

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – LeSauk Town Hall
Tuesday, June 24, 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 plus one interested party.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING JULIANNE FAUSKE SITE PLAN TO OLD BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Craig Pogatshnik – Stearns County Deputy Sheriff – Deputy Sheriff Pogatshnik was in attendance to give his bi-monthly report of activity in the township. He provided the last 2 months of sheriff calls in the township. He stated the township has been very quiet as far as incidents; nothing out of the ordinary. Discussion was held regarding burning permits and restrictions. Supv Heim, who issues burning permits for township residents at no cost, is notified if burning restrictions have been put into place by the DNR (Department of Natural Resources). A township resident can also obtain a burning permit on the DNR website for \$5.00.

Zander Vehicle Parking on 27th Street – With Deputy Sheriff Pogatshnik in attendance, the town board discussed resident complaints about the legality of parking vehicles by the Zanders on 27th Street. Deputy Sheriff Pogatshnik suggested the complaining residents should contact the sheriff's department when this is occurring. He stated that parking on the street is allowed, but not for a long period of time and the Zanders should be given time to move the vehicles. Supv Heim has emailed Angela Olson-Zander of the complaints as well as the increased junk vehicles at the property. This property was court-ordered in 2024 to remove all junk vehicles & property along with the township assessing the property the cost of clean-up the township had incurred to clean up the property. Township Attorney Troy Gilchrist has sent a letter regarding the assessment.

After discussion, SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO HAVE SUPV HEIM GIVE THE ZANDERS TWO (2) WEEKS TO REMOVE THE JUNK VEHICLES AND ABANDONED PROPERTY SINCE THEY HAVE HAD AMPLE WARNING AND IF IT IS NOT DONE, HAVE ATTORNEY GILCHRIST ISSUE A CONTEMPT OF COURT, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 10, 2025 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING AS AMENDED, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Atty Gilchrist will draft a resolution for the Kevin & Deborah Traut Interim Use Permit for a solar farm approving the alternated access route from Pinecone Road to Riverside Avenue to bring electrical services to the solar farm. Attorney Gilchrist is also working on town code provisions and the orderly annexation agreement with the city of St. Cloud.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: Building Inspector David Barsody received a demolition permit

for the Mike & Karen Lee, 32688 River Vista Lane. The Lee's are working with Serv-Pro and plan to build a new home. Building Inspector Barsody stated he will need a structural engineers report if their plan is to use the same foundation. The board discussed the motor home that is currently parked on the site plus other activity on the property.

CLAIMS & VOUCHERS: Treasurer Bentley presented the invoices & claims which totaled \$3269.07. He discussed the upcoming July 8th township meeting and asked the board members to send their vouchers as soon as possible so he can complete some paperwork prior to the holiday weekend.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE OF \$3269.07 (CHECK #14507 THRU 14510 PLUS EFT'S 318 & 319), SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

River Vista Lane Activity – Supv Westerlund received a call questioning what is happening at the Lee home on River Vista Lane. He will relay to the concerned party the discussion the town board had, the status of the demolition and reconstruction of a new home by the Lee's.

Fallen Tree – Pleasant Dale Addition – Board members were contacted by the Stearns County Sheriff's department regarding a fallen tree blocking traffic in the Pleasant Dale addition. Supv Westerlund went to the area of 321st Street & 62nd Avenue. When he arrived, township residents in the addition had removed the fallen tree debris.

Dan Heim –

Township Hall Lawn Sprinkler System – Supv Heim spoke and met with Brandon of Traut Wells to examine the lawn sprinkler system at the new town hall. He reported that Traut Wells had installed the system and they provided a map of where all the sprinkler heads and zones are located. The system is a "rain censor" system and is now in working order.

Zander Parking Complaints – Supv Heim had again received complaints about the parking of junk vehicles and abandoned property along 27th Street by the Zanders. This was discussed with Deputy Sheriff Pogatshnik earlier in the meeting.

Scott Saehr – Zoning & Sub-Division – Mr. Saehr contacted Supv Heim with questions regarding who the township used for our regulations for zoning and sub-division. Mr. Saehr was previously employed as the Sartell City Development Director and has now established his own business; Saehr Consulting.

Julie Fischer – Parking on Forest Drive – Ms. Fischer contacted Supv Heim regarding the parking on Forest Drive. Forest Drive is in the city of St. Cloud. Supv Heim contacted Matt Glaesman, St. Cloud Community Development Director regarding the complaint. He questioned whether Ms. Fischer could place "No Parking" signs by her property, which she can not since it is a public street. Apparently, Ms. Fischer had already placed the signs and they were removed by the St. Cloud Police. Supv Heim will contact Ms. Fischer.

Ms. Fischer also informed Supv Heim there are thistles growing on the Keller parcel adjacent to her property. Clerk Plante will view and send a letter to Mr. Keller if thistles are located on the property.

322nd Street Funding – Supv Heim spoke with Zachary Borgerding with the city of St. Cloud, regarding funding for the reconstruction of 322nd Street. As of right now, he reported there is no money in the latest transportation funding bill. Supv Heim has emailed Stearns County Commissioner, Joe Perske. Mr. Perske has been an advocate for funding of the 322nd Street reconstruction project.

Tri-County Humane Society Impound Procedure & Stray Dog – Supv Heim and Clerk Plante both received an email from the Tri-County Humane Society regarding a stray dog that was found on 27th Street and County Road 1 and surrendered to the humane society. This is the first stray animal brought in under the new procedure the humane society began in 2025. Town board members no longer receive a phone call to verify the address a stray has been found and whether it is located in the township. An email is sent to the contact people of the jurisdiction and we are given a 5-day period to either accept or deny the intake of the animal.

Udermann Accessory Building Construction – Supv Heim has been contacted by John Udermann who would like to construct a 30 X 36 accessory building. Supv Heim informed Mr. Udermann he will need a site plan indicating the placement of the building, setbacks, septic system etc. Also, a concern is whether a variance would be needed for the accessory building since it will be located near the feedlot located on the Udermann farm site. Supv Heim will await the site plan and it will be determined after it is received.

Brian Johnston, 2643 7th Ave. No. – Addition to an Accessory Building – Mr. Johnston questioned whether he can add an addition to an accessory building on his existing parcel, but is unsure of what he wanted. Supv Heim stated that Mr. Johnston may not be able to add anything further on the parcel his home is located on due to the other existing structures, but he may be able to build an accessory building on the adjacent parcel that he owns. Supv Heim will wait to see if Mr. Johnston provides him with further details or a site plan.

Rod & Gary Traut, 1835 27th St. No. – Septic Certification – Supv Heim was contacted by Rod & Gary Traut stating they are getting the septic system on their parent's parcel (Edgar & Kitty Traut) reviewed and possibly recertified.

Shoreland Permit Applications & Escrow Accounts – Supv Heim discussed the various shoreland permit applicants and subsequent escrow accounts for township property owners; Tad Farris – permit approved, Kent Davis – permit approved, Joel Bemboom – permit approved for the replacement of a boulder wall, Shawn Wenzel – permit approved. These property owners were required to establish an escrow account. Remaining funds in the escrow will be returned once work has been completed and all invoices have been paid.

Paul Wagner –

17th Street No – Supv Wagner spoke with Lance Bemboom of ASTECH Inc. regarding possible work on 17th Street to eliminate the wash boarding east of the stop sign. It was suggested by Lance, to have a couple of loads of class 5 placed on that particular area since it is a low area. Mr. Bemboom also suggested with the upcoming reconstruction of 30th Avenue, overlaying approximately 100 feet east of the stop sign may also help. Supv Wagner has not received the estimate as of yet. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ALLOW SUPV WAGNER TO APPROVE THE 17TH STREET ROAD WORK UP TO \$2000 WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE FILL AND GRADING OF THE STREET, SECOND BY SUPV HEIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

July 8th Meeting – Supv Wagner informed the board he will be on vacation on July 8th and will be unable to attend the regular township meeting.

Fallen Tree & Open Meeting Law – Supv Wagner had been informed of the fallen tree in the Pleasant Dale Addition and contacted all board members via text. Supv Wagner was reminded to contact Clerk Plante or Treasurer Bentley when having to contact other board supervisors. This will avoid any conflict with the open meeting law regulations.

Julie Fischer – Supv Wagner was also contacted by Ms. Fischer regarding the Forest Drive parking.

Clerk Report –

Minnesota Flag – Clerk Plante ordered and received the “old” Minnesota flag and questioned whether she should order a stand in order to have both the new and old Minnesota flag displayed in the meeting room. It was the consensus to put up the old Minnesota flag and the new Minnesota flag could be stored in the town hall for possible future use.

Township’s Canon Copier – Clerk Plante reported to the board the Canon copier, purchased in 2008, is no longer serviced by Metro Sales. She contacted Loffler Copier Services who service Canon copiers, but they do not service in this area and not that old of a copier. Marco will service but will charge a minimum of \$175/hr. and a \$40 trip fee just to look at the copier. With parts etc. the charges could be quite high. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ALLOW CLERK PLANTE TO PURCHASE A NEW COPIER/PRINTER/SCANNER UP TO \$500, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Ron & Marti Bunde Variance Approval – The Bunde’s received approval from Stearns County Environmental to replace their septic system within 60 feet of the Mississippi River.

Purchases @ Town Hall – Clerk Plante discussed several purchases she made for the town hall: Kleenex, air fresheners, flower pot & flowers etc.

Dehumidifier for Town Hall – After discussion regarding the humidity in the town hall, it was the consensus of the board to have Clerk Plante purchase humidity meters for the town hall.

Minnesota Township Association (MAT) Cards – Clerk Plante emailed MAT regarding the email address error and town officers expiration date omission on the identification cards. She received an email that no new cards will be issued; the expiration date was removed and the email address will be corrected on next years cards for new officers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Thomas Property – No new information has been received. The Thomas’s have until the end of June to complete all required clean-up of their parcel located on Riverside Ave/County Road 1.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – Clerk Plante was contacted by Bob Dunning, Stearns County Agricultural Inspector, the Sullivan yard does not contain any type of noxious weeds. He suggested a “grass height” limit in the township’s ordinances and zoning regulations.

Website Redesign – No update as of yet.

Fee Schedule – No further information.

Townline Road Update – No further information has been received or meetings scheduled.

322nd Street Update – No funding available at this time. Information given to Stearns County Commissioner Joe Perske.

Julianne Fauske Site Plan – 2153 Monarch Court – The Fauske’s plan to construct an in-ground swimming pool. Supv Heim has received the site plan. He measured the impervious coverage which only comes to 19.6% lot coverage. A certified automatic pool cover will be placed on the pool in lieu of fencing around the swimming pool. Since the property is zoned R-1, Supv Heim contacted Kari Haakonson, city of Sartell’s Community & Economic Development Director. Ms. Haakonson saw no problem with allowing the swimming pool construction. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR JULIANNE FAUSKE SWIMMING POOL CONSTRUCTION PROVIDED IT IS BUILT WITH A CERTIFIED LOCKABLE POOL COVER ACCORDING TO STATE REGULATIONS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

July 22nd Township Meeting – Supv Heim informed board members that he will be on vacation on July 22nd and unable to attend the regular township meeting. Discussion was held with Treasurer Bentley regarding the early July 8th meeting date and possibility of not receiving monthly bills and not having a full board present at both July meetings. SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO MOVE THE JULY 8TH MEETING TO JULY 15TH BEGINNING AT 6 P.M. ALONG WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF

CANCELLING THE JULY 22ND MEETING IF ALL MONTHLY BILLS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, SECOND BY SUPV EHIM, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Snow & Ice Policy Review – Chrm Heim asked the board supervisors to review the policy prior to the meeting on July 15th so the policy can be updated as soon as possible.

JUNE ROAD REPORT:

Supv Westerlund provided his June Road report to all board members. He reviewed the township roads he felt were in need of blow patching since there are many shallow smaller pot holes that are not conducive to cold-patch filling. He also discussed several areas that are in need of tree trimming.

Possible blow patching areas:

- 7th Avenue (Country Side Acres Addition)
- 321st Street (Foley Street)
- Pleasant Dale Addition
- Pine Ridge Road
- 1st Street North

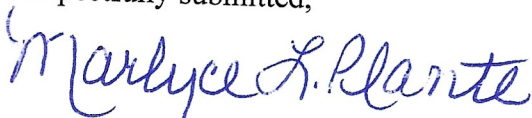
Tree Trimming areas:

- 7th Ave. North (2640)
- Winnebago Road (South end)
- Riviera Road (3630)

Supv Heim will contact Bertram Asphalt for a quote on the blow patching and Supv Westerlund will get quotes for the tree trimming. These quotes will be considered at the next meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante,
LeSauk Township Clerk