

Pursuant to due call and notice there of the Southside Township Board of Supervisors met for the regular meeting on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at Southside Township Hall, Wright County. The following members were present: Chairman Dan Berg, Supervisors Marty Ferguson and Jim Hallstrom and Clerk/Treasurer Carmen Merrill. Also present: Ben Kramer, Sarah Pomerleau, Josh Pomerleau, Eric Hendricks, Randal Wilson, Kay Nordberg, Karl Nordberg, Jeremy Kaskinen, Kevin Miller, Laurie Miller, Jacob Thunander, Kelly Hinnenkamp, Scott Kirby, Blaine Barkley, Paul Otto.

Chairman Berg opened the meeting and led the pledge of allegiance.

Supervisor Hallstrom made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2024, regular meeting. Chairman Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

No one was present for the open forum.

The Board reviewed the orderly annexation agreement that was revised by Township attorney Mike Couri. The agreement is for the property located at 7832 Nevens Avenue NW owned by Adelle Seanor which is 37.49 acres. The annexation would be for a single-family development called Shores of Lake John and abuts the recently annexed property that was developed by Rachel Development on the easter part of Lake John. Mike reviewed the proposed annexation agreement and made changes to paragraph 6 Road Maintenance. Item A. The City shall be responsible for paying the cost of both sides of Nevens Avenue along those portions of Nevens Avenue where at least one side of Nevens Avenue has been annexed into the City. Kelly doesn't feel the wording is clear regarding responsibilities for road maintenance. She isn't sure that portion of Nevens would be improved and if not, it would remain a gravel road. The city does not have equipment to maintain gravel roads. Supervisor Hallstrom stated if the last 300' of Nevens is improved it could be cost shared by both city and township. If it remains gravel the township would maintain but with added traffic it would get worn and require a lot of maintenance. Supervisor Ferguson stated he would prefer it to be improved and the cost be shared. Kelly stated if improved with curb and gutter the city engineer could calculate the cost to the township for just the asphalt improvements. He also stated before we enter into any agreement, he would like to clear up the road that was left to the township after the Rachel development was completed. The road has 6 properties on it and is a dead end with no turn around and no place to put snow. Kelly stated the city is willing to help with removal of snow as needed. She would like to see a separate road maintenance agreement for that road. She would like to have the city attorney review the annexation document with the change in road maintenance to reflect cost sharing for improvement and city responsible for road if asphalt. She'd like to get approved this month by the city council so the developer can get the plat submitted. Kelly will send the revised annexation agreement to us for Mike to review and once approved and our Board would convene in a special meeting to approve.

Josh and Sarah Pomerleau, xxxx 78<sup>th</sup> St NW, were present to obtain approval for a conditional use permit for a land alteration within the shoreland district and to amend the conditional use permit to build a house below the bluff. Josh and Sarah met with James Bedell with the DNR per the request of the Southside Township Board on the meeting date of September 5th, 2023. James Bedell gave them directions on how to work the engineering of the bluff to have the least impact as possible. This included a small cut on top of the bluff in the area that has already been impacted by the previous owner and adding fill on top of the bluff in order to not disrupt the integrity of the bluff. Here is a summary of the dirt needing to be moved and can be found in the grading plan that is attached:

1. 100 CY cut in bluff, in yellow.
2. 1000 CY fill in bluff, in purple. Dirt is placed on top of the bluff.
3. 709 CY fill in bluff impact zone, in orange. Dirt is placed on top of the impact zone.
4. I did not add the area in the top of the bluff impact zone because it was very small and will make a note that we are talking about 4-7 yards of cut and fill.
5. This leaves about 4100 CY of fill below the bluff and includes a mound of fill that the neighbor on lot 5 wanted as well (to create a buffer between lots).

The updated plan was presented to James and he had no comment. Sarah called James Bedell to get something in writing stating he approves and he said if he has no comment that means no objection. The 4100 CY of fill is for the mound and berm between neighbor but it will also serve to control the water runoff.

Ben Kramer, attorney for GLSA, presented a letter outlining the conditional use permit factors stating factor #5 is the use is not in conflict with the policies plan of the county. The revised plan conflicts with the NWQ Plan as it fails to protect the bluff in its natural, stable state.

Paul Otto stated the bluff is not being disturbed as the new plan is to build a road over the bluff, changing the grade from 25% to 12%. This is building up from the bluff, the integrity of the bluff remains. The plan would only alter 100 CY in the bluff area.

Supervisor Ferguson stated when the original development was approved it was with all homes being built above the bluff area. Now the proposal is for a CUP so it can be built below the bluff.

Supervisor Hallstrom stated there is plenty of room above the bluff to build a home.

Josh stated it is 250 yards to the lake from the top of the bluff. He did obtain DNR approval as requested by the Board.

Paul stated the original plan for the development was homes near the lake but due to time and concerns with the plans the developer acquiesced and agreed to leave it as building on top of bluff. This allows the owners of lots to request a conditional use permit to build in the area below the bluff.

Supervisor Hallstrom stated the County has the final say. Supervisor Ferguson stated he knows they tried hard to make it work but he is still concerned about the amount of dirt being moved.

Josh stated with Indian Affairs council looking into the area above the bluff he is not sure the land will ever be built on.

Chairman Berg stated they have done a lot of work to the plans and to accommodate the Boards concerns, but he is still concerned about the bluff and erosion. He has a hard time understanding the erosion and how the land will be affected by disturbing the bluff but he isn't comfortable with the plan.

Paul Otto stated since the lot is over an acre the MPCA will be reviewing the plans and issuing a storm water permit. Josh does a lot of work with MPCA and knows what has to be done.

Sarah stated they've done a lot of work on this and it is hard coming here. She is willing to put money in an escrow account for road repairs if needed after construction. Josh stated the DNR is agreeable and has no comment. Supervisor Hallstrom will call James Bedell to get his view on the project. He stated the new proposal is better than the originals but still disturbs bluff and there is adequate room to build above.

Sarah asked for the Board to approve the request so the County Board could do their due diligence.

Supervisor Hallstrom made a motion to deny the request for a conditional use permit for land alteration and the amendment to build below the bluff due to adequate room to build above bluff and excessive fill. Supervisor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk Merrill reported she received the letter from Mike Couri regarding the reduction in line of credit for Hannah's development. The warranty expires June 2024, at which time the township could take over the road if all requirements are met.

Supervisor Hallstrom made a motion to appoint the following election judges for the March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary election:

Bonnie Ponsford	Nancy Berg – Head Judge	Dianne Engler	Laurie Morris
Roxie McNellis	Trudie Segner	Colleen Thurber	Kim Sawatzke

Supervisor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kevin and Lauri Miller were present to renew their CUP for a second residence for Kevin's mother on their property. They were granted a hardship variance several years ago which needs to be renewed every few years. Supervisor Hallstrom made a motion to approve the CUP

for a second residence for Kevin’s mother due to hardship. Supervisor Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kevin and Lauri also wanted to discuss liquor sales at the Swap Meet for the 2024 season. Last year Red Goat sold bloody Mary’s, beer, and seltzer at the meet. Lauri stated it was very well received and they had no issues with anyone over consuming, fighting or accidents. They would like to continue sales for 2024 with the addition of screwdrivers and mimosas. All sales are made by people trained in serving alcohol who are knowledgeable about the laws. The Board was agreeable with the sales and asked that the Miller’s return in 2025 to review the 2024 season.

Since the regular meeting date for March is the Presidential Primary the regular March Board meeting will be held on March 7.

Supervisor Ferguson made a motion to approve the Frontline Annual Maintenance agreement for the emergency sirens for 2024 for \$1,050.00 Supervisor Hallstrom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Local Board of Appeal meeting is set for April 25, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

The Annual Township meeting is set for March 12 at 8:00 p.m.

Erik Hendricks brought up concerns with Rockwood Ave. Beavers have been clogging up the culverts and causing damage to the road. He would like to place erosion stones near the culverts once the frost is out of the ground. The Board approved the work.

The Board worked on the 2025 budget.

The following bills were approved as presented:

Check #	Date	Payee	Cash Account	Amount
online ach	2/4/24	Google LLC	100-10100	6.00
ACH020624	2/6/24	Windstream	100-10100	194.10
7941	2/6/24	Cokato Janitorial LLC	100-10100	113.98
7942	2/6/24	Couri & Ruppe, PLLP	100-10100	343.75
7943	2/6/24	Meeker Cooperative Light & Power Assoc	100-10100	48.00
7944	2/6/24	TNT Communications MN LLC	100-10100	150.00
7945	2/6/24	WSB & Associates	100-10100	1,912.00
7946	2/6/24	Waste Management	100-10100	3,827.28
7947	2/6/24	Wright Hennepin Electric	100-10100	48.93
7948	2/6/24	Wright County Finance & Taxpayer Servic	100-10100	378.46
7949	2/6/24	Norgren Tree Service	100-10100	3,587.50
7950	2/6/24	Minnesota Benefit Association	100-10100	325.00
7954	2/6/24	Dan Berg	100-10100	396.20
7955	2/6/24	James Hallstrom	100-10100	178.35
7956	2/6/24	Eric M. Ferguson	100-10100	184.70
7957	2/6/24	Carmen M. Merrill	100-10100	1,022.46

15588764	2/6/24	Public Employees Retirement Association	100-10100	224.00
7951	2/6/24	Adam's Pest Control Inc.	100-10100	165.12
7952	2/6/24	Frontline Plus, Inc	100-10100	1,050.00
7953	2/6/24	Hendricks Sand & Gravel	100-10100	<u>10,744.00</u>
<b>Total</b>				<b><u>24,899.83</u></b>

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

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