Regular Meeting Sunrise Township
Thursday, October 17, 2024
Royal Wilcox Community Center

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

Board Members Present:

Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson, Chair (absent)
Mark Osland, Vice Chair
Jeske Noordergraaf
Greg Strom
Adam Grobove III (absent)

Clerk: Wendy S. Kowalke
Treasurer: Karen Anderson
Engineer: Cristina Mlejnek, P.E (absent)
Maintenance: Troy Montague
Dave Kadlec

Others Present:

Peggy Pearson
Lynn Wolleat
Dave Kadlec
Dennis Little
Scott Berg

Approve Agenda: Motion by Greg Strom, second by Jeske Noordergraaf to approve the agenda adding driveway permit process under new business and striking Park Committee under old business. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Jeske Noordergraaf, second by Greg Strom to accept the September 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Clerk Update: Continuing to work on website. Met with Becky Caneday regarding website updating. General elections are under way at the Chisago County level.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Jeske Noordergraaf, second by Greg Strom to approve Treasurer Anderson's report with claims list 7499 through 7529 with additional claim:

Erica Heinen (129 pair of gopher feet at $4.00 per pair).....$516.00

Greg Strom asked Treasurer Anderson to make sure the ARPA fund balance is at a zero. Currently the ARPA balance is at $1,977.24. Sunrise Township has spent $228,366.15 of the ARPA money. Sunrise Township has spent $78,509.13 as of 10-16-2024. Sunrise Township has spent $237,034.35 in the town hall fund as of January 1, 2024.

Motion carried.

445th and Government Road Issue – Scott Berg: Scott Berg said there is a new owner on 445th .that wants to vacate 445th and said that he will give Scott Berg 8 feet to access his property. Scott Berg owns 120 acres at the end of 445th. Mr. Berg is going on record that he does not want 445th vacated. There are 5 properties owners that are affected of 445th. There are 5 property owners including Scott Berg said that they do not want to vacate the road either.

Township Road Agreements: Jeske Noordergraaf received a call from Peter Johnson of Amador Township does not believe that Amador is responsible for ditch mowing of ditches along the Sunrise portion of 400th street. Clerk Kowalke sent the road agreement to Jeske Noordergraaf and Troy Montague which states that mowing the ditches is included and after Jeske Noordergraaf sent this to Peter Johnson of Amador Township, he agreed that it is part of the agreement. Brush cutting is not part of the agreement. Lynn Wolleat questioned what Amador is paying for crack filling and repair. Sunrise charges Amador for snow plowing. Troy Montague keeps track of the extra costs such as crack filling, repair, ditch mowing, spraying of parsnips, etc. to bill Amador Township appropriately. There will be better communication between Troy Montague and Treasurer Karen Anderson so bills are not missed.

Sunrise Township and Amador Township need a written agreement for Oriole Avenue maintenance (South of HWY 95). Troy Montague will come up with a list to be put in an agreement. Troy Montague will also come up with a shared road list.

Audit 2024: Jeske Noordergraaf contacted several different companies willing to provide quotes. No other companies provided quotes and one declined. In the past Sunrise Township used CLA. Received one bid from CLA, Kristine Houle with an estimate $13,500 plus 5% tech fee. Christine Houle asked that Sunrise Township inform her if they are going to accept the CLA bid so they can start making their schedule which starts in October.

Motion by Jeske Noordergraaf, second Greg Strom to accept the bid from CLA for the 2024 audit. Motion carried. Motion by Mark Osland, second by Greg Strom authorizing Jeske Noordergraaf to sign the contract with CLS. Motion carried.

Driveway Permit Process: Chisago County Zoning is discontinuing to process driveway and 911 blue sign permits for Sunrise Township immediately. Currently, the fee is $1,000 for a driveway permit. Shafer Township charges $3,000 for a driveway permit. Sunrise Township charges an initial and final inspection fee of $75 each. Troy Montague would be comfortable charging $2,500 for asphalt or gravel driveway permits. The blue sign fee will remain at the $125.00 amount. Sunrise Township will not put a condition on the permit fee to the house being completed. Permit application will include check list of items needed, i.e. fire sign, culvert, swing mail box w/ post. The applicant would need to pay separately for a culvert if needed. All other items will be taken out of the $2,500 driveway application fee. If more inspections of the driveway are need, there will be additional fees of $75 per inspection.

Motion by Mark Osland, second by Greg Strom to change the process that Sunrise Township take over the driveway permits and blue sign process. The initial driveway permit will be $2,500 in escrow. The inspections, 911 blue sign and swing type mailbox fee will be taken out of the driveway permit fee. All mailboxes in Sunrise Township need to be swing type. The current fee for swing type mailbox kit is $75 (does not include the mailbox), the 911 blue sign fee is currently $125, the initial and final inspection fee is $100 each. Any additional driveway inspections will be $100 each. Swing type mailbox kit, 911 blue sign and culverts can be obtained through Sunrise Township. Culverts with aprons can be purchased through Sunrise Township at a separate cost. Current fees are subject to change without notice. Motion carried.

Citizens Forum: Dennis Little of the Snobarons attended the meeting to say hello. Mr. Little felt that Hay Days had a good year. There were helicopter rides again this year. Helicopter rides are not provided by the Snobarons – this is arranged by a private citizen.

New Town Hall located off CR 9: Greg Strom reported the heating and air, ceiling flooring are being worked on. Bathrooms will be worked on in the very near future. Carl Peter "Pete" Johnson is working on internet access. County Commissioners came and looked at the building and then completed a District 5 tour. Greg Strom reported the new town hall is looking at the last week of November 2024 to move in.

Flag and pole for new town hall update: Chisago Lake needs to provide a bill $1,720.

Maintenance Update: Troy Montague reported that CenturyLink is starting to mark the pillars with reflective poles according to the ordinance. Ford truck is fixed. Completing tree trimming. Need to get some rain to grade. Received 2 loads of salt for the year.

School House / Royal Wilcox Community Center: Closing for the school house is January 15, 2025. The heating is all tied in with the maintenance garage. Jeske Noordergraaf will contact the attorney to draw up a bill of sale.

Board Member Meetings:
Adam: Absent
Greg: regular meeting, CCATO
Jeske: regular meeting, Threshers, CCATO
Pete: absent
Mark: regular meeting

Motion by Jeske Noordergraaf, second Greg Strom to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Motion carried.

Signed: Wendy S. Kowalke, Clerk

Mark Osland, Vice Chair