Sylvan Township
12956 24th Avenue SW, Pillager, MN 56473
phone: (218) 746-3652 / e-mail: info@sylvantownshipmn.gov / Web-site: www.sylvantownshipmn.gov

Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting
Thursday August 20, 2026 at 7pm

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call: Chair Booth called the Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Those present at the meeting included:

Supervisors	Present (Late)	Not Present		Clerk	Present (Late)	Not Present
Greg Booth	X			Jenna Ruggles	X	
Bob Johnson	X					
Keith Card	X					
Greg Bennett		X				
Arlene Schmit	X					

Others in attendance included:

On Agenda	Name/Company	Present	Not Present
Road Contractor	Ryan Bodell (Bodell Landscaping & Excavating)	X	
Road Engineer	Bryan Drown (Bolton & Menk)		X
PC Chair	(Sylvan Township)		X

Resident(s): Leah & Eric Rasmussen, Kim Meyer, Nikki Turcotte, and Alex Hardy. Deputy Birr was also present from the Cass County Sheriff's Department.

The sign-in sheet is attached.

Agenda Approved: As Presented ☐ As Amended ☒

Supervisors	Introduced	Seconded
Greg Booth		
Bob Johnson		
Keith Card	X	
Greg Bennett		
Arlene Schmit		X

Public Input: Included going through the 3 PC Recommendations on SCO Amendments and some discussion with Mr. Hardy regarding license plate readers which are all found later in the minutes under PC report.

Clerk/Treasurers Report:

Meeting Minutes Approved: As Presented ☐ As Amended ☒ Date: 08/06/26

Supervisors	Introduced	Seconded	Abstained
Greg Booth			
Bob Johnson			
Keith Card		X	
Greg Bennett			
Arlene Schmit	X		

There were a few questions from the Clerk that were added to the agenda. One was regarding Frontier Cemetery; the mowing contractor said that the small white wooden crosses are all breaking and some just have pieces laying there – he is wondering if we would like him to pick them up or keep mowing around them. The Board suggested that Clerk Ruggles reach out to the Lion's Club, Cub Scouts, or the school shop class to see if anyone could help clean it up or make new ones. The next question was regarding data requests and how she should handle them going forward. She has now received 2 from the same company and a new one that is more in depth and will require more time. She feels that a resolution would be best going forward and possibly a cost. The Board has agreed that we need to start charging for the time it is taking away from the Clerk's regular duties. This will be discussed more in depth at the next meeting.

Roads:

- **Bryan Drown, Road Project Engineer, Bolton & Menk** – not present and no report.
- **Ryan Bodell, Road Contractor, Bodell Landscape & Excavation** – reported that all the salt/sand for this next cold season is mixed and ready. His team has completed the mowing for the township and the small road projects on East Lake Ridge and 127th/11th Ave. They should be paved by Anderson Brothers within the next week. Discussion following into the next section with Supervisors reports and it sounds like some minor brushing work will be next.
- **Road Supervisors reported** –
    - **Supervisor Schmit** reported the following.
        - 2 driveways are completed
        - Has some roads that need to be brushed
    - **Supervisor Johnson** reported the following.
        - A few trees for brushing and that are down
        - Need speed limit signs in Scearcyville area – start with one missing on Scearcyville Rd, Clerk Ruggles will see what other roads have Resolutions for the 35-mph limit
        - We are seeing more and more issues with dirt bikes and atvs flying down our road and in and out of the ditches
        - Concerns on speeding on township roads
- **210 Round-about** project draft agreement was reviewed by the Board and there were no questions regarding the contents, just one grammar correction.

Reports:

- **PC (Planning Commission) Report** was provided by Supervisor Schmit and includes the following recommendations from the Planning Commission.
    - ELR Enterprises/Sylvan Auto Body would like an amendment to their current business. Supervisor Johnson **moved to approve the recommendation from the PC to approve an amendment to Sylvan Auto Body's current business permit to include sales of used vehicles**, seconded by Supervisor Card and the motion carried.
    - United Welding, Kim Meyer, was present to discuss getting an amendment to his business permit. The Planning Commission provided a recommendation to the Board to approve. After some discussion Supervisor Card **moved to accept the PC Recommendation to**

allow for an amendment to United Welding's Interim Home Business Permit to add an additional 48'x100' with 16' lean to building for business and personal use, seconded by Supervisor Johnson and the motion carried.

- Lakes Home Solution and ABC Seamless owner Nikki Turcotte was present and presented plans for an amendment to their current business permits as well. The Planning Commission also sent a recommendation to the Board for this one. After discussion it was determined that they need more than the PC recommendation listed and so Supervisor Johnson **moved to approve a CUP without Public Hearing for parcel 41-217-2401 to include the sale of vehicles and atvs**, seconded by Supervisor Card and this motions was amended by Chair Booth **to include conditions that the business hours be Monday – Saturday from 8am – 8pm**, seconded by Supervisor Johnson and the motion as a whole carried.
- Discussion regarding license plate readers, such as FLOCK, was had. Supervisor Johnson pulled some research that was discussed. It was mentioned that Supervisor Bennett was going to ask the Township Attorney if he thinks a moratorium is the path to take and the PC will check into other Township's and if they are doing Ordinances, Resolutions, or Moratoriums on them. It sounds like most people have mixed feelings on them, they could be used for good by law enforcement, but then concerns are that it is owned by a private company and there is no understanding of where the data will then go; hence the possible invasion of privacy. More to come.

- **CRVST Report** was provided by Supervisor Card and included that they had 4 representative only at the meeting, they are still looking for a grant writer, they have the Eastern Morrison County Riders on board to maintain the trail that is currently in, they would like to have users pay for passes to use the Little Falls motorized UTV-ATV trail from the Soo Line Trail which entails meeting all state requirements (such as headlights, taillights, and insurance), and they are still looking for more grants to continue the trail.
- **PLP Report** was provided by Supervisor Schmit and is attached to these minutes. A closed meeting session was held later in the meeting regarding Pillager Lake Park and the section of their minutes that discusses a potential stalker situation and no trespass order. Other items included in the park report were that the board would like to get a sewer line in for the park host and a privacy fence for the area; a new grill, fix the slide and dock boards, and add signs all in September; the play equipment should be delivered week of September 14th and the tree company will deduct $350 from their estimate for the project and send an invoice.
- Updated Community Day full size flyers were reviewed and approved to use.
- **Cass Co** rezone follow up was discussed; it was decided that Supervisor Johnson would attend the Cass County Planning Commission meeting on September 14th at 930 am up in Backus to field any questions they may have regarding our application for the rezoning for the Sylvan Commercial Corridor.

New Business:

- **Candidate Forum** flyers were reviewed and approved to use.

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The Board entered a Closed Meeting to discuss Pillager Lake Park issues at 8:41 pm and reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 9:27 pm.

Other Township Business:

- **Correspondence** – was read including Cass Co Sheriff Candidate meet and greet flyer, Cass Co reclassification actions for 2 parcels on Co Rd 18, a Cass Co explanation for a denial of a variance, Cass Co EDC email regarding input sessions, email from Sourcewell on development opportunities, Enphase monthly update, receipt for PILT funds, and a receipt from Cass Co EDC for our membership fees.
- **Claims/Payroll Approval:** As Presented ☒ As Amended ☐ and the motion carried.
  Claims Numbers: 030106 – 030108 & E26082001 – E26082004 >> $16,858.85
  Payroll Numbers: AP26081701 – AP26081702 >> $3,438.07
  Total: $20,296.92

Supervisors	Introduced	Seconded
Greg Booth		
Bob Johnson		
Keith Card		**X**
Greg Bennett		
Arlene Schmit	**X**	

- **Other Business** – included the following.
  - **Grants:** Chair Booth provided a new estimate for the Emergency Siren and **moved to apply for the Impact Funding through Sourcewell for $50,000 and other grants or funding that we find to offset the overage**, seconded by Supervisor Card and the motion carried. Clerk Ruggles let the Board know that the Boost Funding application will be submitted next week for the Sylvan Park upgrades.
- **Board follow-ups** were reviewed and Clerk Ruggles let the Board know that the letters went out from the last meeting and there was some feedback on 2 of the 3 letters.

Adjournment at: 9:50 pm

Supervisors	Introduced	Seconded
Greg Booth		
Bob Johnson		
Keith Card	**X**	
Greg Bennett		
Arlene Schmit		**X**

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Minutes submitted by,

_____ _____

Jenna Ruggles, Clerk Greg Booth, Chair

These Meeting Minutes Approved: ☒ As Presented ☐ As Amended on Date: 09.03.26

Supervisors	**Introduced**	**Seconded**	**Abstained**
Greg Booth			
Bob Johnson			
Keith Card		X	
Greg Bennett			X
Arlene Schmit	X		