

LESAUK TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

March 10, 2026

Clerk Marlyce Plante called the Annual Meeting of the Township of LeSauk to order at 7:00 p.m. in the LeSauk Town Hall, 311 4th Ave. So., Sartell, MN.

Clerk Plante welcomed everyone and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. She asked everyone to sign in order to keep a record of those in attendance. Items available on the table including agendas for the meeting, separate copies of the 2025 annual meeting minutes, the 2026 township newsletter and a flyer regarding the upcoming township clean-up day. She suggested the residents keep the newsletter throughout the year since it contains contact names & numbers, meeting dates & time, building & fire permit information etc. All of these items and required MS4 information was sent to all township residents two weeks prior to this meeting. 2025 Annual Report booklets were also available. She introduced the present board members who attend this meeting as township residents; they do not make the decisions at this meeting, the township residents present at this meeting, vote on all motions at the annual meeting. She noted all 2025 monthly expense reports and revenue reports are posted on the wall for inspection by the township residents and they are also available on the township website. Clerk Plante informed the residents the township website is being redesigned and should be ready within the next several weeks. The present website is still available until the new website is ready.

Clerk Plante called for nominations for a moderator for the meeting. DAN HEIM NOMINATED BENNO KUHLMAN AS MODERATOR FOR THE 2026 ANNUAL MEETING, SECOND BY VICKI DULLINGER, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

READING OF MINUTES OF 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

VICKI DULLINGER MOTIONED TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE 2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES AND ACCEPT AS WRITTEN, SECOND BY PAUL WAGNER MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REGULAR BOARD MINUTES FOR 2025

VICKI DULLINGER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS WRITTEN THE REGULAR BOARD MINUTES OF 2025, SECOND BY KATHY RASMUSSEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER'S REPORT OF 2025 – READING OF REPORT OF AUDIT & MOTION

Treasurer Josh Bentley gave a general synopsis of the expenditures and revenues of the township for 2025. He noted there was the major expense to purchase road right-of-way for the 30th Avenue/Town Line Road project which was approximately \$165,000. Road expenses throughout the year included snowplowing & sanding along with blow patching of selected township roads. The spend down in 2025 of \$65,000, which was expected due to the 30th Ave/Town Line reconstruction project expenses. Financially, however, the township is still in good shape with an ending 2025 cash balance of \$531,434.64. The total cash & investment balance for the township is \$955,672.18.

Treasurer Bentley discussed the two \$200,000 CD's which are accruing interest at approximately 3.85% for a 9-month & a CD at 4.1% for a 12-month period. Interest for the last year on the two CD's was just over \$24,000. Ending investment balance is \$424,237.56

Lloyd Traut, 1315 Southbridge Ave – Mr. Traut questioned the temporary easements for the town

line road project. Dan Heim explained the temporary easements

EARL DULLINGER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS WRITTEN THE TREASURERS REPORT OF AUDIT FOR 2025, SECOND BY ADOLPH LANGE, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LEVY FOR 2027 – SUPERVISORS ESTIMATE OF FUNDS FOR ENSUING YEAR

Dan Heim, Supervisor on the Town Board, spoke on behalf of the Town Board, stating the Town Board held their annual audit meeting in February and discussed the 2027 levy. It was their consensus to recommend a \$25,000 increase in the levy; \$350,000 to \$375,000. This is due to the increase in the fire contract which in the past was set at a fixed cost of \$40,000 per year. The new rate within the new contract will be based on a formula which calculates several items including the taxable market value of township parcels. The expected amount may be between \$75,000 - \$80,000, possibly higher. This increase came after the levy was set for 2026 and the township will absorb the increased cost for 2026, but felt it necessary to increase the levy for 2027.

KATHY RASMUSSEN MOTIONED TO APPROVE AND SUPPORT THE TOWN BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE 2027 LEVY WITH AN INCREASE OF \$25,000 BRINGING THE LEVY TO \$375,000 AND ALLOW THE SEPARATION OF FUNDS TO THE DISCRETION OF THE TOWN BOARD, SECOND BY SHAWN CHRISTEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS

TRI-REC PROGRAM/SARTELL SUMMER REC PROGRAM

Jeff Westerlund and Josh Bentley have both represented the township at the quarterly meetings the summer recreation/community education hold throughout the year. Josh Bentley reported the skills camps were offered in the past including swim programs, soccer, t-ball & baseball. A catalog for the 2026 summer recreation program is currently being compiled. He stated we are very fortunate to have two 8-lane pools for the popular swim programs which are scheduled from morning till the 8 p.m. closing hour each summer weekday. He did note that Riverside Intermediate School will not be available for use this summer due to the remodeling and replacement of the HVAC system.

Kurt Rasmussen, 389 Pine Ridge Road – Mr. Rasmussen question how many fields, schools etc. are being utilized for these programs and how many township students are using the programs. Mr. Bentley stated that all area fields whether it be the softball, baseball, soccer etc. fields are booked with programs throughout the summer and fall, as well as all available buildings in the school district. He also informed the residents that for the time being, they can not track the township students, but a new on-line registration program is being developed that may allow that option.

SHAWN CHRISTEN MOTIONED TO CONTRIBUTE THE DONATION OF \$3000 TO THE SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM BY LESAUK TOWNSHIP FOR 2026, SECOND BY LLOYD TRAUT, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

2027 Annual Meeting – BENNO KUHL MOTIONED TO SET THE TIME OF THE ANNUAL MEETING IN 2027 TO BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M., SECOND BY DAN HEIM, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The date for the annual meeting is set by the State of Minnesota, the second Tuesday of March each year with the 3rd Tuesday being an alternate date in case of inclement weather. The 2027 date will be March 9, 2027.

Township Donations, Contributions & Expenditures – This item was placed on the agenda in order to discuss the use of township funds for items such as flowers for board members who have lost a

relative, are sick etc. The state statute was reviewed which limits the expenditure of township funds for retiring township officers. KATHY RASMUSSEN MOTIONED TO ALLOW THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$100 PER RETIRING TOWNSHIP OFFICER, SECOND BY EARL DULLINGER, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OTHER BUSINESS

Brandon Silgjord, Sartell Police Chief/Public Safety Director – Mr. Silgjord was hired as the Sartell Police Chief. With a realignment of departments within the city of Sartell, his title is now Director of Public Safety and oversees the police & fire departments with the Sartell City Administrator along with the new life & safety division. It handles fire inspections, code enforcement, rental inspections etc. within the city.

Mr. Silgjord discussed two recent projects the city has worked on. Recently a new bow hunting ordinance was passed. The ordinance helps the regulation of bow hunting on the almost 80 5-acre parcels within the city. Several of the parcels were former township parcels that were annexed. He also discussed the crypto currency ordinance that is currently being drafted. Many residents are being scammed out of money through the crypto currency. Sartell has one crypto currency kiosk within the city.

The law enforcement department has a total of 27 officers, 16 of those being patrol officers. They work closely with the Stearns County Sheriff's department and will respond to all township calls immediately when county officers are unavailable due to the large geographical area they cover in the county. Mr. Silgjord stated the township currently has an agreement with the fire department and by possibly adding an appendix to the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) the township could partner with the city of Sartell for police coverage as well. With that possibility, it may eliminate confusion for property owners as well as law enforcement officers on things such as the issuing of gun permits or receiving police reports etc.

KATHY RASMUSSEN MOTIONED TO HAVE THE TOWN BOARD PURSUE A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SARTELL PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT FOR POLICE COVERAGE THROUGHOUT THE TOWNSHIP, SECOND BY DAN HEIM, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Brent Ambuehl, Sartell Fire Department Report - Mr. Ambuehl was recently hired as the Sartell Fire Chief. He gave a brief report on the fire department calls throughout 2025. They responded to 213 calls compared to 235 in 2024. There were 28 calls originating in LeSauk Township. They hired five new firefighters in 2025 and the entire department logged over 1000 hours of training to continue highly trained staff on the latest equipment and techniques available to firefighters and departments. The fire department currently has 34 volunteer fire fighters.

The department added three staff members for the newly established Life Safety division. The department added a Rescue 29 unit which is central Minnesota's first heavy rescue vehicle in the area. It provides technical rescue capabilities, air supply operations along with firefighter rehab support at emergency scenes. Mr. Ambuehl drove Rescue 29 to the meeting and residents are invited to tour it after the meeting. Also purchased through a grant was a skid unit installed in an existing vehicle which responds to grass fires and a UTV rescue which aids for patient extraction in remote areas located in townships.

Jim Sattler – Retired Firefighters – Sartell Fire Museum – Former Sartell Chief Jim Sattler, presented the Sartell Fire Museum project the retired firefighters are currently fundraising for. He noted the long history LeSauk Township has had with the Sartell Fire Department. The estimated cost of the project is \$40,000 with initial funding already pledged from proceeds the club received from their annual senior smoke detector battery change-out program. The project aims to preserve and share

over a century of service to Sartell and LeSauk Township. MARLYCE PLANTE MOTIONED TO DONATE \$5000 TO THE RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS FIRE MUSEUM PROJECT, SECOND BY VIKKI DULLINGER, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Townline Road/30th Avenue Update – Dan Heim gave a brief report on the Townline Road/30th Avenue Road reconstruction project. He reported the project is in the process of completing road right-of-way acquisitions. All LeSauk township properties acquisitions have been finalized. Currently the planned time frame is for bids begin in the fall of 2026 with the project beginning in the spring of 2027. He invited all those present to attend an open house and informational meeting regarding this project which is being held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Sartell Community Center. There will be a presentation at 5:30 p.m.

Township Clean-Up Day – The residents in attendance were reminded of the upcoming township clean-up day that will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the parking lot of the town hall. Jeff Westerlund told residents the township will provide safety vests, gloves & garbage bags for those who would like to clean up a township road near them. You can contact Clerk Plante for those items.

Dan Heim informed the residents the clean-up day is a requirement of the townships MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) permit. Another requirement of the MS4 permit is to inform township residents of the SWPPP (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan). Copies of the MS4 permit and SWPPP plan can be found on the township website.

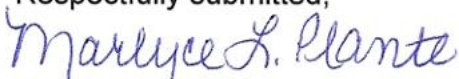
- As part of LeSauk Townships public participation and involvement plan, we provided the residents in attendance an opportunity to review and comment on the adequacy of the SWPPP (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan), this is also posted on the LeSauk Township's website, along with instructions on who to contact if they have comments or questions. Also posted on the LeSauk Township's website is LeSauk Township's MS4 Part 2 Permit Application and the LeSauk Township's MS4 Annual report from 2021. No comments or questions were received.
- The township must conduct an annual assessment of the IDDE (Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination) program compliance in the township. The township is required to send information to all township residents regarding IDDE, salt usage in the township, pet waste disposal, and 2 other topics of concern. This is done through the annual mailing to all township residents.

Compost Site – Dan Heim has been in contact with the city of Sartell regarding the township residents use of the compost site. Currently the cost for a permit by a township resident is \$84 and a Sartell resident is \$37. In 2025, 126 township residents purchased compost site permits. The town board was of the consensus to ask township residents at the annual meeting whether the difference between the cost of the city versus the township resident permits be paid for by the township. As an example, with 126 permits purchased in 2025 and the difference between the two permits being \$47, the total the township would then reimburse the city would be \$5922.00.

LLOYD TRAUT MOTIONED TO NOT SUBSIDIZE THE DIFFERENCE IN THE COMPOST SITE PERMIT COST, SECOND BY VIKKI DULLINGER, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business, PAUL WAGNER MOTIONED TO ADJOURN THE 2026 ANNUAL MEETING, SECOND BY SHAWN CRISTIAN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,



Marlyce L. Plante
LeSauk Township Clerk



Benno Kuhl
Annual Meeting Moderator