

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – LeSauk Town Hall
Tuesday, September 9, 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, Deputy Clerk Mary Barron-Traut and 6 interested parties.

AGENDA: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING DEPUTY SHERIFF CRAIG POGATSHNIK & CARTER ERICKSON AND JOHN DENNY TO OPEN FORUM, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM:

Cathy Vanvickle – Overweight Permit – Ms. Vanvickle came before the board requesting an overweight permit for 30th Avenue during 2026. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AN OVERWEIGHT PERMIT FOR RANDY & CATHY VANVICKLE, 183 30TH AVENUE NORTH FOR JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Deputy Sheriff Craig Pogatshnik & Carter Erickson – Deputy Sheriff Pogatshnik and Erickson came before the Town Board to give their bi-monthly sheriff's reports of township activity. Sheriff Pogatshnik reported that Stearns County has five (5) new deputy sheriffs, one being deputy sheriff Erickson. Deputy Sheriff Pogatshnik emailed the July and August township reports. Average calls in the township run around 75 – they include traffic stops, medical emergencies, crash investigations etc. He did state they take several calls at the Shady Oaks Manufactured Home Park for various issues. He asked the town board to contact them if there are any questions or concerns within the township.

John Denny, Sartell American Legion - Mr. Denny was in attendance to discuss a possible storage agreement with the township. The Legion is currently renting a unit for the storage of their flags and equipment used for meetings, ceremonies etc. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ENTER INTO A RENTAL AGREEMENT FOR APPROXIMATELY 100 SQUARE FEET OF STORAGE SPACE IN THE TOWN HALL BASEMENT WITH THE SARTELL AMERICAN LEGION FOR \$50 PER MONTH, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Mr. Denny questioned whether the rent can be paid for a year. Supv Heim informed him they could pay for the October through December rent per the contract, then in January 2026, a new contract can be drawn up that would indicate it could be paid for one year at a time.

Bon Homie Valley Concerned Resident – A concerned resident of the Bon Homie Valley Addition came before the Town Board questioning whether the township has regulations regarding dogs running at large or a leash law. He stated the dog is very aggressive and not on a leash nor is the owner outside to manage the animal. A copy of the township regulations 410.02 was provided to the resident. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE CLERK PLANTE SEND A LETTER TO THE DOG OWNER ALONG WITH A COPY OF REGULATION 410.02 PROHIBITING THE RUNNING AT LARGE OF ANY DOG OR CAT, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Jeff Bertch – Traut Solar Farm – Mr. Bertch was on the agenda but was unable to attend the meeting. Rod Traut, a township resident who is an adjacent property owner to the solar farm, was in attendance to see what the current status of the solar farm is. Supv Heim did inform Mr. Traut that presently, the access (approach permit application) to the solar farm area via County Road 1, is being discussed by Stearns County.

Doug Welk & Lance Bemboom – ASTECH Inc., 17th Street (Udermann) – Mr. Welk and Bemboom were scheduled to attend the meeting to discuss 17th Street, but are unable to attend.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: No business from the floor.

MINUTES:

SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 26, 2025 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING AS AMENDED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Ordinance Re: Grass/Lawn Length & Granny Pods/Mother-in-Law Suites - Atty Gilchrist recently drafted an ordinance regarding grass/lawn length for the township. He suggested he also add in a section regarding Granny Pods/Mother-in-Law Suites so they can be acted on at the same time.

Atty Gilchrist is continuing work on the St. Cloud Orderly Annexation Agreement and the Town Code Provisions for Stearns County Enforcement.

Zander Property – Chrm Heim report that Attorney Robert Alsop has sent a letter to the Zanders reminding them they are in violation of the court order by continuing the storage of multiple vehicles and personal property on their property. The letter advised them the township's intention to return to court and seek enforcement of the order. The Zander's have until September 20, 2025 to comply with the order.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: No report.

AUGUST TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Bentley reviewed with the Town Board the August revenues and expenditures. The expenditures were higher than normal totaling \$124,021.88. These included building inspector fees of \$52,000, blow patching of township roads of \$44,000 and \$20,000 for the township fire contract. Revenue balance at the end of August was \$960,565.65. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS WRITTEN THE AUGUST 2025 TREASURERS REPORT, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CLAIMS & VOUCHERS: Treasurer Bentley presented the invoices & claims totaling \$6,464.62. These included payroll and monthly invoices. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,464.62 (CHECK #14547 THRU 14555 PLUS EFT'S 325 & 326), SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Mowing at Town Hall – Supv Westerlund continues to mow the grass at the town hall. He has received a bid of \$800 for 4 treatments of the township lawn. He will get other bids and report to the board.

Area Planning Organization (APO) Meeting – Supv Westerlund attended the September 4th meeting of the APO. Discussion was held on the category change for 322nd Street. It is now being designated as a major collector versus a minor collector. This change may qualify 322nd Street for future funding.

Tree Trimming Proposals – No further information at this time.

Board of Equalization Training – Supv Westerlund will plan to take this online training. Clerk Plante sent the information for the training to all board members.

Dan Heim –

Shoreland Permit Finals – Supv Heim report the shoreland permits for the following have been finalized:

- Tad Farris – 3776 Riviera Road
- Kent & Shelly Davis – 3514 Riviera Road
- Joel & Trisha Bemboom – 3462 Riviera Road
- Shawn & Pamela Wensel – 3302 Riviera Road

The only outstanding shoreland permit is Paul Tomczik, 2944 Winnebago Road.

MS4 Implementation Plan – Supv Heim received information from Kevin Strauss of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) with resources of sample ordinances, checklists and educational material for implementation of our MS4 program. The email was forwarded to board members. All information can be downloaded and reviewed.

Winterization of Township Sprinkling System – Supv Heim scheduled October 21st for the winterization of the township sprinkling system with Traut Wells.

Erin Warren, 32169 County Road 1 – Garage rebuild – Chrm Heim reported that Ms. Warren had a carport style garage plan that she sent to David Barsody, Building Inspector. Mr. Barsody informed her it must meet code. Atty Gilchrist stated it must have similar material as the house. Ms. Warren is having new plans worked on.

Sue Roberts, 2688 7th Ave. No., - Tar/Oil on Concrete Apron – Bertram Asphalt has fixed and cleaned the tar/oil spill on the Roberts concrete apron on September 4th. Supv Heim received a picture of the area which looks good and Ms. Roberts has approved of the outcome.

Jim Gabrielson, 1660 Riverside Ave – Accessory Building – Mr. Gabrielson would like to construct a 40 x 60 square foot accessory building on his property located on the Mississippi River. He will need a variance since the building will be in his front yard. He is working with JD Builders (Jason Dale) who has been emailed the necessary information when constructing a building in the shoreland area.

322nd Street – APO (Area Planning Organization) – LRIP (Local Road Improvement Plan) – Chrm Heim reported no application has been posted to the website yet. He plans to work with Zachary Borgerding with the city of St. Cloud and St. Wendel Township when applying for possible funding for 322nd Street.

Paul Wagner –

Mary Lou Udermann – 17th Street North Grading – Supv Wagner reported that ASTECH has yet to grade 17th Street North, but it is scheduled for later this week or Monday or Tuesday of next week. Supv Wagner has been in contact informing Ms. Udermann of the scheduled grading. He also invited Doug Welk and Lance Bemboom to attend this meeting to discuss the product recently placed on 17th Street to improve the wash boarding etc. He also feels 17th Street should be graded possibly every 2-3 weeks. Clerk Plante will contact Mr. Welk and Bemboom again to invite them to the next scheduled meeting.

CLERK REPORT:

Nadia Corrieri, 2675 7th Ave No – Excessive Sand & Tire Damage – Ms. Corrier contacted Clerk Plante regarding the excessive sand from the blow patching project completed a couple of weeks ago. Ms. Corrieri also said a rock from the blow patching material punctured her tire and she needed to get a new tire. She only requested the area be swept since there was so much sand. No further action was taken on this issue.

Kent Davis 3514 Riviera Road – Mr. Davis contacted Clerk Plante requesting the reports that were given by the DNR, the township shoreland consultant and township engineer. She will scan the reports and email them to Mr. Davis.

ID Sign Solution Proposal – John Peterson provided his proposal for road closed signs etc. The proposal was for \$1678.00. Clerk Plante will review the proposals she has received and order the necessary signs.

Loehlein - Volunteer Service Agreement – Atty Troy Gilchrist emailed Clerk Plante informing the Town Board the Volunteer Service agreement could be signed by township resident, Steve Loehlein, to maintain the township easement area between his home and adjacent property owner, Joe Novak. This clearly states the work is being done without compensation and liability on the township's part. Reimbursement of maintenance costs could also be considered. Clerk Plante will contact Mr. Loehlein.

OLD BUSINESS:

Thomas Property – Tim Oswald of Stearns County Environmental Health emailed Supv Heim that the Thomas property has been referred to the county attorney's office.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – No update.

Website Redesign – W3Web has not responded to an email sent by Clerk Plante.

Fee Schedule – No further information.

Townline Road Update – Supv Heim attended a Zoom meeting with Jodi Teich, Stearns County Highway Engineering, along with other representatives of the jurisdictions involved with the town line road reconstruction. Letters were mailed to property owners along 30th Avenue informing them of a public informational meeting that will be held on October 6 from 4:30 – 6:30 at the Sartell Community Center. It was the consensus of the Town Board to have Clerk Plante post the meeting on the township website and town hall door since all supervisors will be in attendance. The federal funding of \$1.5 million dollars is being presented by Emmers & Klobuchar and should pass. Other important time frames included the tree clearing and bidding in February-March of 2026 with construction to begin in May of 2026 and completion by October of 2026.

322nd Street Update – Chrm Heim will be working on the application for LRIP funding as soon as the application is available on the website.

Snow & Ice Policy – This snow & ice policy for the 2025-26 snow season was updated with changes made in the listing of secondary township roads and snow plow routes. This will be placed for approval on the next meeting agenda.

Tree Trimming – Supv Westerlund would like Supvs Heim and Wagner to look at the planned tree trimming, so all board members are aware of what should be done. Supv Westerlund will then receive a couple more bids for this project.

Lawn Length Ordinance – Atty Gilchrist has provided a draft ordinance, Atty Gilchrist will add the Granny Pod/Mother-in-law Suite to the draft – Chrm Heim has asked the board to review so that it can be discussed at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Marlyce L. Plante,
LeSauk Township Clerk