

State of Minnesota Blue Earth County Lime Township
Minutes for September 9, 2025
ALL MOTIONS ASSUMED TO BE UNANIMOUS UNLESS NOTED

Present: Cody Hilgers, Kevin Oldridge, Christine Gregory, Rich Resch, Jimmy Blount, III, Jill Hilgers, Steve Flo, Karl Friedrichs, ZOOM: Linda Rossow, Ann Kalvig, Members of the Public.

Cody Called the Meeting to Order at 7:30 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion 2025.09.01 Rich, Second Jimmy to approve the Minutes.

Motion 2025.09.02 Christine, Second Rich to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Motion 2025.09.03 Rich, Second Kevin to pay the Claims and Payroll.

Staff Report: Victoria was here to present the application for IUP Extension by New Energy Equity. They are still waiting for the interconnection agreement and the railroad crossing approval. Staff recommends allowing the extension.

Motion 2025.09.04 Rich, Second Christine to Approve the 12 month IUP Extension for New Energy Equity.

Road Report: Dan put together an estimate for the plugged road ditch on the south side of 240th Street near 583rd Avenue. The main cost is the excavator and hauling material away for roughly 400 feet to the corner. The plan is to also replace the current culvert and access driveway as well. The only other item is a rotten power pole that should be replaced by the power company. Kevin will contact them.

Motion 2025.09.05 Rich, Second Jimmy to have Dan complete the work, not to exceed \$5000.00 in cost.

Mary Oak Lane circle: Dan realized that the road was being pushed towards the center of the cul-de-sac. He trimmed trees on the outside and moved the road back to where it was supposed to be. It was sloped back and reseeded. The total cost was \$950.

Kestrel Drive: Dan will do some more work there and finish grading it to smooth it out and seed it.

Sign replacements will be done before fall ends.

Highway 22 project: MnDot will be replacing a box culvert by Blake Hermel's place so they will reroute his driveway to 240th Street for access. They said they will place a culvert and rock, but we haven't gotten an email with the total scope of work to be done. Kevin will talk to Blake to see if he knows the plan. Rich doesn't think it'll be fully open by November 1st for traffic over the winter. He also didn't notice any lighting yet. 583rd also needs to be finished after they put culverts in there.

238th Street/Mary Oak Right of Way: Jimmy sent a letter on 9/8/25 to the operator letting them know there was a complaint about the visual obstruction at the intersection. They have 30 days to fix the issue. By then, the corn may be harvested. The Supervisors will need to make an effort to mark the Right of Ways in the early spring to better enforce the Right of Ways around the township.

Planning Services: The work session was held August 25th. Christine recapped that the city sent a letter that they no longer want to supply planning services. In the Annexation Agreement, they are required to supply planning services to Lime Township unless both parties agree to suspend services. The fees are noted in the Planning Services Agreement. She mentioned that we should have a letter drafted to the city to let them know we are wanting to continue utilizing their services, noting that we need to adjust the compensation and permit fees to help cover the actual costs. The Clerk is willing to accept applications,

ensuring they're complete, and passing the larger items along to the city staff for their work. Permits for small items can be taken care of by the Clerk.

Motion 2025.09.06 Christine, Second Kevin to have Ruppe send a letter to the City of Mankato that per the Orderly Annexation Agreement Lime Township would like to retain their services. Two work sessions will be set for 7:30 pm on Tuesday, September 23rd at the Airport, and tentatively October 10, (alternately October 8) 3:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers to include Mankato Planning Staff. In talking about Planning Services, if the project is too large for the city, what happens if the applicant uses Bolton and Menk for their project? Cindy Nash and Brad Potter are both interested in subcontracting as outside planning staff to complete the findings for Lime Township if the city is unable to complete the work in a timely fashion. These are things to be discussed at the first Work Session.

Township Website: this was discussed during the Planning Services discussion. The developer has access to the domain and is working on finalizing the tabs with our vital documents and other pertinent information for Supervisors and Residents. The board will be notified once it's ready to go live. Minutes will be posted as soon as they are approved by the Board.

Board Member Reports:

Cody: The Hensonshire chip seal is complete. There are some places where patching should be completed. The northwest corner may need more extensive work. Kevin will reach out to residents and ask for their comments about the work that has been done so far. Cody will attend the BEC Hazard Mitigation meeting. The Board members want to make sure he pressed the point of the trains blocking the roadway being an issue during an emergency. Rich also mentioned the Wal-Mart distribution center as a possible issue in case of fluid or chemical leaks drifting into the township. He went to Lime Valley Road, Jayhawk and Adams Hill to check the tree growth over the road. He will contact a few different tree services to get quotes on the work.

Motion 2025.09.07 Christine, Second Kevin to approve up to \$20,000 to trim the trees on the identified roads.

Rich: He is concerned about how the recreation and bike path project is being viewed on social media. Mark K sent an email to the board that reminded us that events and construction of bike paths are not authorized at this time, and that they have not received an application for an IUP for those uses at this time. Mining is the only permitted use. Joe Holtmeier commented that he set up the trail as a demonstration for investors and the "public" that would be taking care of the trails. He wanted to gauge support before putting in the permit application. Only a "Public Entity", not a non-profit can do things without an IUP. "Pending Permits" and "Conceptual" are terms you should be using. Rich also was not happy with hearing about the public event the day before, or after the fact. The Board felt blindsided with the media documenting the "progress" on the new trails.

Jimmy: More of 238th is breaking off where you turn on from Third Avenue. Patching may take care of a lot of it. Cody will discuss with Nielsen and Borgen. The old "Here We Grow" daycare has been sold. The previous owner stated that the new owners may run a daycare there again.

Kevin: An ownership group bought the Midwest Electric building with Mankato Motorsport offering storage out of the building. This is a permitted use in the Industrial Zone. If they are repairing internal combustion engines, they may need a permit. A welcome letter should be sent to the new owners to let them know that Lime Township would love to hear about their operation and to come to a board meeting sometime. He will still look into hard hats and vests. He was also concerned about the radius from the frontage street into Pheasant Run.

Deerhaven Notice: a complaint has been received by the clerk and sent to all Supervisors. Notice needs to be sent to Martin Barnett that rental storage is not an acceptable use in the Rural Conservation zone. The letter should include that he will need to either provide title to all vehicles, or to cease and desist

