

# Lansing Township

February 2020

## Township Board

### Members

**Duane**

**Mortensen**

Chair

**Gary Braaten**

Vice Chair

**Lynn Allas**

Supervisor

**Steve Torgerson**

Supervisor

**Mark Ratigan**

Supervisor

**Kristine Allas**

Clerk

**Diana Witt**

Treasurer



## Notice of Annual Meeting/Election

Notice is hereby given that on **Tuesday, March 10, 2020**, Annual Meeting to be held at the Lansing Town Hall 26938 539th Avenue, Lansing, Minnesota 55950 commencing at 8:15 PM to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law, and Notice of Annual Township Election. Position of Supervisor to be elected:

*Candidate Duane Mortensen*

*Candidate William Stegemann*

*Please note: Lansing Township Board has chosen to go to a vote by mail process. Every registered voter will be mailed a ballot in which to cast their vote. \*Ballots may be returned by mail or in person, no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day in order to be counted, to the Mower County Auditor-Treasurer's office located at:*

*201 1<sup>st</sup> St NE, Ste 7, Austin, MN 55912*

*Hours to do so are: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Extended hours for voting are: Saturday, March 7th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Monday, March 9th, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you are not registered or would like to vote in person, you may visit the Mower County Auditor-Treasurer's office.*

In case of inclement weather, the meeting may be postponed until March 17, 2020. Kristine M. Allas, Clerk

**LANSING TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**MEETS MONTHLY, THE 3RD WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 PM**

**TOWN HALL - 26938 539TH AVENUE**

[www.LansingTownshipMN.org](http://www.LansingTownshipMN.org)

## These are the Candidates for Supervisor:



Duane Mortensen: I am running for re-election as Lansing Township Supervisor. During my first terms I have been involved as Planning and Zoning Administrator, (SSD) Subordinate Service District Committee, I also Chair the Austin Fire Association which includes Austin and Lansing Townships.

The Lansing Township Board has made many decisions in regard to Township business in the past years, all of which I have been very proud to have been a part of and involved with.

I believe that more work and decisions will be in the Towns future and I would enjoy being involved as Supervisor to help resolve them.

My wife (Gwen) and I have a long history with Lansing Township, we first rented a home in the Village of Lansing and in 1973 purchased our home in Andyville where we still reside. My Grandparents also lived and farmed in Lansing Township many years ago. Gwen and I have two son's that grew up in Lansing Township and were involved in 4 H and graduated from Austin High School. I have been retired for 10 years after working for the Smyth Companies here in Austin for 40 years.

Being retired I feel that I have the flexibility to help with any Lansing Township concerns that may come up though out the year.

I would appreciate your vote for the March 10<sup>th</sup> election and look forward to working with all; always willing to listen to any issues that citizens may have. I will always try to do what is best for all Lansing Township Residents.

Best Future, Duane Mortensen



William Stegemann: Hello, in September 2015, I was appointed to the Lansing Township Planning and Zoning Commission and have served as its chairperson. As a commission member, I helped re-write the zoning ordinance to simplify and update.

I started a website for the township in 2016 and have maintained it since. I hope it has been a useful resource.

I am a graduate of Southwest State University with experience in engineering, surveying, computer administration and business.

I believe in being well informed and being decisive. I try to attend the Board meeting each month. And if elected, I will work to provide great service and spend wisely.

Thank you for your consideration. William Stegemann

*The Fire Department asks that all snow be removed and cleaned out 3' feet around to the road, for all fire hydrants in the Village of Lansing. This is the responsibility of the residents living near the hydrants. This will save time in case of a fire.*

**Equalization:** This is to inform you that Lansing Township's **OPEN BOOK MEETING** has been scheduled for **April 20-June 12, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Mower County Assessor's Office, 201 1<sup>st</sup> St NE Suite 10, Austin, MN 55912 507 437-9440. Appeal in person or by phone. Please call if you have questions or concerns of your Real Estate Tax.**

## Road Committee:



Last winter & spring took a toll on township roads.

Fall of 2018 was very wet and cold, so frost went deep under the roads. As a result there were a lot of soft spots on the gravel roads in the spring of 2019. Many loads of 1 ½" rock were applied to firm up those areas of the roads. The township spent \$55,000 on crushed rock to get the roads in good condition once again. A report has been filed with FEMA, hopefully to be reimbursed for a percentage of this expense.

Bernie Boverhuis, our road grader operator, put in approximately 450 hours on the grader this year; this includes grading & snow removal.

Some trees and brush were removed on 262<sup>nd</sup> St and a couple of culverts were installed. Road ditches were mowed in June & September. There was no ditch cleaning because of a very wet and cold November.

Your patience and understanding is appreciated after a snowfall. Everyone can't be plowed out by 7:30 AM and the plowing starts at a different section of the township each time it snows. Total time to cover the entire township can take 8-10 hours.

Mark Ratigan – 438-6593 Gary Braaten – 438-5494

## Township Fire Protection Information

Austin Rural Fire Association, members include Austin Township and Lansing Township together we negotiate with the City of Austin to provide fire protection service at the best cost. Duane Mortensen and Gary Braaten are members of the Austin Rural Fire Association. Austin Fire Association is very pleased that we were able to achieve a cost reduction and a new three contract.

A large portion of Lansing Township’s Budget goes for Fire Protection, the following is a recap with our new contract with the City of Austin.

Example and approximate cost and savings with new three (3) year Contract with City of Austin.

	\$135,000	Each year (2016—2017—2018)
2019	\$130,000	3.70% less then 2018
2020	\$120,000	7.69% less then 2019
2021	\$110,000	8.27% less then 2020



Actual Cost for 2020 will be \$119,125—8.36% less then 2019

In 2019 Lansing Township had 20 Fire Department calls which include Fire calls, Motor Vehicle accidents, Emergency Medical calls and we were very fortunate that none were major losses.

To help offset a portion of these cost the Township will charge:

- Residential fire call           \$ 750
- Commercial fire call         \$1,000
- Vehicle fire call                 \$ 500

As a general rule homeowners/auto insurance should cover this cost, talk with your agent to make sure what your coverage covers.

Austin Fire Association has been very satisfied with the service that the Austin Fire Department provides; James McCoy, Austin’s Fire Chief does a great job managing the Fire Station, they have excellent equipment and well-trained fire fighters.

### **SMOKE DETECTOR’S**

#### **(EACH HOME SHOULD HAVE WORKING SMOKE DETECTOR’S FOR YOUR SAFETY)**

If you own your home, take advantage of a free smoke detector to be installed by the Austin Fire Department for Lansing Township residents. Additional smoke detectors are available for purchase and would be installed. Please contact Austin Fire Department directly at 507 433-3405.

**\*IMPORTANT**

**WE ACCEPT**



PETE HDPE V LDPE PP PS OTHER

Plastic containers only.  
Labels do not need to be removed.  
Lids and tops should be removed and  
plastics must be empty, clean, and dry.  
Remove all handles, lids, pump sprayers, etc.  
NO non-container plastics  
(toys, laundry baskets, car parts, etc).  
NO plastic bags, plastic wrap.  
NO styrofoam of any kind - no styrofoam  
peanuts, styrofoam packaging,  
styrofoam egg cartons.  
*Please call with questions.*

Please do not drop off garbage/trash in the Recycling Bins!

Mower County Recycling only accepts clean, empty, and dry recyclables.

Please when bringing cardboard, break it down so there is room for others bringing it.

**Questions? Check out the website at:**

[www.co.mower.mn.us/recycling.html](http://www.co.mower.mn.us/recycling.html)

**Please call the Mower County Recycling office located at 1111 8th Ave NE, Austin, MN 55912**

**507-437-9551**



***Lansing Township Permits for 2019 is as follows***

**Ulland Brothers, Inc. - September 2019**

Lansing Township issued one (1) Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Resolution # 091819 for mining and gravel extraction of less than 40 acres located in section 23 parcel # 08.023.0055

Lansing Township issued one (1) Variance Permit Resolution # 091819-A

Variance for 150-foot set back from the required 200-foot setback also in section 23 parcel # 08.023.0055

**Land Use Permits (Building Permits) issued by Mower County in 2019**

Total of 21 Land Use Permits for a total estimated value of \$ 828,575 dollars

One new home all others were additional accessory buildings, sheds and decks

Five (5) of these were **After The Fact** which in the future would cost the resident three **(3) times** the regular fee of \$ 75 dollars for Ag/Accessory Structures and \$150 dollars for Residential Structures, very important to get your permit before you start any construction to make sure that all setbacks and other requirements are done correctly.

## **Subordinate Service District: Water**

The Lansing Community Water Supply Unit is committed to providing quality water and services to its residents. Testing completed by the Minnesota Department of Health confirms that Lansing's drinking water meets and exceeds all state and federal standards for high-quality water. Beyond the required sampling done by the Department of Health, water is sampled weekly by certified staff to ensure its quality.

In addition to the water services, water conservation is also a top priority. Being efficient, conserving, and reducing water supply and manage expenses involved in water treatment.

Did you know that minor water leaks account for nearly one trillion gallons of wasted water each year in the United States? This amount is equivalent to annual household water usage for about 11 million homes. A leaky faucet dripping at a rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year.

Water is a priceless resource that we sometimes take for granted. Being conscious of our usage and making repairs that are wasteful can be extremely beneficial for our future.

## **Subordinate Service District: Wastewater**

These days wet wipes are everywhere, from baby wipes to cleaning wipes to moistened wipes meant for bathroom use. Many of these wipes are specifically labeled as "non-flushable", while others claim to be "flushable". People often flush both kinds. Though they both flush easy, they can cause serious issues further down the line.

Not only can they cause clogs in wastewater piping, they can actually cause serious damage to wastewater equipment on their way treatment. Part of our wastewater system consists of pumps to transfer wastewater. These so called flushable wipes can grab the impellers inside of the pumps causing them to quit working and possibly burn the pump out completely. Wipes are also known to not disintegrate quickly enough, or might not break down all the way. Even though these wipes are labeled "flushable", they have the potential to cause serious damage that is very expensive to repair.

When it comes to flushing, experts ask people to follow a simple rule: That only the three "P's" - pee, poop, and (toilet) paper are truly safe to flush. If you insist on using the wipes, please dispose of them in the garbage trash can and not down the drain. This simple action could potentially save thousands of dollars in unnecessary repairs.

Bernie Boverhuis, Sewer/Water Maintenance

507 438-5014

### Lansing Township Subordinate Service District:

Payments are due on the 10th of each month, and may be dropped off in the slot at the south side of the Town Hall 26938 539th Avenue, or mailed to PO Box 85, Lansing, MN 55950.

Sewer and Water billing questions should be directed to Diana Witt, billing clerk, 507 440-1916.



# Maximize Your Safety With Code**RED**

Mower County is pleased to announce the introduction of Code**RED** Alerting System. The new system will distribute emergency notifications, weather alerts and other important community notices.

Code**RED** allows residents and businesses to stay informed! It is easy to sign up using your landline, cell phone, email and/or TDD. Registration is confident, easy and free but you must sign up.

Questions, please call the Emergency Management office at 507 434-2712 or email [amyl@co.mower.mn.us](mailto:amyl@co.mower.mn.us).

Here is a short video on how Code**RED** works. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXbwh7i7zqo&utm\\_source](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXbwh7i7zqo&utm_source)

Sign up for Code**RED** : <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BF52FA7DA622>

You can also download the Code**RED** Mobile Alert App (fees may apply) <https://www.onsolve.com/solutions/products/codered/mobile-alert-app/codered-mobile=apps-download/> Visit Mower County’s website to sign-up! [www.co.mower.mn.us](http://www.co.mower.mn.us)

<b>Administration</b>	<b>507 437-9549</b>
<b>Assessor</b>	<b>507 437-9440</b>
<b>Attorney</b>	<b>507 437-9428</b>
<b>4H/Extension</b>	<b>507 437-9550</b>
<b>Auditor/Treasurer</b>	<b>507 437-9535</b>
<b>Health &amp; Human Serv</b>	<b>507 437-9701</b>
<b>Corrections</b>	<b>507 437-9454</b>
<b>Court Services</b>	<b>507 437-9465</b>
<b>Human Resource</b>	<b>507 437-9533</b>
<b>Public Works</b>	<b>507 437-7718</b>
<b>Recorder</b>	<b>507 437-9446</b>
<b>Recycling</b>	<b>507 437-9551</b>
<b>Sheriff’s</b>	<b>507 437-9400</b>
<b>Veterans</b>	<b>507 434-2712</b>



LANSING TOWNSHIP

PO BOX 85

LANSING MN 55950

*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*

**Township Contacts and Committees:**

Duane Mortensen, Chairman, Planning Commission	507 438-1278
Gary Braaten, Vice Chairman, Road Committee	507 438-5494
Lynn Allas, Sewer/Water Committee	507 438-8992
Steve Torgerson, Planning Commission	507 219-9555
Mark Ratigan, Road Committee	507 438-6593
Diana Witt, Treasurer, Billing for Sewer/Water	507 440-1916
Kristine Allas, Clerk	507 433-3327
Bernie Boverhuis, Sewer/Water Maintenance	507 438-5014
William Stegemann, Planning Commission, Website	507 433-8778