strom, second by Dan Kaiser to accept the corrected July Sunrise Township New Town Hall meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Current Town Hall: Greg Strom invited the citizens at the meeting to form a committee to bring suggestions to the Sunrise Town Board on what is to become of the current town hall. Deah Szymanske, Erica Heinen, Kate Campbell and Jeske Noordergraaf volunteered to part of a citizens committee for the current town hall. Clerk Kowalke to place on the Sunrise Township facebook page and the Sunrise Township website looking for additional volunteers to be part of the current town hall citizens committee. It was also discussed that the Rural Village Center (RVC) could be part of the discussion for the current town hall.

Citizens Forum: Bill Campbell lives next to proposed new town hall site. Bill Campbell met with Chisago County Zoning to discuss the proposed new town hall. Bill Campbell discussed with Chisago County Zoning to have Sunrise Township install tree screening for site and sound. Kate Campbell read their letter regarding concerns they have. Kate and Bill Campbell are opposed to the proposed new town hall. Kate and Bill Campbell will email their letter to put in the file.

Michael Tauer attended the Sunrise Township Meeting because he received a letter from Sunrise letting him know that from this point forward Sunrise will not be snow plowing Tauer Road from this point forward. Greg Strom reported that Sunrise Township is clearing up road discrepancies in Sunrise Township. Greg Strom said that the parcel has been landlocked since 1988. Greg Strom also stated that there is indication that Chisago County and the post office do not recognize Tauer Road. His address is Sunrise Road. Michael Tauer referred to Statue 160.05 subd. 1 and Statute 160.09 subd. 3 dedicating a road by use stating if a township has been maintaining a portion of a road over 6 years it is a road. Greg Strom said there is another portion to the statutes stating that a road has to be used for public use. Tauer Road was not used by the public and needs to be used by the public other than adjacent property owners. Basically Tauer Road is a private driveway. It was reiterated that the intent of Sunrise Township is to not snow plow on private property.

Jenell Agnes on Ferry Road: Jenell is wondering if the current town hall is going to be used as a museum. Greg Strom said Sunrise has out grown the current building and is not compatible for future township use. Jenell asked if a gate can be placed on the Ferry Road entrance so the public has to use

CR 9. Greg Strom doesn't anticipate there be that many events. Mark Osland said there could possibly be a gate or directional signs placed for the public to use the CR 9 entrance. Jeske Noordergraaf said this is not being built as an event center. Mark Osland said that if there is a wedding reception Chisago County statute states they will need safety personnel hired.

Deah Szymanski: A citizens committee can hash out some of the pieces of the current town hall. Wondering how the citizens get to vote or have some kind of say. Jeske Noordergraaf said that the citizens of Sunrise Township at the March 2023 Annual Township Meeting voted to build a new town hall. Jeske Noordergraaf said there will be a new town hall report at the March 2024 annual meeting. Deah Szymanski asked if there was going to be another layer of opportunity to put input into a new town hall. Deah Szymanski asked how Sunrise Township will advertise for quotes. As has been previously decided, the Board, the Board will advertise on their website page, legal paper and Sunrise facebook page. Deah Szymanski is wondering how bidding is going to be done.

Lynn Wolleat: Lynn Wolleat voiced his opinion that if Sunrise is going to build a turn-key building, Sunrise Town Board should be their own general contractor to save \$45,000. Mark Osland said that if Sunrise Township uses a general contractor -it does not mean that the general contractor won't use local companies. Lynn Wolleat said that Sunrise Township appointed Greg Strom and Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson to come up with a plan and could act as the Township's general Contractor.

Peggy Pearson: Peggy asked if there is money in a building fund and money from the ARPA grant. The ARPA grant has \$220,460.54 and the Sunrise Township building fund has \$237,330.91

Tyler Richter: Tyler wanted to say he is in favor of the new town hall. Tyler Richter said that Bill and Kate Campbell's property is amazing. Tyler Richter also said that when thinking of possible uses that could go in next to them – encourage to think – the town hall is a good option. Tyler Richter would like to see something great to become of the current town hall.

Erica Heinen: Erica Heinen asked what is the vision of the future of Sunrise Township - What does this township look like – what are we looking to the future.

Ferry Road Maintenance – Wild River Snowmobile Club: Jeske Noordergraaf was told that the Snow Drifters were going to take it over maintenance. There is confusion among Wild River Snowmobile Club and the Snow Drifters on who will be maintaining the trail. Peggy Pearson said that the DNR trail map is incorrect. Dan Kaiser is going to follow up on who will be doing the 2023-2024 trail maintenance on Ferry Road.

Rural Village Center (RVC) Zoning District Boundaries and Uses: Jeske Noordergraaf said that Chisago County is redoing the zoning for whole County. Chisago County asking if all township within Chisago County if they want light industrial use. Chisago County wanted a response by the end of October. Jeske Noordergraaf reached out to Chisago County Zoning Director Kurt Schneider to ask for an extension for Sunrise Township to be able to respond by the end of December, 2023 with no response from Kurt Schneider. Kurt Schneider talked with Clerk Kowalke stating he will bring the request to the Chisago County Planning Commission. Deah Szymanski spoke with Chisago County Commissioner Dan Dahlberg. Commissioner Dahlberg's response was if we have an opinion we need to say it.

Vibo Trail: Cristina Mlejnek reported that the bid opening took place on October 12. Base bid came in at approximately \$119,000. Alternate for concrete pipe that came in at \$245,000. Cristina Mlejnek reached out to the Chisago County to see if there is additional funds if Sunrise Township would like concrete instead of metal which will last longer. Chisago County said they can ask for additional funds. Material lead time is 6 to 8 weeks. Concrete lead time is 4 to 5 weeks. Winberg Companies LLC is low bidder. Winberg has no preference for either metal or concrete and plan to start once materials are available.

Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Mark Osland to use concrete if additional funds can be obtained by Chisago County otherwise stay with steel. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeske Noordergraaf, second Dan Kaiser to award Vibo Trail to Winberg Companies, LLC. Motion carried.

River / Mill (working on closeout): Final payment is in closeout process.

Maintenance update: Dave Kadlec gave maintenance update. Grading roads, F550 is finally fixed which was in shop for 6 weeks – couldn't figure what it was. Ditching on Lowden and on 475th. Back to tree trimming. Looking at renting a boom to get more cleaned up. Waiting on Mike Armstrong Construction to install culverts on Hay Creek. Fixing edging around culvert on 475th and 2 on 470th. 360th culvert replaced – Chisago Lakes Township is paying half – RE Peterson is doing the work.

Board Member Meetings:

Dan Kaiser: CCAT regular meeting,
Greg: regular mtg, planning commission
Jeske: CCATO, reg mtg, PC
Pete: absent
Mark: CCATO, reg. mtg

Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson adjourn at 8:44 p.m. Motion carried.

Clerk Wendy S. Kowalke

Jeske Noordergraaf, Chair