

# LIVONIA TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES HELD AT THE LIVONIA TOWN HALL

October 27, 2025

Supervisors present: Hiller, Hass, Spencer, Kluge Jr., Kukowski.

Staff present: Clerk/Treasurer Fiedler, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Jewett, Maintenance Superintendent Kelly, Parks and

Cemetery Superintendent Aubart.

Others present: William Tessmer, Bogart, Pederson & Associates.

Chair Hiller called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance: The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

- **1.2** Approve Regular Meeting Agenda: 2.5 called and said they would not be here. Spencer/Kukowski unanimous to approve regular meeting agenda.
- **1.3** Approve Consent Agenda: Spencer/Kukowski unanimous to approve the Consent Agenda Items A) September 22, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, B) September 22, 2025 Workshop Meeting Minutes, C) October 13, 2025 Workshop Meeting Minutes.
- **1.4 Fire Report:** Chief Maloney presented the September calls for service: 8 medical assists, 1 gas leak, 1 motor vehicle accident w/o injury, 1 carbon monoxide, 4 fire alarm, 1 grass fire. The school walk-a-thon raised \$40,000 with the top kids that raised the most money got to ride in the fire truck. The HVAC and computer went down, the cost is about \$1800 to fix it.

1.5 Sheriff's Report: Sgt. Wilson presented the September Calls for Service. There were no burglaries or thefts.

| Incident               | March | April | May | June | July | August | September |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|
| Total Calls            | 255   | 312   | 289 | 257  | 324  | 285    | 315       |
| Motor Vehicle Accident | 6     | 8     | 2   | 8    | 5    | 9      | 6         |
| Medical                | 18    | 15    | 16  | 15   | 30   | 19     | 31        |
| Traffic Stop           | 120   | 148   | 133 | 103  | 111  | 123    | 144       |
| Security Check         | 22    | 14    | 4   | 6    | 26   | 19     | 18        |
| Extra Patrol           | 4     | 17    | 22  | 12   | 17   | 18     | 14        |

- **1.6 253**<sup>rd</sup> **speed limit reduction request from City of Zimmerman:** There was discussion about having to do a speed study to lower the speed limit. Sgt Wilson will look further into it and get back to us. The road is not posted therefore it is a 55mph road. No action taken waiting until the road is redone and we will revisit at a later date.
- **1.7 Letter from Melanie Curtis-gravel pit trucks:** the board does not want any heavy trucks going north on 112<sup>th</sup> St. Waste Management has addressed their issues from the letter. 112<sup>th</sup> St is posted for weight limits on both ends of the road. Clerk Treasurer Fiedler gave Sgt. Wilson the letter and they will increase extra patrol in the area to watch for overweight trucks. Supervisor Hass stated as part of their CUP they are not to go north with empty trucks either.
- **1.8 Event Center:** Coordinator Hunnicutt said they have had a very busy October filling in few dates for Nov and Dec. She has asked the relief association to help pay for the repainting of the event center and they have donated \$15,000 to help with that.
- **1.9 Engineering Updates:** Engineer William Tessmer with Bogart Peterson stated that the last partial payment for 277<sup>th</sup> Ave overall about \$7,000 over budget for the project. There is a shorter retainage period for road projects now so we will still owe a small amount, the contractor needs to keep the performance bond in the amount of 5% of the project total. Kukowski/Kluge Jr unanimously approve the partial payment. The Woodlands project; there was discussion about the total, extra work and the partial payment was also presented to the board and Hass/Hiller unanimously approved. Tessmer gave the board a spreadsheet with the breakdown of different variations to fix roads, the costs and the expected lifetime of the variations. There was discussion about the differences between the ultra-thin, milling and overlaying and their lifespans and when to crack seal or add another overlay. Hiller stated there are new technologies



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out there now and we will not know how they hold up until we try them. Engineer Tessmer had a spreadsheet of potential roads for next year and approximate costs. There was discussion about potential road candidates for the next

few years and also if any roads qualify for the LRIP grants. Hass would like to have a separate meeting to discuss roads for next year, costs and different techniques to try. Engineer Tessmer also provided some information on the LRIP grants. The roads discussed were 96<sup>th</sup> St, 98<sup>th</sup> St and 253<sup>rd</sup>. Talked about the mileage, costs, timeframe and what the township costs could potentially be. No board action taken.

1.10 Planning Commission: there was no planning commission meeting.

### **REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

2.1 County Administrator-County Update-Bruce Messelt: Not present.

2.2 Sherburne County-Planning & Zoning Presentation-Marc Schneider, Dave Lucas & Matt Danzl: Marc Schneider presented a planning and zoning update on ordinance rewrite, wetlands, platting regulations and violations. Planning and zoning provide enforcement and regulation of zoning and subdivision ordinances and oversees building code and wetlands conservation act. Each year they process over 2,000 building, septic, zoning, shoreland and wetland permits. They receive over 30,000 calls per year. The big project for this year is updating Zoning and Subdivision ordinances to align with new policies and land uses outlined in the 2040 comprehensive plan. In June of 2025 the county entered into an agreement with Bolton and Menk to update the current ordinances, in July a steering committee was formed and in August they had a kickoff meeting to review the findings and recommendations. They will be coming out to townships to ask feedback, complete surveys and focus groups. There will be a public hearing in March of 2026 and hoping for County Board approval in April 2026. Some of the land use findings were hamlets, shoreland residential, agricultural, energy production, and urban expansion. Road, shoreland, and side/rear setbacks account for the majority of requests along with septic systems variances. The county would like the townships to provide feedback on changes to the zoning map, zoning districts, performance standards like setbacks, permitted condition and interim uses and subdivision standards. Marc talked about the types of subdivisions being administrative, registered land surveys, residential planned unit development, simple plats and standard plats. Along with that he also talked about the township's role in platting and subdivisions. Matt Danzl talked about the wetlands and the permitting that goes along with that. He touched on LGRWRP local government road wetland replacement program which allows local road authority to use the state wetland bank to replace wetland impacts on qualifying road projects. They cannot be used for new roads or roads expanded solely for additional traffic capacity lanes. Typical projects are culvert repair; shoulder widening and turn lanes. Dave Lucas talked about solid waste, they provide enforcement and regulation of solid waste ordinance, various landfill abatement related programs and initiatives. They regulate, inspect and license over 20 separate solid waste facilities within the county. They administer state grant dollars to encourage and foster landfill abatement related initiatives and household hazardous waste collections. Also provide enforcement of failing septic systems and administer the SSTS financial assistance programs. The projects that are currently under solid waste are HHW collection events and updates, SSO initiatives, mattress recycling events, SW complaints and enforcement, SSTS enforcement, loan and grants and changes to municipal yard waste sites. There has been a need for a permanent facility for HHW, and they are working on the scope and location of the new site. The county offers a free organic recycling program, each household can pick up a free starter kit with 5 drop site locations: Elk River City Hall, Elk River Yard Waste Site, Sherburne County Public Works-Becker, Sherburne County Public Safety-Zimmerman and Palmer Township Hall. The material is hauled to Vonco II in Becker and turn into compost. Becker Schools implemented SSO recycling in their primary school and intermediate school with plans to expand to Middle and High Schools, their leftovers go to the Livestock Program and Barthold Food Recycling. Becker Middle School implemented a bulk machine which diverts milk cartons from going to the landfill and reduces liquid food waste. Sherburne County hosted a special collection event for mattresses. They collected 908 mattresses, 900 lbs. of cardboard and 4 yd film plastics collected. They partnered with Certified Recyclers and Vonco II. The septic compliance program tracks failing septic systems and provides financial assistance to upgrade failing septic systems. There is a low-income grant program that applicants must meet low-income criteria to qualify for



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help. The municipal yard waste sites will have a hard reset on all waste site access cards on January 1, 2026. Residents will need to go to City Hall and get new cards there will be a limit to 2 cards per household. He showed a slide of all the Township violations through August 2025 where they were throughout the township and how many are active and that have been closed out. There was discussion about clean up time frames and enforcement of properties that seem to be repeat offenders and who to contact.

- **2.3 MnDOT Agreement ownership of new roads:** Sherburne County received grant money from multiple sources for the TH 169 overpass project that is currently under construction. The State of Minnesota, though their Local Road Improvement Program grant program provided approximately \$10 million for the project. As part of that grant award, the State is requiring signing and returning the Public Partner Agreement. The Agreement is required to pledge the Township intends to retain the right of ways and not close the streets for 37.5 years. Kukowski/Kluge Jr unanimously approved signing the MnDOT agreement No. 1060420.
- **2.4 VanHoever-Variance 9840 256**<sup>th</sup> **Ave:** Scott VanHoever is requesting a 55ft variance in setback to Ordinary High Water of East Hunter Lake to upgrade a septic system. The current OHWL setback to East Hunter Lake is 150'. He is on a lake lot with limited options to put a septic system and therefore cannot place it outside of the 150' setback. Hiller/Kluge Jr. unanimous to recommend approval for the Request of 55' variance from the OHWL of East Hunter Lake to upgrade a septic system.
- 2.5 McClelland-2<sup>nd</sup> driveway 26213 111<sup>th</sup> St: not present.
- **2.6 Frickstad-2nd driveway 26015 102**<sup>nd</sup> **St:** James Frickstad was present to ask the board for a second driveway to access his property in the back. He would like access to come off 260<sup>th</sup> Ave to use for a future pole building and to get to his basement of his house easier. He has a drain field that would prevent it from going on the north side of his property. Hass would like the access as far east on 260<sup>th</sup> Avenue as he could go away from the intersection. Hiller stated he would have to come in to get a permit, put in a culvert and the engineer would have to inspect it to meet township standards. Hiller/Spencer unanimously approved.
- 3. Open Forum: no one present.
- **4.1 Clerk/Treasurer Report:** Clerk/Treasurer Fiedler items of interest last month included: Bremer Bank merged with Old National Bank and working out kinks with that. City of Zimmerman is working on an ordinance for organized garbage collection with their attorney but not sure of the timeframe. SCAT meeting went well with lots of food left over.
- **4.2** Approve payment of claims: Spencer/Kukowski unanimously approved the payment of claims and payroll totaling \$518,372.24 and to transfer \$518,000.00 to cover check numbers 22490 through 22537 and October EFT #252-256 for Federal, State, and PERA, SUTA withholding tax and CenterPoint.

## 4.3 Road Report-Kelly:

Kelly provided the following report September 15, 2025-October 19, 2025.

Picked up bicycle tire and brush on Lake Fremont. On 265<sup>th</sup> Ave there was a half shop vacuum and 5 gallons of paint that was picked up.

Would like to raise the plow driver rate to \$28.50/hr. Hass/Kluge Jr unanimously approve raising the rate.

### Vehicles:

Truck 36, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, and 46 all ready for winter. Truck 43 had a cylinder replaced for belly blade and new sander motor. Truck 44 took to central hydraulics to recalibrate wing cylinder.



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John Deer Tractor: Replaced rear window.

Woodchipper: RDO came out to the township for inspection which was under warranty.

**Road Maintenance** 

Throughout township: Finished fall mowing except 253rd due to traffic.

Hot Tar: Working on Woodlands and where needed throughout the township.

Lake Fremont Shoreline: Received our permit. Will schedule time with Dan, Patti and James to finalize the specs.

Public Works Building: Work continues with Patti for long-term projects on all our roads.

Grading Roads: Ongoing gravel grading on Freemont, Grams and Cemetery roads.

Townhall building: Blew out sprinklers.

Trash Run: Took one ton load to landfill.

Woodlands: Met with Astech and fixed a yard that was missed.

West Hunter Lake: Attention driveway regarding gravel washing into road.

## 4.4 Park and Cemetery Report-Aubart:

Aubart provided the following report: Reporting Period September 20, 2025 – October 24, 2025.

#### **Parks Maintenance:**

**North Point**: Pulled dock out of Lake Fremont on October 6. Reds was notified to remove the portable toilet on October 1. It was removed on October 11. Blew the leaves off the trail.

Sugar Bush Preserve: Blew leaves off trails. Cut one tree that had fallen over trail.

## **Cemetery Maintenance:**

Livonia Township Cemetery: Cemetery October cleanup was done on Monday the 13th, mowed grass.

### Other Duties:

Road grading, mowing ditches, worked on plow trucks. Getting ready for snow.

**4.3 Supervisor or Committee Reports: Kluge Jr.:** Nothing. **Hass:** Nothing. **Hiller:** met with Big Lake supervisor and talked about roads and ideas on different techniques to try for roads. 257<sup>th</sup> Ave worked on numbers; they reclaimed last week and are paving this week. Talked with Randy at the City of Zimmerman and there is no intent to put water and sewer on 253<sup>rd</sup>. **Kukowski**: Nothing. **Spencer:** nothing new on organized waste collection.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- **5.1 Outdoor Warning Sirens:** Sherburne County will help maintain these sirens through 2026. Other County Commissioners in their townships have stated they are not going to do anything with their sirens currently, they feel there are other ways to alert people. The board agrees we need something and will look into what that could be.
- **5.2 Table & Chairs from Event Center:** Cindy would like to create a bridal suite and would need to get rid of the table in chairs in the conference room, the board asked if they would fit in our smaller conference room. Clerk/Treasurer Fiedler could set up a time to pick them up.
- **5.3** Aspen Heights Sign maintenance: There are a few developments that have put in signs at the entrances to the development. There have been questions about who maintains the signs. The board feels that we need to address this in future developments going forward. If a homeowner wants to take care of it themselves, they can do that, and the township is not responsible for it.

Kluge Jr/Hiller. unanimous to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

Approved this 24th day of November 2025.

Chairman or Vice Chairman

Clerk/Treasurer or Deputy Clerk/Treasurer