

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – LeSauk Town Hall
Tuesday, May 13, 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 new LeSauk Town Hall. The board members and representatives of the Sartell, St. Stephen and LeSauk Lions gathered for a photograph presenting the Lions with the township's donation towards restroom facilities at the all-inclusive playground park in Sartell. The funds were in the park fund which could only be used for park acquisitions, equipment etc. Since the township does not have and will not have a park, the decision was made by township residents attending the annual meeting, to donate the funds to the Lions Club for construction of restroom facilities at the all-inclusive park.

PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Jeff Westerlund and Paul Wagner, Clerk Marlyce Plante, Deputy Clerk Mary Barron-Traut and Treasurer Josh Bentley plus 9 interested parties.

SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA MOVING THE TREASURERS REPORT AS THE FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Claims and Invoices – Treasurer Josh Bentley gave a brief synopsis of the invoices and claims presented to the board which totaled \$65,599.14. The largest amount is \$30,342.53 which is from the park fund and is being donated to the Sartell Lions Club. Other claims and invoices included the monthly payroll and utility bills along with several months of attorney fee charges. Treasurer Bentley contacted township attorney, Troy Gilchrist, since he had not received an invoice from him for quite some time.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS AND EFT'S IN THE AMOUNT OF \$65,599.14 (CHECK #14474 THRU 14489 PLUS EFT'S 316 & 317), SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. The check for the donation to the Lions Park all-inclusive playground restroom was presented to Stu Giffin. Mr. Giffin, along with representatives of the St. Stephen & LeSauk Lions, thanked the town board for their donation.

April Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Bentley reviewed with the board the expenses and revenues during April. The ending balance in all township funds was \$934,237.23. He informed the board the first bond payment for the town hall is not due until August 2025. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE APRIL TREASURERS REPORT AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Rod & Gary Traut – T-Eight LLC – Rod & Gary Traut are brothers representing the 8 property owners of a T-Eight LLC parcel in the Township. They came before the board to discuss options to split off the patio home built by their parents in 2005. Rod Traut has spoken to Kari Haakonson, City of Sartell Economic & Project Planner who thought it could be done through a variance, but told them they needed to discuss options with the township. Supv Heim discussed the sub-division regulations for the U-1 zoning district which states splitting of parcels must be done through the platting process. The parcel contains 40 acres. The Traut's questioned whether it can be done through a certificate of survey or the variance process discussed by Ms. Haakonson. Chrm Heim felt it would need to be platted, but will discuss options with Ms. Haakonson regarding the variance process. He also informed them if the split could be done with a variance, a declaration of restriction could possibly be a part of the variance. This would mean that further splitting or developing of the parcel, would require annexation to the city of Sartell.

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 22, 2025 REGULAR MEETING AS AMENDED, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 6, 2025 ANNUAL ROAD INSPECTION MEETING, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Since the annual road inspection meeting was held in May, the monthly road inspection by Supv Heim will not be done this month. The schedule will continue with Supv Westerlund doing the June Road report.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Atty Gilchrist sent final drafts of the solar farm/garden ordinance for signing and continues to work on the Town Code provisions with Stearns County and the orderly annexation agreement with the city of St. Cloud.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: Building Inspector David Barsody had drafted a letter to Mike & Karen Lee, 32688 River Vista Lane regarding the demolition and removal of their entire home without a demolition permit, but it had not been sent, which he now sent. He will let Chrm Heim know if he hears from the Lee's.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS**Jeff Westerlund –**

Lawn Mower Purchase – Supv Westerlund reported he had purchased a Honda 21-inch self-propelled lawnmower. He cut and bagged the grass at the town hall on Friday, May 9th. Clerk Plante was also there cleaning the flower bed and trimming the bushes and he felt she should be paid for the work. Clerk Plante stated the work could fall under her monthly clerk fee and it had not been approved by the town board. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ALLOW ALL BOARD MEMBERS TO BE REIMBURSED FOR EXTRA WORK USING THEIR DISCRETION, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Township Clean-Up Day Recap – Supv Westerlund reported there were 25 people who came to the township clean-up day event. He needed to order another dumpster due to the high volume of items brought in. He collected \$862.00 for the mattresses, TV's & tires etc. that were brought in. He returned on Monday when the dumpsters were collected to make sure the area was cleaned up, also using a magnetic roller making sure all metal, nails etc. were removed. The church personnel had two TV's to be disposed of and asked Supv Westerlund to reduce the \$400 fee given to the church for use of the church parking lot, to \$350 which would cover the fees charged by Opatz Metal & Roll-Off. Supv Westerlund also stated there was a \$50 charge for the pick-up of the dumpster on Saturday even though they were told that pick up wouldn't be needed. He felt it should not be paid.

Also discussed were changes possible for next year's clean-up day with having two board members in attendance. Supv Westerlund felt it is quite difficult for just one supervisor to handle. The board was in agreement, but the clean-up day would need to be posted as a meeting.

Meetings – Supv Westerlund reported he attended a meeting of the Community Education Advisory Group and the Area Planning Organization.

Dan Heim –

Sam DeLeo – Cyril Traut Plat – Supv Heim was contacted by Sam DeLeo, surveyor, to discuss a plat for the Cyril and Margaret Traut 5-acre parcel. Mr. DeLeo stated he is working with Ed Traut and he would like to split the parcel in two lots if the townships sub-division regulations would allow. No definite decisions have been made if that is what he wants to do since there has been several options discussed with the Town board, but nothing has been brought before the board.

Glen Lauer – St. Wendel Township – Supv Heim received a call from Glen Lauer, supervisor for St. Wendel Township, questioning what attorney firm LeSauk Township uses. St. Wendel Township has been issued a summons regarding an issue in their township. Supv Heim provided him with Attorney Gilchrist's information.

Wilfred & Michael Weyer Parcel – Supv Heim informed the Board owners of the Wilfred & Michael Weyer parcel have requested annexation to the city of Sartell along with rezoning the parcel. This parcel has the round barn on it.

322nd Street Meeting – Supv Heim reported on a meeting held with representatives from St. Cloud, Stearns County and St. Wendel regarding possible funding for 322nd Street. A bill was introduced in the legislature for \$3 million. APO (Area Planning Organization) members are working on a possible change in the classification of 322nd Street. Representatives Clark & Wolgamott are working on a possible increase in the funding to \$5 million. Supv Heim was also questioned whether LeSauk has road requirements. He will email David Blommel for recommendations for township road requirements.

Tad Farris – S.E.H. Engineering marked the flood plain for the Farris property but due to misunderstanding as to what was needed on the Farris property, there will not be a charge for S.E.H. marking the flood plain.

MS4 Workshop @ Watab Township Hall – Supv Heim attended both the morning and afternoon sessions of workshops held at the Watab Township Hall. The workshops were taught by three representatives of the MPCA (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency). They were attended by approximately 20-25 people from the surrounding areas that are involved with a stormwater permit including representatives from Duluth. Supv Heim also reminded board members there is another MS4/SWPPP training on May 22nd at 2:30 p.m. being presented by Wayne Cymbulak from CMWEA.

Supv Heim questioned whether lists have been received from both the police, sheriff's and fire departments stating all of their employees/officers have been trained on illicit discharge. Clerk Plante has received the sheriff's and is waiting on the Sartell police & fireman's list.

Paul Wagner – No Report.

Clerk Report –

Fine Reimbursement – The township received \$73.32 during April 2025.

New Minnesota Flag – Clerk Plante ordered a new Minnesota Flag. Town board members suggested also getting the previous Minnesota Flag for display.

Items for Garage Sale – Clerk Plante will take the desk, armoire, windows and letter holders for possible sale at garage sale being held by her daughter.

Mulch & Bushes Purchase – Clerk Plante informed the board she may be purchasing mulch for the front flower bed where the town hall sign is located. Some new bushes may also be needed for the front of the building – several bushes did not make it through the winter.

May 27th Meeting – Clerk Plante let the Town Board know that Deputy Clerk Mary Barron-Traut will handle the meeting since she will be out of town.

Brian Gibson – Area Planning Organization (APO) Director – Mr. Gibson will be attending the June

13th Meeting to discuss Cost Sharing for Future Beltline Projects by the APO.

Key Hole Change – Clerk Plante told board members that she had her husband ground out the key holes on both doors to the new town hall. The holes were not large enough and the lock would not go into each hole to make it secure. They both work well now.

OLD BUSINESS:

Thomas Property – Supv Heim has not received an update from Stearns County Environmental Services yet regarding the Thomas property clean-up.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – This was viewed during the annual road inspection meeting. Clerk Plante will contact Bob Dunning, Stearns County Weed Inspector, to view the property and attend a meeting to meet the town board.

Website Redesign – No update as of yet.

Fee Schedule – Once more information is completed regarding the cost of variances, shoreland alterations, conditional use permits etc., the board will discuss possible changes to the fee schedule.

Cannabis Ordinance – The public hearing regarding the cannabis ordinance is scheduled for the Joint Planning Board & township meeting on May 27th.

Townline Road Update – Supv Heim attended a Teams meeting on April 23rd. As of now, \$1.5 million is slated in the 2026 Appropriations bill according to the county, by the end of May, a more concrete estimate should be available. Right-of-way proceedings are planned to be completed between May through October. Bids are planned for August to October. Tree clearing will begin during the winter of 2025 and into 2026, with construction to begin in 2026. Unfortunately, the road will be moved to accommodate the electric poles since it is approximately \$150,000 per mile to move the electric poles. The granite area on the road and owned by Cold Spring Granite, is not a concern since the road will be moved around it. Supv Heim also reported that all necessary permits have been received for the reconstruction of 30th Avenue.

Sartell Historical Society Rental Agreement - Dennis Molitor and members of the Sartell Historical Society have moved all their items and bins into the basement of the town hall. Signature of the contract is still needed. Mr. Molitor gave a check for \$400 covering the rent from May thru December.

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