

Girard Township

Regular Monthly Meeting -- MINUTES

Tuesday, July 15, 2025 – 6 p.m., Town Hall

Website: (www.girardtownship.us)

Open meeting with the pledge to the flag

Present: Supervisors Al Pedersen, Blaine Larson and Larry Estes, Treasurer Kathy Trites, Road Maintenance Worker Will Luhning, and Clerk Debbie Irmen

Visitors: Lamont Luhning, Nate Bertelsen, Peter Christianson, Tim Hanson, and Road Engineer Jeff Stabnow

Public Comment Period

- Visitors may address a topic for up to five minutes when the topic is brought up for discussion on the agenda.

Larson moved to approve the MINUTES from the regular monthly meeting held Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at the Town Hall. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's report – Treasurer Trites presented the June financial report showing ending balances in the General Fund: \$119,464.26; Road and Bridge: \$594,006.47; ARPA: \$0.00; Special Revenue: \$30,176.15; Fire Fund: (\$50,403.56); Ambulance Fund: \$52,236.49; Special Assessment: \$24,094.26; Capital Projects: \$137,868.80; and Equipment: \$253,685.86; for a total of \$1,161,128.73. The treasurer's report was filed for audit.

Larson moved to approve claims as presented/audited, totaling \$38,941.50; payroll for Estes, Irmen, Jacobson, Larson, Luhning (2), Pedersen, and K. Trites; no additional claims were presented at this meeting. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports/Information

Roads and Equipment – Luhning road patching on Liberty Rd done. Christiansons cleared a culvert, however, a cable was left and got wrapped around the mower. Chloride application has been completed. Liberty needs shouldering. Luhning hasn't heard from Overhead Door – the clerk will make another call.

Clerk's report – Sent letter to Mr. Irons on Four Square Road regarding a business sign in the right-of-way per board decision—it has been removed; new flag is available to be put up, which Pedersen completed prior to the meeting – the old flag will be delivered to a group for a respectful retirement; updated handbooks were provided with meeting packets for the supervisors, officials, and employee; The clerk reported that all the ARPA funds have been spent and that is reflected on the financial reports; A reminder was given that the District 9 Meeting is scheduled at 6 p.m. Thursday, August 21, 2025 -- District 9 Meeting is planned Thursday, Aug. 21, at the Cormorant Community Center, Pelican Rapids - Rep. Vance Bachmann, is up for reelection. Sealcoating is scheduled to commence in the near future. Larson said he will attend the upcoming fire meeting.

New Business

Chippewa Culvert – Larry reported the culvert on Chippewa was open, and showing no signs of beaver activity yet.

Lamont Luhning presented a petition with eight signatures to vacate a portion of a cul-de-sac on El Will Road. An on-site meeting at the road was scheduled for Aug. 5.

Old Business

Nathaniel Bertelsen presented a petition with eight signatures for a road vacation on Navajo Trail. A meeting on-site at the road was scheduled for Aug. 5.

The clerk reported that advertising for sealed bids on the Air Compressor was sent to BL and Henning papers last week.

OTC Cannabis Update- Information -- Girard has to register with the state because of its zoning laws. The clerk is researching what that means.

Pedersen moved to approve the Dosch approach after finishing work was completed. Larson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The clerk will contact him regarding the board's decision.

Tree removal – Trees on 230th and Girard Beach will be cleared.

Policy on paid leave/carryover, etc. (page 18 of the handbook) – action on additional PTO for employee. Following a request by the road worker to carry over unused vacation from 2024 to 2025, and brief discussion of timing for making a request for vacation carry-over from one year to the next, the item was tabled to the August meeting.

Larson nominated Peter Christianson to fill the supervisor's position opened by the resignation of Al Pedersen. With no other nominations, the clerk moved to close nominations. Larson seconded. Motion carried. Larson moved to approve the nomination of Christianson to the vacancy. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The clerk gave the oath to Christianson and paperwork was presented to the candidate.

A chairman of the board will be appointed at the August regular meeting.

Pedersen was thanked for his years of service and well wishes were extended to him on the next chapter of his life.

Dates to remember

Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2025 – Cont. of Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m., followed by the Regular Township Meeting at 6 p.m., all at Girard Town Hall

Thursday, Aug. 21, 2025 -- District 9 Meeting, Cormorant Community Center, Pelican Rapids (EOTC's Rep. Vance Bachmann, is up for reelection)

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025 – Regular Township Meeting, 6 p.m., at Girard Town Hall

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025 – Regular Township Meeting, 6 p.m., at Girard Town Hall

October East Otter Tail Meeting --TBD

Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025 – Regular Township Meeting, 6 p.m., at Girard Town Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2025 – Regular Township Meeting, 6 p.m., at Girard Town Hall

Saturday, Dec. 11-13, 2025 – MAT Annual Conference, St. Cloud's River Edge Convention Center

With no further business to discuss, Larson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7 p.m. Estes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman and Clerk signatures are kept on file.