

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – LeSauk Town Hall
Tuesday, August 26, 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 two interested parties.

AGENDA: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING ASTECH SNOWPLOWING BID TO NEW BUSINESS, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM: No business.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

John & Mary Lou Udermann Variances – The public hearing for John & Mary Lou Udermann variance applications was held at the Joint Planning Board meeting prior to this meeting. The Joint Planning Board recommended approval of the variances. After discussion by the Town Board, SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-14, GRANTING TWO VARIANCES FOR JOHN & MARY LOU UDERMANN, 2621 17TH ST NORTH, SARTELL, TO CONSTRUCT A 40 X 60 SQUARE FOOT ACCESSORY BUILDING IN THE FRONT YARD AND A VARIANCE FOR SAID ACCESSORY BUILDING TO BE PLACED WITHIN 700 FEET FROM A FEEDLOT LOCATED ON MEADOWBROOK FARM, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Road Report – 17th Street North – Udermann Area – The Udermann's questioned the board on the continued washboard conditions of 17th Street North. The Udermann's offered to blade 17th Street with conditions discussed with their insurance carrier, Omann Insurance. Mr. Omann felt the Udermann's insurance policy would insure them if they graded the road with a \$2000 earnings limit per year. Supv Westerlund asked the Udermann's to email the information they received from Mr. Omann which will be reviewed by township attorney, Troy Gilchrist.

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO HAVE SUPV WAGNER CONTACT ASTECH INC. REQUESTING THEM TO GRADE 17TH STREET NORTH (UDERMANN'S) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Wagner was also asked to have ASTECH representatives attend the next meeting to discuss options for improving 17th Street North.

MINUTES:

SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 12, 2025 REGULAR TOWNSHIP MEETING AS AMENDED, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Atty Gilchrist has completed and emailed the updated zoning ordinances which includes the townships new solar & cannabis ordinances.

Stearns County Regulations for Enforcement of Cannabis Retail Establishments – Atty Gilchrist reviewed the regulations sent by Stearns County regarding registration, compliance and enforcement of cannabis retail businesses. It was recommended by Atty Gilchrist to approve these regulations. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE AGREEMENT WITH STEARNS COUNTY FOR THE REGISTRATION, COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT OF CANNABIS RETAIL BUSINESSES, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Atty Gilchrist has drafted an ordinance regarding grass/lawn length for the township. This will be placed on the next meetings agenda. Board members were asked to read as soon as possible, so this can be discussed. Atty Gilchrist continues to work on the St. Cloud orderly annexation agreement and town code provisions for Stearns County.

Zander Property – Chrm Heim has not received any information from Attorney Robert Alsop regarding the contempt of court procedure against the Zander property.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: No report.

CLAIMS & VOUCHERS: Treasurer Bentley presented the invoices & claims totaling \$81,940.91. Two large payments to Bertram Asphalt of \$16,800 for blow patch work on township roads and \$52,250.71 to Building Inspector David Barsody. The building inspector fees included several large fees for the Waters Church who are constructing a daycare facility. This project began when the church was in the township but has since been annexed to the city of Sartell. Building Inspector David Barsody will complete the project as the building inspector.

SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$81,940.91 (CHECK #14541 THRU 14546), SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Supv Westerlund signed all checks since Chrm Heim's inability to do so due to his broken wrist.

Dehumidifier, Flag Storage – Chrm Heim has been in touch with Denny Molitor, representative of the Sartell Historical Society. The historical society will purchase a dehumidifier for the basement since the town board purchased the camera-smoke detector nests for the basement. Mr. Molitor also informed Chrm Heim, he may be contacted by Chuck Haselkamp with the American Legion who may request to store flags and signs the legion has in a storage unit.

Township Website – Clerk Plante has sent the website design changes done by Leslie Rosenthal. After discussion by the town board, Clerk Plante was asked to receive a quote from W3Web who designed the Watab Township website.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

District 5 Meeting – Willmar – Supv Westerlund attended the district 5 meeting which he stated was very well attended and included legislative speakers. He provided copies of a question-and-answer sheet with questions such as whether all townships needed to upgrade their township websites. Also discussed at the meeting was paid leave policies for elected officials. Treasurer Bentley briefly discussed the new policy for elected officials which begins January 1, 2026. Appointed officials already are on the paid leave policy. Treasurer Bentley stated the town board will need to decide the percentage the township will pay towards the paid leave.

Mowing at Town Hall – Supv Westerlund reported he continues to mow the grass as needed, approximately every 10 days with bagging the grass every other mowing. Discussion was held briefly on whether the town hall grass needs weed treatment.

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 –

Bonfire Right of Way Permit Payment – This permit was approved at the last meeting contingent on receiving the permit payment. Chrm Heim has received the \$250 check.

Mike & Karen Lee, 32688 River Vista Lane – Site Plan Approval – Chrm Heim emailed Jason with ServPro and Mike & Karen Lee regarding the Lee's site plan approval for their home only. He informed him that no site plan has been received for the swimming pool and fence proposed by the Lee's for this property. As of this meeting time, no response has been received from ServPro or the Lee's.

Erin Warren, 32169 County Road 1 – Garage rebuild – Chrm Heim reported previously that Ms. Warren was unsure of her property lines and has been working with Sam DeLeo, surveyor. Ms. Warren also has a green house and two sheds on her property. Mr. DeLeo has found the garage is located just 1.3 feet from the property line, so if she plans to rebuild, she will need a variance from the side yard setback of 10 feet.

Bertram Asphalt, Excessive Sand Complaint – Chrm Heim received a response from Bertram Asphalt regarding the loose sand in areas where blow patching was done on township roads. They stated the sand is for tracking purposes and does not track on vehicles. They did provide a proposal for sweeping of the areas where a complaint has been received for excessive sand. It was \$195 per hour with an estimate of 4 hours to do the sweeping plus a \$280 trucking fee per truck load. After discussion it was the consensus of the board to not have the Pleasant Dale area swept and check the area during the next monthly road inspection to see whether the loose sand has been worked into the road surface.

Sue Roberts, 2688 7th Ave. No., - Tar/Oil on Concrete Apron – Ms. Roberts provided pictures of tar/oil spilled on her concrete apron by Bertram Asphalt when blow patching was done in Country Side Acres. Mr. Bertram of Bertram Asphalt had emailed instructions of how and what product to use to clean the tar/oil from the concrete apron. It was the consensus of the Town Board that it is the responsibility of Bertram Asphalt to clean the tar/oil from Ms. Roberts driveway. Chrm Heim will contact them and request they come out as soon as possible to clean Ms. Roberts driveway.

George Fedor, 2712 Riverside Ave. No. – Bath Remodel & Plumbing Permit – Chrm Heim received an email for a building permit application for George Fedor for a bath remodel & plumbing permit. This was forwarded to David Barsody, the townships building inspector.

322nd Street – APO (Area Planning Organization) – LRIP (Local Road Improvement Plan) – Chrm Heim discussed the comments received by the APO 's Transportation Improvement Program regarding the poor condition of 322nd Street. This street is owned by three jurisdictions; LeSauk Township, the City of St. Cloud and St. Wendel Township. Chrm Heim has received information about possible LRIP funding available up to \$1.5 million. He stated there is a LRIP Fund Webinar and he will contact Zachary Bogerding from the city of St. Cloud to work with him on applying for these funds. The application period runs from September 16, 2025 and closes on December 12, 2025.

Lawrence (Happy) Traut Property, 2071 1st St. No. – Annexation – The Traut property, 35 acres, has been approved for annexation to the city of Sartell. Steve Legatt with Infinity Homes, requested the annexation for possible development.

Shoreland Permit Updates – Chrm Heim is still working and waiting for final shoreland inspection on the Tomczik (2944 Winnebago Road) parcel. Joel Asp with S.E.H. Engineering and Stephen Gritman, Shoreland Consultant, are in the process of completing their final county inspection forms.

Jeff Bertch – Traut Solar Farm Update – Mr. Bertch has requested to attend the next scheduled

meeting to discuss the driveway access from County Road 1 to access the Traut Solar Farm.

Paul Wagner – Supv Wagner had a report on 17th Street North which has been discussed earlier in the meeting when John & Mary Lou Udermann were in attendance.

CLERK REPORT:

Loehlein-Novak Easement Agreement – Clerk Plante received an email from Attorney Troy Gilchrist regarding the maintenance of the township easement in the Pleasant Dale addition. The easements were granted to Steve Loehlein and Duane Kelzenberg (parcel is now owned by Joe Novak). The easement agreement has been recorded at Stearns County. Mr. Loehlein attended the previous township meeting questioning his options for maintenance of the easement. Mr. Novak has put little effort into the maintenance of his easement portion, while Mr. Loehlein has tried to eradicate the weeds as well as cutting the area.

Atty Gilchrist stated the township should not get involved with neighboring disputes, but with the easement being township property, possible contribution to the cost of the maintenance of the area could be possible. However, paying Mr. Loehlein for the maintenance, could raise a potential liability concern. Clerk Plante will also question Attorney Gilchrist whether it would be sufficient to have Mr. Loehlein sign a volunteer service agreement for the maintenance of the easement. This will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

Road Closed Signs & Barricade Lights – Clerk Plante received proposals from M-R Sign Company, but has yet to receive proposals from ID Sign Solutions. After discussion of the proposals, CHRM HEIM MOTIONED TO ALLOW CLERK PLANTE TO ORDER THE NECESSARY ROAD SIGNS AND BARRICADE LIGHTS AT HER DISCRETION WITH A FREIGHT CHARGE ALLOWED UP TO \$100, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Legislative & Research Committee Fall Meeting – Clerk Plante received information for an upcoming legislative & research committee meeting to be held at the Mayo Clinic Health Event Center in Mankato. The meeting will review and recommend legislative priorities and actions on behalf of the Minnesota Association of Townships. It was the consensus of the Town Board to not attend the meeting.

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 – Clerk Plante will have W3Web review our website.

Fee Schedule – No further information.

Townline Road Update – A teams meeting has been set for September 2, 2025.

322nd Street Update – Chrm Heim will be working on the application for LRIP funding.

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

Tree Trimming – Supv Westerlund suggested that Supv Heim & Wagner review the suggested tree-trimming areas; 27th Street & Winnebago Road, and discuss in an upcoming meeting.

Lawn Length Ordinance – Atty Gilchrist has provided a draft ordinance – Chrm Heim has asked the board to review so that it can be discussed at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lawn Irrigation-Winterization – Supv Heim will schedule with Traut Wells.

ASTECH Snow Plowing Bid – Chrm Heim received the bid for the 2025-26 snow plowing season. He indicated there is no increase in hourly rates for all plows etc. that are used and no increase in the salt/sand cost. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AND SIGN THE 2025-2026 ASTECH SNOW PLOWING BID, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

AUGUST ROAD REPORT: Supv Westerlund provided copies of his road report. He also completed the stormwater IDDE (Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination) form. He discussed the township road conditions which are all good other than 322nd Street and 30th Avenue. 322nd Street pot holes have been patched by the city of St. Cloud. It continues to be our worst road. 30th Avenue will be reconstructed in 2026, meanwhile, Supv Westerlund continues to patch potholes on the road.

The blow patching was discussed earlier in the meeting. Supv Westerlund did note there were some areas that had excessive sand, but will wait to see how it is absorbed into the tar/oil service over the next several weeks. He also provided pictures of the continuing issues at the Thomas and Zander properties.

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