

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – LeSauk Town Hall
Tuesday, August 10, 2026

The regular township meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Paul Wagner at 6:00 p.m. in the LeSauk Town Hall.

PRESENT: Supervisors Paul Wagner, Jeff Westerlund and Brian Fasen, Clerk Marlyce Plante, Treasurer Josh Bentley and five interested parties.

AGENDA: SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV FASEN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Ross Cummings – Faith Journey Church - Accessory Building Site Plan – Mr. Cummings came before the board to discuss an accessory building the church would like to construct to replace the small utility building on the church property. Since the planned building is 12 X 24 or 288 square feet, it falls above the square footage of a utility building and would now be considered an accessory building and require a building permit. Mr. Cummings provided a site plan indicating the placement of the building. Also discussed was whether a building permit is needed if they would decide to build a utility building. They were informed they did not need a building permit for a utility building, but would for a building larger than 220 square feet.

SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR FAITH JOURNEY CHURCH TO CONSTRUCT A 12 X 24 SQUARE FOOT ACCESSORY BUILDING, IT MEETS ALL SIDE AND REAR YARD SETBACKS, SEPTIC AND WELL HAVE ALSO BEEN INDICATED ON THE SITE PLAN, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Susan & Jim Goodew – Rupert Weyer Property Questions – The Goodew's came before the board to discuss options for the 58-acre Rupert Weyer property. The Goodew's would like to split 10-15 acres to sell to their church and a 2-acre parcel where the present house is located. Those two parcels would be annexed to the city, but they would like the remaining 41 acres to stay in the township and they would build a new home on that parcel. It was the consensus of the board to have the Goodew's meet with Kari Haakonson, City of Sartell project planner, to get her thoughts whether the city would agree to this division/platting of the parcel, as well as how the deferred assessments would need to be paid.

Gary & Linda Rehnke, Lyle & Kayla Maus – Sartell Southwest Water Main Project – The Rehnke's and Maus's came before the board to discuss the recent meeting they had with the city of Sartell. At the meeting, they were given approximate deferred assessment charges to their property when the planned southwest water main project is built in 2027-28. They questioned the project cost is approximately \$5.6 million with just under half of that amount being assessed to property owners along the projects route. They also stated the deferred assessments would also have a 3.5% accrued interest tacked on the original deferred assessment amount should it not be paid.

They also questioned why the orderly annexation agreement was approved by the town board many years ago. The town board did explain to them the township cannot financially provide services to township residents due to federal and state funding limitations. Cities have the ability to grow with available funding to them and the orderly annexation agreement with Sartell provides a cooperative orderly annexation between the township and city.

The Rehnke's & Maus's questioned whether they have any recourse and would like to have the town board provide guidance as well as a legal explanation of the annexation agreement and the deferred assessment process. SUPV FASEN MOTIONED TO HAVE CLERK PLANTE CONTACT ATTY TROY GILCHRIST WITH TWO POSSIBLE MEETING DATES, SEPTEMBER 16 OR OCTOBER 6TH BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M., SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

MINUTES: Minutes will be placed on the next meeting's agenda for approval.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Atty Gilchrist is continuing work on the St. Cloud orderly annexation agreement and will be given information on the Sartell water main project discussed earlier.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: No report.

JULY TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer Bentley provided copies of the July Treasurers Report. Expenses during July, were just over \$104,000 which included the 2026 fire contract of just over \$75,000, building permit payments to David Barsody of just over \$9300.00, town hall bond interest payment and the usual monthly invoices; board salaries, PERA, 941 tax deposit etc. We received a real estate settlement payment of almost \$59,000 and various building permits etc. The ending balance in all township funds is \$930,274.75 which includes just over \$432,000.00 in certificate deposits.

SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE JULY TREASURER'S REPORT AS PRESENTED, SECOND BY SUPV FASEN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CLAIMS & VOUCHERS: Treasurer Bentley stated there were just a few invoices which included monthly payroll, totaled \$5382.92. SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5382.92 (CHECK # 14738 THRU #14745 PLUS EFT'S 351 & 352), SECOND BY SUPV FASEN, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS

Jeff Westerlund –

Township Lawn Cutting – Supv Westerlund reported he has continued to cut the town hall lawn each week, usually prior to a township meeting.

Shannon Sullivan Yard – Supv Westerlund provided pictures of the Sullivan yard that has been cut, bagged and cleaned up. This will be taken off the old business, but checked during monthly road inspections making sure it is consistently mowed.

Rob Johnson – Bow Hunting – Mr. Johnson who lives at 3775 Riverside Ave, contacted Supv Westerlund questioning whether he can bow hunt on his property. It was the consensus of the board that Mr. Johnson should check with the DNR when getting his hunting license.

Paul Wagner –

Thomas Property – Supv Wagner reported he has been trying to get into contact with Stearns County Atty May regarding the Thomas property. As of yet, he has been unable to discuss the county's position on the clean-up of this property. It has been in the county attorney department's hands since March of 2025 with no action taken.

17th Street North – Pinecone Road – Supv Wagner took pictures of the crushed culvert on 17th Street

where they are working on the construction of a solar garden. The culvert in the road right of way is still in tack, but there is a culvert approximately 35 feet west of the road right of way that is damaged and crushed. Supv Wagner will contact Kari Haakonson, City of Sartell Project Planner, regarding this issue. After the solar garden is complete, Evan Carlson, developer of the solar garden, must fix 17th Street in order to make it plowable during the winter months.

Brian Fasen – No report.

CLERK REPORT:

Town Hall Landscaping – Clerk Plante is still working on receiving bids for the town hall landscaping project. Supv Wagner received a bid from Midwest Landscape for \$7735.00.

Ross Cummings – Faith Journey Church – Accessory/Utility Building – Mr. Cummings was in attendance earlier in the meeting requesting site plan approval for an accessory building.

Supv Fasen left the meeting at 7:45 p.m. due to another scheduled meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Thomas Property – Supv Wagner reported on earlier in the meeting. He is still trying to get in touch with the Stearns County Attorney's office.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – Property has been cleaned up and will be removed from old business.

Website Redesign – Clerk Plante stated she has not had time since being on vacation to study the process of posting items to the new website, after that, the switch will be made to the new site.

Tree Trimming Bids – No work has been completed as of yet.

Townline Road Update – Supv Wagner is the new representative from LeSauk township on the town line road project. Archaeological digs along 30th Avenue are now planned for the week of Aug 3-7th.

Town Hall Rental Agreement – SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE TOWN HALL RENTAL AGREEMENT AS DRAFTED BY ATTY GILCHRIST, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Partnership w/Sartell Police Department – Supv Wagner will contact Brandon Silgjord requesting a draft of the department's proposal for police coverage of the township. Once that is received, it will need to be reviewed and discussed with township attorney, Troy Gilchrist.

NEW BUSINESS: ASTECH Bid for 322nd Street: A bid was received from ASTECH to micro-surface 322nd Street as a possible band aid fix until 322nd Street can be reconstructed. The bid proposal was sent to St. Wendel Township and the City of St. Cloud. Clerk Plante received an email from St. Wendel supervisor, Scott Volkers, who stated that St. Wendel will not participate in paying for the micro-surfacing. No reply has been received from the City of St. Cloud to date.

ROAD REPORT: 17th Street North, Pinecone Road – Supv Wagner will be contacting Kari Haakonson, City of Sartell Project Planner, to answer her questions about the townships repair plan after construction of the solar garden on 17th Street.

There being no further business, SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyce L. Plante, LeSauk Township Clerk