

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – LeSauk Town Hall
Tuesday, August 12, 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 three interested parties.

AGENDA: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING BOB STOMMES, BRENDA ANDERSON AND STEVE LOEHLEIN TO BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR, NEW BUSINESS - JEREMY LEGATT, RIGHT OF WAY PERMIT EASEMENT FOR BONFIRE, MIKE & KAREN LEE SITE PLAN, UDERMANN PUBLIC HEARING AND AUGUST ROAD REPORT, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Brenda Anderson, 1101 35th St. No. – Fence – Ms. Anderson came before the board questioning the process to place a fence on her property along 35th Street. Supv Heim informed her the width of 35th Street (which is in the city of Sartell) is 80 feet wide; she will need to measure 40 feet from the center of 35th Street for placement of the fence. Fences up to 6 feet high are not required to obtain a building permit. Ms. Anderson is planning a wood panel fence and locations of utilities have been done.

Steve Loehlein, 6204 322nd St -Easement – Mr. Loehlein came before the board to discuss the easement he and his adjacent neighbor, Joe Novak, have on a township lot between their properties. The easement was granted to both property owners so Mr. Loehlein can access his property and Mr. Novak can access an accessory building on his property. The township lot is part of the Pleasant Dale plat. If in the future there is development to the west of the Pleasant Dale plat, 322nd Street could be extended to the developed area.

Mr. Loehlein has been maintaining the easement area on the properties, both manually and financially, with little help from Mr. Novak. He would like the townships help in getting the issue resolved. He provided his easement agreement which is the same as Mr. Novak's and states the easement is to be maintained by both parties. After discussion, it was the consensus of the town board to have the easement agreement and an aerial view of the properties sent to township attorney, Troy Gilchrist, for review and possible advice.

Bob Stommes – Mr. Stommes did not attend the meeting.

MINUTES:

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 15, 2025 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING AS AMENDED, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Atty Gilchrist is working on updating the townships zoning ordinances. It will include the newly adopted solar and cannabis ordinances. Atty Gilchrist is also working on the St. Cloud orderly annexation agreement and town code provisions for Stearns County.

Zander Property – Supv Heim has contacted Attorney Bob Alsop regarding the continued

accumulation of abandoned vehicles at the Zander property along with the continuous loading and unloading of junk on the property at different hours of the evening. The town board is asking Atty Alsop to file a contempt of court. Atty Alsop requested pictures of the abandoned vehicles & property which were provided by Supv Heim.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: Building Inspector David Barsody was contacted by Dennis Mattson, a township resident who had questions about regulations regarding the placement of railings on steps he plans to replace. Since the steps are more than 30 inches above ground, Mr. Mattson needed a building permit.

Erin Warren, 32169 County Road 1 – Garage rebuild – Ms. Warren has not provided a site plan for the rebuild of her garage destroyed by a fire several months ago.

JULY TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Bentley reviewed with the Town Board the July Treasurers Report. The remainder of the townships real estate tax settlement was deposited in the amount of \$58,840.78 along with several building permit fees. Total revenues were \$62,974.25. Expenses were minimal during July, totaling \$17,716.62 which included the first Townhall Bond Interest payment of \$9,140.71. Our ending balance in all township fund accounts is \$1,077,980.58.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS PRESENTED THE JULY TREASURERS REPORT, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CLAIMS & VOUCHERS: Treasurer Bentley presented the invoices & claims totaling \$42,080.97. Two large payments to Bertram Asphalt of \$16,800 for blow patch work on township roads and \$20,000 to the city of Sartell for the second half of the fire contract are included. Other claims were for payroll and regular monthly expenses.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$42,080.97 (CHECK #14529 THRU 14540 PLUS EFT'S 323 & 324), SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Westerlund signed all checks since Chrm Heim's inability to do so due to his broken wrist.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Mowing at Town Hall – Supv Westerlund reported he mowed the town hall grass on July 28th and August 8th. He is bagging the grass every other cutting.

Jeremy Sand, 3934 Riviera Road – Road Damage – Supv Westerlund viewed the area on Riviera Road damaged from a fallen tree near the Sand residence. He met with Mr. Sand and placed cold patch in the pothole area made by the fallen tree. Supv Westerlund and Mr. Sand felt the repair was sufficient.

30th Avenue Patching – Supv Westerlund worked on filling potholes on 30th Avenue. He used 500 lbs. of cold patch. Supv Heim and Wagner indicated there was another larger hole just south of the bridge. Supv Westerlund will take care of within the next couple of days.

Sartell Community Education Board Meeting – Supv Westerlund attended the wrap up meeting for the summer recreation program. The fees collected for the summer programs was approximately 25% more than the previous year along with serving 300 more students.

District 5 Meeting – August 14th – SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ALLOW ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE DISTRICT 5 MEETING BEING HELD ON AUGUST 14 IN WILLMAR AT THE REGULAR RATE OF PAY, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION

CARRIED 3-0. Supv Wagner and Heim stated they will not be able to attend.

Tree Trimming Proposals – Supv Westerlund will wait closer to fall when tree trimming services are cheaper to receive more bids and a decision can be made at that time.

Dan Heim –

Steven Carlson, Driveway, 2013 35th Street No. - Jeremy Legatt of Infinity Homes is working with Steven Carlson who split his property into two lots. A new home is planned for the vacant lot, but it has been found that a fiber optic box is located in the middle of the driveway entrance. The cost of moving the fiber box is quite expensive and an alternative solution is to grant a permanent easement for use of the driveway that is in place. A permanent easement & maintenance agreement has been drafted and is being requested from the town board. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AN EASEMENT & MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR STEPHEN AND KAYLA CARLSON, 2013 35th St. No., SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Bonfire Right of Way Permit – Bonfire is planning to place fiber optics along River Vista Lane and has applied for a Right of way excavation permit. They have provided a certificate of insurance. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE RIGHT OF WAY EXCAVATION PERMIT FOR BONFIRE TO PLACE FIBER OPTIC ALONG RIVER VISTA LANE CONTINGENT ON RECEIVING THE \$250 APPLICATION FEE, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Rod Traut – Mr. Traut provided a copy of certification of the septic system on his parent's parcel located at 1835 27th St. No. Mr. Traut was informed that in order to split his parent's home from the 82-acre parcel, a plat will need to be drafted, a variance from the feed lot located on the farm and is less than the required 700 feet away and rezoning of the parcel to be split off. A declaration of restrictions will also be drafted for the remainder of the parcel. The Joint Planning Board will hold the public hearing and will be the recommending board and all final decisions will be made by the city of Sartell. The city will also draw up all resolutions, the declaration of restriction etc.

Mike & Karen Lee, 32688 River Vista Lane – Site Plan Approval – The Lee's provided the site plan for their new home. The Lee's septic system has been certified by Stearns County and the new home will be constructed on the same foot print as the previous home. The foundation, however, will need to be replaced according to a structural engineer who inspected it. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR MICHAEL & KAREN LEE WHICH MEETS ALL SETBACKS, IMPERVIOUS COVERAGE AND SEPTIC CERTIFICATION, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Paul Wagner –

Pleasant Dale Resident Complaint - Supv Wagner received a call from a resident in Pleasant Dale complaining of the excess amount of gravel after the blow patching was completed. Supv Wagner questioned whether it is procedure for the company to come back and pick up the excess gravel. Supv Heim stated the gravel material is left to be worked into the road bed. If there is still excess gravel after a few weeks, Supv Heim will contact Bertram Asphalt.

17th Street – Udermann area – Supv Wagner will again contact Lance Bemboom with ASTECH Inc. to discuss the wash boarding that is developing on the west end of 17th St. near the stop sign even after ASTECH placed 250 tons of class 5 on the road, shaped and graded it. He has not been in touch with Mary Lou Udermann but will give her a call regarding her question on whether 17th will be placed on a regular grading schedule. The road will be looked at during the supervisors' monthly inspections, and a decision whether to grade will be made after those inspections are done.

Flooding on 35th Street & 30th Avenue – Discussion was held by the town board regarding the flooding that occurred after a significant rainfall in mid-July. The townships flasher lights were not working so

Supv Wagner placed orange cones in the flooded areas. He met with a deputy sheriff who informed him the township has the authority to close the road, if they felt it was necessary. Luckily, the water receded and did not flood over the road. Since the township does not own any type of road closure signage, it was the consensus of the town board to have Clerk Plante get pricing for the following: 1 barricade, 1 barricade with a flashing light and 2 Road Closed and 2 Road Closed Ahead signs. The township currently has 3 flashing lights and 2 barricades. LED flashing lights will also be priced. Clerk Plante will contact John Peterson of ID Sign Solutions, M-R Signs and review the Uline catalog for their products.

CLERK REPORT:

Mulch & Town Hall Sign Bed – Clerk Plante reported she removed one of the bushes in the town hall sign bed and planted a hardy mum. She has not replaced the mulch yet.

Bertram Asphalt – Emails were received from Bertram Asphalt informing the board when and where the blow patching was going to take place.

Dennis & Renee Traut – Clerk Plante met with the Traut's to discuss whether Mr. Traut's parents house can be split off from the Traut farm he has been operating and renting for the last 45+ years. The splitting of the home from the farm was brought before the town board by Rod & Gary Traut. Supv Heim reported he had just received a report by Watab Inc. who certified the septic system for the Edgar and Kitty Traut parcel. This would allow the Traut house to be split off by platting the property, applying for a variance to allow less than a 40-acre split of property, variance from a nearby feedlot as well as a declaration of restriction on the remainder of the property. Since this property is in the U-1 zoning, the public hearing would be held by the Joint Planning Board and all resolutions and final decisions would be made by the city of Sartell.

Flooding of 35th Street & 30th Avenue - Discussion was held under Supv Wagner's report regarding the flooding of 35th and 30th and the decision to purchase road closure signage and update barricade lights.

Renting of Town Hall – Clerk Plante received a call from Lorie of Avon Township questioning whether LeSauk allows the rental of the town hall. Clerk Plante informed her the board is considering renting the town hall and are working with the township attorney to draft a rental agreement.

Building Permit Calls – Clerk Plante received calls from Julie Hennen, 2921 35th St. North, questioning whether the township could provide the previous roofing permit on her home. The second was from Albertson Plumbing questioned whether a building permit written for 2944 Winnebago Road covered the plumbing portion of the remodeling. She referred both calls to David Barsody, township building inspector.

Karen Lee – Ms. Lee contacted Clerk Plante regarding a fence and swimming pool they plan to place on their property needs a site plan. She informed her that a site plan approval is needed and gave her information of the next scheduled meeting. Supv Heim will inform the Lee's that another site plan approval will be needed for the fence and swimming pool. The site plan for the Lee's new home was approved earlier in the meeting and did not include the swimming pool and fencing.

Jeremy Sand – Stearns County Sheriff's Email – Clerk Plante received an email from the Stearns County Sheriff's office regarding the fire at the Jeremy Sand property (3934 Riviera Road). The fire was caused by power lines downed by falling trees.

OLD BUSINESS:

Thomas Property – Tim Oswald of Stearns County Environmental Health emailed Supv Heim on July 2nd stating the Thomas property is on his list to send to the county attorney.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – No update.

Website Redesign – Clerk Plante has been in contact with Leslie Rosendahl who is redesigning the

township website.

Fee Schedule – No further information.

Townline Road Update – Jeff Langan, project manager for the Townline Road Project, received an email from Carl Fasen who lives at 246 30th Avenue questioning the current status of the Townline road reconstruction since he has yet to be contacted regarding right of way acquisition of his property located along 30th Avenue. In answering Mr. Fasen, Mr. Langan informed him the project is behind the original schedule and right of way acquisition is planned yet for this year and funding, permitting and final approval through MnDOT have taken a bit longer than anticipated.

322nd Street Update – No funding available at this time.

Snow & Ice Policy – This will remain on the agenda for review at the next meeting.

Tree Trimming – Supv Westerlund received a quote of \$2000 from Ludwig Tree Service and has not heard back from Able Tree Service. Since the township plans to do the tree trimming later in the fall, he may wait closer to the end of September to get further quotes.

Lawn Length Ordinance – It was the consensus of the Town Board to have Atty Gilchrist draft an ordinance for a 10-inch lawn length in the township. This length matches the city of Sartell's ordinance regarding lawn length. Supv Heim will contact Atty Gilchrist.

NEW BUSINESS:

Udermann Public Hearing – The public hearing for variance applications filed by John & Mary Lou Udermann will be held on August 26th at 5:30 at the Joint Planning Board meeting. The Udermann's would like to construct an accessory building in their front yard and with the new construction of the building, will need a variance from the 700-foot setback from a feedlot.

AUGUST ROAD REPORT: The August Road report will be done by Supervisor Westerlund since Supv Heim is unable to do the report due to his broken wrist.

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