

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – LeSauk Town Hall
Tuesday, November 18, 2025

The regular township meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Dan Heim at 6:00 p.m. in the LeSauk Town Hall.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Jeff Westerlund and Paul Wagner, Clerk Marlyce Plante, Treasurer Josh Bentley and 4 interested parties.

AGENDA: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Hernandez Property Concerns & Parking on River Vista Lane – Justin & Maranda Schaefer and Jessie Goodell came before the town board to discuss their concerns regarding the Robert Hernandez parcel located at 32628 River Vista Lane. The Schaefer's are adjacent neighbors to the Hernandez property and Mr. Goodell lives north of the Hernandez property. The property has accumulated abandoned vehicles & property as well as an RV with people living in it. They also discussed the many different occupants at the Hernandez property.

Mr. Goodell discussed the continued parking on River Vista Lane. He understands it is a public street but questioned whether no parking restrictions could be placed on the street. The consensus of the town board was to send a letter to Mr. Hernandez regarding the abandoned vehicles, RV, property and occupants. The board also recommended they contact Stearns County Environmental Services regarding the use of the RV and the Hernandez home for rental purposes since the county has rental ordinances residents must follow. The Schaefer's are also considering a neighborhood project watch to get all neighbors in the area to report unusual activity to the Stearns County Sheriff's Department.

Jason Smith – Mr. Smith came before the town board to learn more about township government since he has recently moved to the area. He also had questions regarding the township parcel located at 32467 County Road 1 (Bunde parcel) which is for sale. He questioned whether an accessory building could be constructed on the parcel and what that procedure would be. The board reviewed with him the procedures since the property is located in shoreland.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: No business from the floor.

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 28, 2025 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING AS AMENDED, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Atty Gilchrist has completed the Town Code Ordinance Violation Regulations which he will forward to the county attorney. He continues to work on the St. Cloud Orderly Annexation Agreement.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: 1986 40th Street – Midwest Electric Generator – Building Inspector David Barsody contacted Supv Heim regarding this parcel.

OCTOBER TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Bentley reviewed the October Treasurer's report. Ending cash balance in all accounts was \$542,331.95 plus \$424,237.56 balance in Investment accounts. Total ending balance is \$966,569.51. Expenditures in October were \$11,533.57. Treasurer Bentley rolled over a certificate of deposit at 3.85% with Bank Vista.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE OCTOBER TREASURERS REPORT AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CLAIMS & VOUCHERS: Treasurer Bentley presented the invoices & claims totaling \$11,843.32. The invoices included the ditch mowing for 2025, monthly expenditures, election judge meal reimbursements and board salaries. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,843.32 (CHECK #14581 THRU 14601 PLUS EFT'S 330 & 331), SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Sartell Recreation Advisor Board – Supv Westerlund attended the last advisory meeting of the year. He reported the winter catalog for area recreation activities will be coming out soon and will include archery which is a new option and becoming a favorite. The next meeting will be held in February.

Dan Heim –

Elijah Dockendorf – Driveway - Mr. Dockendorf contacted Supv Heim regarding the ordering of a 911 sign for his parcel. Clerk Plante had received an email from Stearns County and ordered. It has been received and Supv Heim will deliver it to him.

Kristine Gordon, 32627 County Road 1 – Ms. Gordon, a realtor, contacted Supv Heim questioning whether an accessory building could be constructed on the parcel. This is the Bunde property which will require a possible variance since it is located in shoreland.

Ron Maleska, Split of Property – Mr. Maleska had inquired whether he could split a 40-acre parcel from a 120-acre parcel. Supv Heim contacted Attorney Troy Gilchrist for clarification of the process.

Michael Lakmann, 304 Rosewood – Accessory Building Construction – Supv Heim has been contacted by JK Landscaping who is working with the Lakmann's to construct a patio on their parcel which they would like to place near the Mississippi River. Since this property and where they would like to place the patio is located in shoreland, they will need to go through the shoreland process for this type of construction.

Tomczik Property Remodel & Swimming Pool – The Tomczik's have been in the process of a remodel of their home as well as the construction of a swimming pool. Their parcel is located on the Mississippi River which falls under the shoreland process as well as a review by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). For now, the project will be delayed to the spring of 2026. At that time, Joel Asp, engineer with SEH Engineering, will review the project. Nicole Blake-Bradley of the DNR will also review the project.

Joel Asp, Watershed Engineer – Supv Heim has been working with Mr. Asp for review of shoreland alterations & construction within the shoreland located in the township. Supv Heim informed the board the shoreland reviews have taken considerable amount of time and is suggesting that Mr. Asp handle these reviews along with Stephen Grittman, the township shoreland consultant. Mr. Asp will send a proposal to Supv Heim noting the approximate cost of a shoreland review. This can be discussed at our reorganization meeting in January.

Jeff Bertch, Traut Solar Farm – Mr. Bertch contacted Supv Heim informing him he is in the early stages of planning for the Traut solar project. The project is in the study phase with Xcel Energy right now. The interim use permit for the solar farm was approved in June 2025. If they need an extension, Mr. Bertch has until June 10, 2026 to request one from the town board.

Derek Kunkel – Mr. Kunkel contacted Supv Heim questioning whether a 24 X 26 accessory building could be constructed on a .92-acre parcel owned by Robert Sexton estate. He provided him with the necessary information.

Paul Wagner –

17th Street North Grading – Supv Wagner has been contacted by Mary Lou Udermann requesting 17th Street be graded as well as a regular grading schedule for 17th.

CLERK REPORT:

742 Election Report – Clerk Plante reported the township had 18 voters for the District 742 Special Election on November 4th. Within the invoices this evening, were meal reimbursements for the election judges who worked. District 742 paid the judges wages, but did not reimburse the judges for meals.

Kitchen Stove Purchase & Rental of the Town Hall – Clerk Plante questioned whether the town board plans to possibly rent out the town hall for various events and if so, a stove will need to be purchased. The town board asked her to get estimates for a new stove and present at the next meeting. Rental of the town hall will be discussed in the new year.

Water Meter Information – A new water meter to allow for separate sprinkling system billing costs are - \$812.10 for a 1 inch and \$1686.95 for a 1 ½ inch meter. Approximate cost to put in the water meter is \$200.00. A cost for the plumbing permit has not been received yet. Supv Heim asked Clerk Plante to contact the city of Sartell to check whether a sand point well could be put in for the sprinkling system.

Fine Reimbursement – Fine reimbursement for the month of October was \$40.00.

Dockendorf 911 Sign – Clerk Plante ordered and received the 911 sign for 1488 – the Elijah Dockendorf parcel.

Tri-County Humane Society Contract for 2026 – Clerk Plante received the 2026 contract for stray animals and asked the Town Board members to read the contract since it has been changed from previous years. This will be discussed at the reorganization meeting the first Monday in January, 2026.

December Minnesota Association of Township Conference – Clerk Plante stated she would like to attend the Friday only session of the Annual MAT conference. It is being held at the Rivers Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud. SUPV MOTIONED TO ALLOW ALL BOARD MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MAT CONFERENCE AT THE REGULAR RATE OF PAY, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Website Design – Clerk Plante received an email from Leslie Rosenthal website designer who has re-written the township website. Ms. Rosenthal questioned whether we would like the website to go “live”. Clerk Plante emailed her and asked her to wait until after the first of the year and after all board members have viewed it. She also asked her to possibly enhance the website with pictures etc., since it seems to be quite plain.

OLD BUSINESS:

Thomas Property – No further information. Mike Oswald will be in contact with the county attorney's office since the county has yet to make a ruling on the condition of the parcel. Supv Heim stated that depending on what happens, the town board may consider handling the Thomas property in the same manner the Zander property was handled.

Zander Property – No further information or action at this time.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – This will remain under old business and reviewed in the spring.

Website Redesign – Reported in Clerk Plantes report.

Fee Schedule – No further information.

Townline Road Update – Supv Heim has been in contact with Jeff Tougas, Stearns County Right-of-Way Specialist, who is handling the right-of-way acquisitions for the town line road reconstruction. Tree removal from the Carl Fasen property was missed – the approximate cost will be \$600.

Township Lawn Weed & Feed Bids – This will be discussed further in the Spring of 2026.

Tree Trimming – This will be considered after all board supervisors have viewed the areas suggested by Supv Westerlund that need tree trimming and removal. Hopefully this can be done some time during the winter months since bids may be cheaper.

LRIP (Local Road Improvement Program) – Supv Heim is meeting with Engineer, Dave Blommel, to complete the application for LRIP funds. Three areas are considered when applying for these funds: Trunk Highway, Regional Significant and Rural Road Safety. He is not sure if 17th Street will fall into one of these categories. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PURSUIT OF 2025 LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING FROM MnDOT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF 17TH STREET NORTH (EAST OF 30TH AVENUE), SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

November 25th Meeting – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CANCEL THE NOVEMBER 25TH REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

December Meetings – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CHANGE THE DECEMBER 9TH REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING TO TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO CANCEL THE DECEMBER 23RD REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING DUE TO THE HOLIDAY, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Reorganization Meeting – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HOLD THE REORGANIZATION MEETING ON MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 2026 BEGINNING AT 6 P.M., SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

NOVEMBER ROAD REPORT: Supv Heim viewed and drove all township roads. The roads are in good condition with 30th Avenue and 322nd Street being our poorest roads. It was noted by Supv Heim there is a small pot hole just south of the bridge that should be filled. Supv Westerlund reminded the board members to view the tree trimming areas as discussed.

Supv Heim noted several items that may need to be considered in 2026

- 7th Ave. North (Countryside Acres Addition) has considerable cracks throughout the road way and the town board may consider a crack seal in 2026.
- 30th Avenue Ditch Cleaning – Supv Heim provided pictures of the culvert area that is overgrown with vegetation etc. The town board may need to consider cleaning of the ditch and culvert area in the spring to allow for smooth waterflow in the spring of 2026.

Supv Heim discussed 17th Street North (Udermann area) – He drove 17th and it is in need to grading but does not suggest a regular grading schedule and graded on an “as needed” basis. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE SUPV WAGNER CONTACT ASTECH TO GRADE 17TH STREET, UDERMANN AREA, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Two properties in the township, Bruce & Wendy Theisen and the Robert Hernandez property, have accumulated abandoned vehicles and abandoned property on them. Supv Heim provided pictures of the parcels.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE CLERK PLANTE SEND LETTERS TO BOTH THE THEISEN AND HERNANDEZ PROPERTY REGARDING THE ABANDONED VEHICLES AND ABANDONED PROPERTY AND INCLUDE THE TOWNSHIP REGULATIONS ON ABANDONED VEHICLES & ABANDONED PROPERTY, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

There being no further business, SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante,
LeSauk Township Clerk