

LeSauk Township Regular Township Meeting – LeSauk Town Hall
Tuesday, May 12, 2026

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 five interested parties.

AGENDA: SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED ADDING JEFF BERTSCH – MINNESOTA SOLAR LLC/TRAUT SOLAR FARM, SCOTT WINTER– SITE PLAN AND ZACH STOMMEN – SITE PLAN TO BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OPEN FORUM: No open forum items.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Jeff Bertch – Solar Stone/Minnesota Solar LLC/Traut Solar Farm IUP Extension – Mr. Bertch came before the Town Board requesting a one-year extension for the Interim Use Permit received June 10 2025 for the Kevin & Deborah Traut Solar Farm. He stated currently the Traut solar farm project is in the study phase which may take several months and until the study is completed, plans for the solar farm are on hold. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO EXTEND THE INTERIM USE PERMIT FOR SOLAR STONE/MINNESOTA SOLAR LLC – KEVIN & DEBORAH TRAUT TILL JUNE 10, 2027 OR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Scott Winter, 368 Pine Ridge Road – Site Plan Approval – Mr. Winter presented a site plan to construct a 30 X 30 accessory building in the rear yard of his property. Supv Heim stated the site plan and placement of the building meets all setbacks from side & rear yard, well and septic system. SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR SCOTT WINTER FOR PLACEMENT OF AN ACCESSORY BUILDING IN HIS REAR YARD, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Zach Stommen, 3770 Riviera Road – Site Plan Approval – Mr. Stommen presented his site plan for an addition to his home. Supv Heim contacted Kari Haakonsen, city of Sartell Project Planner, questioning whether a recommendation from the Joint Planning Board (JPB) would be needed for this minor project. Ms. Haakonsen stated there are no issues with the additions to the Stommen home and did not feel it was necessary to present it to the Joint Planning Board. SUPV WESTERLUND MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE SITE PLAN FOR ZACH STOMMEN TO CONSTRUCT AN ADDITION TO HIS HOME, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Chris Hauck, 1550 Riverside Ave. – Annexation & Accessory Building Questions – Mr. Hauck, a real estate agent, came before the board questioning the current regulations for township properties that are for sale and the conditions for annexation to the city of Sartell. Mr. Hauck is currently working with the Arlene Weyer family whose property is located at 2705 Pinecone Road. He questioned the possible splitting of the property and whether the property has to be annexed. Information was given to him that since the septic system is more than 100 feet from current city services, they would not need to annex to the city. Supv Heim had contacted Kari Haakonsen regarding this property. Ms. Haakonsen has discussed this property with family members and indicated the city would work with them or a new owner on whether the property must be annexed.

Mr. Hauck also questioned the procedure if he would decide to construct an accessory building on his property. Since his property is located on the Mississippi River, Mr. Hauck would need to apply for a

variance to place the building in his front yard. He would be allowed an accessory building up to 3600 square feet. Supv Heim provided him with a copy of the township regulations.

Dennis Molitor, Retired Firefighters – Sartell Fire Museum - Mr. Molitor came before the town board to discuss the \$5000 donation voted on by township residents at the annual meeting. The donation was to be used for construction of the fire museum within the Sartell Public Works Center. Mr. Molitor was informed the township could not legally make the donation since the retired firefighters were not associated with the Minnesota Historical Society under MN Statute 138.053.

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

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Town Code Provisions – Atty Ben Gilchrist researched whether a tiered system relating to code violations as requested by the Town Board. He stated it could be done, but each tier would need to be revised and added to the court system. It was the consensus of the Town Board to leave the code violations as presented by Atty Ben Gilchrist and have him continue with drafting the resolution to adopt the code violations to hopefully be ready for adoption at the next meeting.

St. Cloud Ordering Annexation Agreement – Atty Troy Gilchrist is continuing work on the OAA with the city of St. Cloud.

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT: No report.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer Bentley has researched CD rates in the area. He found a 9-month, 4% rate at Magnifi. He contacted and questioned Bank Vista who currently hold the township CD's, whether they would match Magnifi's rate which they agreed to. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO HAVE TREASURER BENTLEY RENEW THE CD AT BANK VISTA FOR A 12-MONTH, 4% INTEREST RATE, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. The townships second CD renews in October at which time Treasurer Bentley will again report current interest rates to the Town Board.

APRIL TREASURERS REPORT: At the end of April, Treasurer Bentley reported the township funds, including the 2 certificates of deposit, had a balance of \$841,985.05. In early June, the township will be receiving the first half of the 2026 real estate settlement which will increase the township fund balance. SUPV WAGNER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT AS PRESENTED THE APRIL TREASURERS REPORT, SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

CLAIMS & VOUCHERS: Treasurer Bentley presented invoices and claim vouchers for payment in the amount of \$16,267.33. Since this is the first meeting of the month, the amount includes payroll along with monthly expenses; PERA, Withholding Tax, etc. Discussion was held regarding Supv Westerlund's voucher which included \$225.00 for half of his February monthly salary. At the February 24, 2026, the town board approved a payment of one-half the supervisor's salary for Supv Westerlund since he was incapacitated beginning February 7th. SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,267.33, NOTING THE CHECK FOR SUPV WESTERLUND WILL BE APPROVED BUT \$225.00 WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM HIS JUNE VOUCHER (CHECK #14681 THROUGH 14691), SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0. Treasurer Bentley noted a discrepancy in the check numbers from the April 28th meeting since he opened a new box, grabbed a bunch and the checks were out of order.

SUPERVISORS REPORTS**Jeff Westerlund –**

Township Lawn Cutting – Supv Westerlund reported he had recently cut the township lawn.

Tree Trimming Quotes – Supv Westerlund spoke with Ludvig Tree Service who had giving him a quote of \$2000 to trim trees on 27th Street & Winnebago in July of 2025. Mr. Ludvig stated he would honor the quote for \$2000. After discussion it was the consensus of the board that since the Ludvig quote did not include the 35th Street area, a new quote should be requested as well as at least one more quote from another tree service.

Dan Heim –

Chris Hauck, Weyer Parcel – Mr. Hauck was in attendance earlier in the meeting at which time discussion was held on the Arlene Weyer parcel whether it could remain in the township if the parcel was sold.

Tyler Lange – Hauling on 30th Avenue/Townline – Supv Heim reported Mr. Lange had completed the hauling of crushed granite to the Udermann farm prior to the expiration of his overweight permit on April 30th.

Adam Gessell, 2682 7th Avenue – Chain Link Fence – Mr. Gessell contacted Supv Heim questioning the placement and type of fence allowed in the township. Supv Heim provided him with the regulations and highly recommended Mr. Gessell get written permission from his adjacent neighbors should he decide to place the fence on the property line. He was also encouraged to have the property surveyed making sure the property lines are correct.

Marty Kane, 1693 35th St. No – Taxation of Barn – Mr. Kane recently received approval from the town board to construct a barn on his parcel which is classified as A20 (Agricultural). No action taken. David Barsody emailed Supv Heim, asking if the property is taxed as agricultural. David contacted the Stearns County assessor, who said the property is taxed as agricultural. David spoke with the lumber yard which stated the proposed building was not an agricultural building. David will process the building permit.

Evan Carlson – Capitol Solar Escrow Account – Supv Heim has not received the escrow account money as requested from Mr. Carlson. The escrow amount is to cover road improvements to 17th Street North (Pinecone area) in order to plow the street by ASTECH after the construction of the solar farms.

Illicit Discharge Video – Supv Heim questioned whether Supvs Westerlund and Wagner had watched the provided video on illicit discharge. Both have viewed the video and emailed Clerk Plante. Clerk Plante printed their emails to be kept on file if needed.

Jerry Burau, 327 27th St. North – Mr. Burau contacted Supv Heim thanking the Town Board for the placement of the “No Parking” signs on 27th Street.

Elijah Dockendorf, 40th Street North – Site Plan & Accessory Building – Supv Heim has been in contact with Mr. Dockendorf regarding the construction of a home located on 40th Street. Mr. Dockendorf has decided against constructing a house which would have required a conditional use permit and a variance. He plans to build the house as a stick-built building.

Tilstra Building & Site Plan, 305 Rosewood Road – Building Permit – Supv Heim was contacted by Tim Gettler, Cabana Construction who is the contractor for the Tilstra’s. No site plan or plans for what the Tilstras are planning to construct have been received yet.

David & Cathy Wogen, 32572 River Vista Lane – Deck Reconstruction – Supv Heim was contacted by PFD Remodeling, contractor for the Wogens, to reconstruct a 12 X 24 deck. Though located on the Mississippi River, the deck is not in the 300-foot shoreland area so will not need a

review by our shoreland consultant etc. Only a site plan will be needed for approval.

Amanda w/Steffes Auction – Edgar & Kitty Traut Parcels – The Steffes Auction service is working with family members of the Edgar & Kitty Traut property. She had questions regarding the regulations to split the parcels, one is 83 acres and the other is 110 acres. Ms. Steffes is looking at different possibilities for the property to make it more affordable for potential buyers. Supv Heim provided the regulations regarding the split of property etc.

Angie Manis – Xcel – Power Pole Replacement – Ms. Manis contacted Supv Heim regarding the replacement of two power poles at 27th Street & 5th Avenue. She was informed a right-of-way excavation permit (\$250 fee) is needed, the completion of a W-9 forms plus a certificate of insurance. She will provide all the documentation.

Annexation & Platting of Former Township Parcels – Supv Heim noted the Laura Burns property, 1457 6th St. South (Burns Addition) and the former David Shay property, Riverside Ave., (River Oaks Estates) received plat approval at the recent city council meeting.

IDDE (Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination) Videos - Both Supv Westerlund and Supv Wagner watched the required video's to be in compliance for the townships MS4 permit. Supv Heim will also get in contact with Wayne Cymbulak of CMWEA (Central Minnesota Water Education Alliance) to choose dates & times for a meeting to discuss the townships MS4 permit updates.

Paul Wagner –

17th Street North Grading– Supv Wagner reported that 17th Street North will be graded by Friday, May 15th. He also has been in contact with Mary Lou Udermann regarding the grading of 17th Street. It will be done on a “as needed” basis.

Townline Road Patching – Supv Wagner noted that ASTECH has completed the patching of town line road.

CLERK REPORT:

MATIT (Minnesota Association of Townships Insurance Trust) Site Visit for Appraisal – Clerk Plante met with Bette Johnson of Overland Solutions (EXL). Ms. Johnson is appraising town halls throughout the state to make sure they are properly insured.

Township Clean-Up Day – SCORE Grant Application – Clerk Plante has not completed the application for the SCORE grant since an invoice from Opatz Metals & Roll-Offs had not been received. Supv Westerlund remembered he had received the invoice and gave it to the treasurer.

Werschay Homes Sign – Clerk Plante reported the sign for “The Gates” located on the Harvey & Arlene Weyer property was for a 5-year period. The time frame expires in June, 2026.

Bluebird Hollow Mylar - The mylar for the Bluebird Hollow plat map was received from Stearns County. Clerk Plante reported the plat map plastic sleeves had gummy residue where the zip-seal is located. She will see if she can easily remove the residue, but a new plat map cabinet or plastic sleeves may be needed.

April Fine Reimbursement – The fine reimbursement for April was \$40.00

Sullivan Certified Letter -Clerk Plante informed the board supervisors the Sullivan's have yet to pick up their certified letter sent to them regarding their lawn height and request to attend a town meeting.

Town Hall Lawn – Weed & Feed – Clerk Plante received three quotes for weed treatment & fertilization of the town hall grass. Emerald Lawn Care - \$810.00 (5-6 applications), TruGreen - \$584.00 (5-6 applications) and Deluxe Lawn Care - \$500 (\$125 per treatment (4-5 applications)). SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE QUOTE FROM DELUXE LAWN CARE AT \$125 PER TREATMENT (4-5 TREATMENTS), SECOND BY SUPV WESTERLUND, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Town Hall Landscaping – Clerk Plante only received one quote for the replacement all landscaping materials around the town hall. Deluxe Lawn Care gave a rough quote of \$7000 for removal & replacement of rock around the town hall. Bush & shrub removal and replacement would be extra. She plans to get a couple of more quotes. A couple of landscape companies were given to her to contact.

OLD BUSINESS:

Thomas Property – No further information at this time.

Sullivan Yard Clean-Up – No response yet from the certified letter sent to the Sullivan's

Website Redesign – Website redesign should be done shortly.

Fee Schedule Review – No further changes were made to the fee schedule – previously the fee schedule changes were done by adoption of an ordinance. Supv Heim will contact Atty Gilchrist.

Town Hall Rental Agreement – Supv Heim made the changes discussed at our previous meeting. It was the consensus of the town board to have Attorney Gilchrist review the agreement.

Townline Road Update – Supv Heim reported at the latest Teams meeting regarding reconstruction of town line road it is now required to have 8 archeological digs completed along the length of town line road since the project is receiving federal funding. The cost for the digs are roughly \$50,000 - \$75,000.

Township Lawn Weed & Feed Bids – Clerk Plante gave an update in her report.

Tree Trimming – Supv Westerlund reported on the tree trimming earlier in the meeting.

Partnership w/Sartell Police Department – No further information at this time. This will be considered and discussed after receipt of the 2026 fire department invoice.

Town Hall Sprinkler System – Supv Heim reminded Clerk Plante that Traut Wells will be coming out to the town hall on Friday, May 22nd to get the sprinkler system ready for the summer. She will meet Traut Wells, also asking them to give her information on the operation of the system.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

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