Regular Meeting Sunrise Township
Thursday, April 20, 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

Treasurer: Karen Anderson
Clerk: Wendy S. Kowalke
Engineer: Cristina Mlejnek, P.E.
Maintenance: Troy Montague

Others Present:

Peggy Pearson	Lynn Wolleat	Clair Dickson
Patricia Peters	Dave Tollberg	Patricia (Patsy) Tollberg
Tom Chaklos	Ted Krause	Dave Kadlec
Charlotte Wilcox	Deah Szymanski	Mark Williams
Rene Fenner	Gregory Fenner	Dave Fenner
Paoge Vang		

Approve Agenda: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson to approve the April, 2023 agenda. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson, to accept the March, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Clerk Update: No Updates.

Treasurer Report & Money Market: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Mark Osland to approve Treasurer Anderson's Report with claims list 6930 through 6953 and 6954 with additional claim as follows:

Mark Williams (36 pair of gopher feet @ $4 per pair).....$144.00
Motion carried.

Money Market: Sunrise could have 6 withdrawals or transfers per month and $10 fee per check. Jeske Noordergraaf indicated that this does not sound like it would work for Sunrise Township.

Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Jeske Noordergraaf to pay an additional claim to Mhealth Fairview for $35 for employee drug testing. Motion carried.

Insurance Estimates: MATIT invoice will be received in June. Place on May agenda. Clerk Kowalke to email MATIT. Sunrise does not have the humpback trailer – which will need to be removed.

Appointment of Deputy Treasurer: No action taken.

Clifton Larson Allen – Audit Review: Jeske Noordergraaf presented the Audit Review to the Sunrise Board. There were no additional questions on the review. No further action taken.

SnoBarons Annual Liquor License: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Mark Osland to accept the SnoBarons Annual Liquor License for the Hay Days Event ONLY to be held on September 8, 9, and 10, 2023. Greg Strom would like it noted that the Hay Days event went from 2 days to 3 days for the annual liquor license. Motion carried. Paperwork signed.

Paoge Vang and Yia Lee – Rural Retail Tourism Business – CUP (460th Street): Hay Rides, picnic, picking vegetables and flower with picture taking. The County would like to keep this a low impact business. County said he does not need a permit for a vegetable stand on the road. Seven days a week. Parking – trying to keep the land as original as possible. If future, may have to place gravel. Neighbor Paul Stenger was at the Planning Commission meeting and voiced he does not have any complaints and Mr. Vang has been a great neighbor and is very straight forward and honest. Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Mark Osland to accept the Sunrise Planning Commission recommendation to accept with no additional conditions. Motion carried

ATV IUP Concern – IUP: Richard Zaccardi is applying for an IUP located at 45148 Holman Avenue, Harris, MN (on the end of 450th and Holman) for operating a home based business out of an accessory structure for ATV repair. Jeske Noordergraaf stated this is not in Sunrise Township so Sunrise does not have jurisdiction on this IUP. There was an ATV track that has been closed down.

Wild River Snowmobile Club Maintaining Ferry Road: Jeske Noordergraaf talked with Mark Johnson and Wild River Snowmobile Club will no longer be maintaining the snowmobile trail on Ferry Road and Mark Johnson will no longer be the trail boss. Mark Johnson thinks the snowmobile club in North Branch – Snow Drifters will be taking over grooming, signage, etc. Jeske Noordergraaf will contact the Snow Drifters to discuss the maintenance of Ferry Road. Place on the September, 2023 agenda.

Appoint Sunrise Planning Commission New Member: Sunrise Town Board conducted and interview with Deah Szymanski for the Planning Commission open position on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 6:30 PM. Motion by Greg Strom, second by Dan Kaiser to appoint Deah Zymanski to the Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Donation Distribution: Motion by Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson, second by Dan Kaiser to accept the following donation distribution:

Family Pathways (now includes No. Branch Food Shelf and the Refuge)	$2,000.00
Chisago County Historical Society	$500.00
Seven County Senior Federation	$500.00
Chisago County Age Well	$200.00
Chisago County Ag Society	$200.00
Chisago County Senior Center	$500.00

Motion carried.

Land Donation – Greg Strom: Tom Gustafson is interested in donating part of his land to Sunrise Township. Would like to see a park or walking trails under the understanding it is not developed. This particular piece of property has water access. There would be restrictions on this land that it can never be subdivided. Sunrise Township is interested. Greg Strom will contact Tom Gustafson.

MAT Insurance: see above.

City of Rush City Fire Contract: Motion by Dan Kaiser, second by Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson to accept the 2023 City of Rush City Fire Contract. Motion carried.

Flood Damage: Lead Maintenance Troy Montague reported damage on 360th - flooded and Oriole Avenue flooded. Troy said Sunrise used 13 yards of class five and 13 hours to repair these roads. Paperwork is being prepared to turn into Scott Sellman at Chisago County to report damage to be turned into the State for possible reimbursement.

Citizens Forum: Claire Dickson would like an update on 475th Street (see below under maintenance update).
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Patricia Peters – Snow Plowing Downtown Mill St. / River Road: Patricia Peters provided maps for the Sunrise Board to look at. Patricia Peters is going to open her business in a few weeks. It bothers Patricia Peters that donations are given to non-profit organizations instead of spending the money to complete the survey for Downtown Sunrise. Patricia Peters paid to complete the survey for the rest of Mill Street on both sides and had extra stakes put in. The East Side of Mill Street does not allow for parking. The parking for Patricia Peters business and Stepp Manufacturing is in front of the businesses. The West side of Mill Street could have parking if there was tree clearing. Patricia Peters suggested to make Mill Street a one-way. There is parking along River Road. There is plenty of parking in the alley and the ballfield. The land in the alley way was donated by the Olson's. It is suggested to place public parking signs in the alley.

Patricia Peters – Park and Trail Recommendations: Widen the parking lot into the Sunrise Park. Safety issue with a drop by the river. It was suggested to install a fence. Jeske Noordergraaf thanked Patricia for all her input.

Locke Avenue – Charlotte Wilcox – Planning Commission Member Reported: Charlotte Wilcox reported that Township Attorney Couri and Ruppe said that each road has to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Criteria for evaluating how much the public has used the road and maintenance. Attorney Ruppe said that to go beyond the right-of-way the Township should get private easements from the land owners for the Township to be able to turn around when snow plowing. The downside is there would be a cost to the Township by getting these roads surveyed. Bottom line each road needs to be looked at. David Tollberg said that there has never been graveled put on the road. Greg Strom suggested that Sunrise Township send letters to the property owners agreeing to sign an easement and then get the roads surveyed with the property owners that agree.

Vibo Trail – Box Culvert Grant Opportunity: Cristina Mlejnek reported that an inspection report was provided by Joe Triplette, Chisago County Engineer. Jeske Noordergraaf reported that Vibo Trail Bridge failed and needs to be replaced. Cristina Mlejnek will provide information at the May meeting. Jeske Noordergraaf reported that Sunrise Township's pay responsibility would be $10,000 for engineering fees and $10,000 for construction through road and bridge funds.

Other Funding Opportunities: Cristina Mlejnek stated that Sunrise Township should consider LRIP funds for Wilcox Road and expects the solicitation to be coming up in September. Kost Trail does not have a lot of funding opportunities. Place on May Agenda for Wilcox Road.

Speed Studies: Cristina Mlejnek reported Mn/DOT wants to do a site study for Ferry Road. After site study is complete, speed studies will be summarized.

Ditch Cleaning: Troy Montague would like to clean a couple of ditches in-house and would like to get approval from the Board. Sunrise Town Board gave permission to complete ditch cleaning at his discretion.

New Town Hall Update: Greg Strom would like to talk with some of the Town Hall Committee members to get further information on details. Until Sunrise has more of a defined plan, builders are going off a rough sketch. Charlotte Wilcox suggested that part of the new project should include what to do with the Royal Wilcox Community Center.

Internet Funding Update: No Updates

470th Site Lines: Charlotte Wilcox reported that she couldn't find anything regarding an easement on 470th Street at Chisago County Recorder's office or in her files. Charlotte Wilcox will look through retired Engineer Warren White's information that was provided to the Township, due to the fact that he was the engineer on the 470th Street project.

Board of Appeal and Equalization: Thursday, April 27 at 9:30 AM.

Maintenance update: Troy Montague reported that the 475th and James culverts have been received. Troy will be meeting with locates on Tuesday and start digging next week. Have to ditch 475th to drain it.
Problem Roads: 450th, 475th and James, Vibo Trail ditching. Jeske Noordergraaf asked each Board Member to look at the problems roads to get a full scope of the issues due to spring melt.
Playground equipment: Troy Montague looked at 4 equipment sets. Motion by Jeske Noordergraaf, second by Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson to spend up to $7,500.00 on used, but safe playground equipment with Troy Montague being the Sunrise agent.

Board Member Meetings:
Dan Kaiser: regular meeting, CCATO
Greg: regular mtg, CCATO, Planning Commission
Jeske: reg mtg.
Pete: reg mtg, CCATO
Mark: reg mtg.

Motion by Greg Strom, second by Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson, to adjourn at 9:12 p.m. Motion carried.

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Clerk Wendy S. Kowalke Jeske Noordergraaf, Chair