

# Lansing Township

March 2019

## Township Board

### Members

**Duane**

**Mortensen**

Chair

**Gary Braaten**

V. Chair

**Lynn Allas**

Supervisor

**Steve Torgerson**

Supervisor

**Mark Ratigan**

Supervisor

**Kristine Allas**

Clerk

**Diana Witt**

Treasurer

## Notice of Annual Meeting/Election

### NOTICE:

The second Tuesday of March is the day that all townships hold their election and annual meeting in Minnesota.

Tuesday, March 12, 2019, polls will be open from 4:00 to 8:00 PM at the Town Hall. If you are unable to make it on Tuesday, the town hall will be open from 10:00 to 12:00 PM on Saturday, March 9th for those who can't make it on Tuesday, March 12th.

We have 2 supervisor positions on the ballot this year.

Our annual meeting will be after the election on Tuesday, March 12th at 8:15. Agenda items include updates from committees and setting the levy.

Please take time to vote and attend your annual meeting for our Township.

In case of inclement weather, the meeting and election may be postponed until March 19, 2019.

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:

I am running for re-election of Supervisor to the Lansing Township Board. I lived in Lansing my whole life, and raised my family (Andrew 22, Emily 19). We as a Board have conquered many decisions and had many discussions. I have enjoyed being Supervisor and it is a learning experience I would like to continue.

Thank you and I ask for your vote.

Lynn Allas



I'm running for re-election to the Lansing Township Board as I am interested in continuing to be involved in local decisions and feel this has been a great experience. I lived in Lansing Township most all of my life and am currently raising my family here as well. I'm involved in my family's farm, raising beef cattle, corn and soybeans. I also hold a position as a member on the Northern Country Co-op Board.

Mark Ratigan

Please us the correct bins when recycling, and not just throw everything in one bin. The are labeled for a reason.



Please do not drop off garbage/trash! 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 our 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**

**507-437-9551**

**IMPORTANT**

**WE ACCEPT**

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.**

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

## Road Committee:

The summer of 2018 had plenty of moisture, thus we were able to blade the gravel roads more often. We applied one inch size crushed rock with fines during June on roads that needed it. After the roads had been graded a couple of times, dust control was applied by all residential driveways in early July.

The road ditches were mowed twice, one in July and then again in September.

In the fall we were able to get some ditches cleaned of soil deposits making it possible for water to run through them more efficiently. The dirt removed from the ditches was spread onto adjacent farm fields after the farmers crops had been removed. Fall is an ideal time to do this.



When we have heavy amounts of snow, your patience is appreciated as it takes several hours for the snow plow to cover all the roads in the township. The plow starts in different sections each time so that same roads are not always first or last served.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to the following road committee.

Gary Braaten 507 438-5494

Mark Ratigan 507 438-6593

**Equalization: This is to inform you that Lansing Township's OPEN BOOK MEETING has been scheduled for April 16-June 7, 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, if you have questions or concerns of your Real Estate Tax.**

## ***Township Fire Protection Information***

Many times, Lansing citizens ask what I get for my Township's Taxes? A large portion goes for Fire Protection the cost for Lansing Township in 2019 (\$71,000) this is 3.7% less than 2018.

Austin Fire Association was able to work with the City of Austin and the Fire Department to lower our cost over the next three (3) years.

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

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

Overall savings over the three (3) years of 18.46% and \$25,000 dollars for the Austin Fire Association and this amount divided between Austin and Lansing Townships.

Our new three (3) contract is savings \$45,000 total **IF** the cost would have stayed at \$ 135,000 as the previous contract.

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 contract.

In 2018 Lansing Township had 17 Fire Department calls and were lucky that none were major losses. five (5) were Fire calls, five (5) were Motor Vehicle accidents & Emergency Medical calls, seven (7) were Miscellaneous calls.

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

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

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

We have 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

## **Notice: Lansing Sewer and Water Residents:**

Please be sure to not flush down any baby wipes, cloth rags or rubber gloves, things that are **NOT** flushable. The pumps have been clogged due to these items.

## LANSING TOWNSHIP LAND USE ORDINANCE, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, AND FEE SCHEDULE

On April 19, 2017, the Town Board adopted a comprehensive rewrite and update of the Township's Planning and Zoning Ordinance to best protect the health, safety, and welfare of Township residents and property owners. This Ordinance replaces all previous zoning ordinances adopted by the Town Board and applies to all areas within the Township. The ordinance divides the Township into zoning districts and sets out the regulations and requirements applicable to each district, including subdivision regulations.

In order to limit the duplication of permitting requirements with Mower County, the Town Board elected to limit the scope of the land use regulations in the Ordinance. Rather than specifically identifying all allowed uses, setting out separate performance standards, and establishing permitting requirements, the Town Board has elected to defer to the County on such matters. The rewritten Ordinance focus its attentions on those uses identified as conditional uses and prohibits uses that may be allowed by the County. Standards on conditional uses may be stricter than, or additional to, the standards established by the County. The Town Board also adopted an updated Comprehensive Plan and Fee Schedule.

Questions pertaining to this Ordinance can be sent to Duane Mortensen [mortensen.dg@gmail.com](mailto:mortensen.dg@gmail.com)

The complete Zoning Ordinance, Comprehensive Plan and Fee Schedule can be viewed on the Lansing Township website [www.lansingtowshipmn.org](http://www.lansingtowshipmn.org) or by contacting the Town Clerk.

The following information is in regard to Mower County Planning and Zoning Ordinance requirements, it is very important that all residents of Lansing Township check before building any structure. Please call Angie Lipelt, at 507-437-9560 Supervisor - Mower County Environmental Services, at 1105 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Austin MN. to make sure you are in compliance with the Counties Ordinance.

### **When are zoning permits required?**

*Ordinance Excerpt:* No person in the county shall erect, alter, or move any building or any part thereof without first securing a zoning permit therefore. In all cases where an improvement will serve to change the exterior shape of the structure including enclosed porches, regardless of the cost of the improvement, a zoning permit must be secured. No permit shall be required for minor repairs, such as redecorating either the inside or the outside, residing, or re-shingling.

Generally, for most any structure or building regardless of the value. This includes: portable structures, decks (attached or detached), carports, gazebos, etc.

*Normally we do not require a permit for structures less than 100 sq feet in area; **but** the structure/building must still meet setbacks of the applicable zoning district; shoreland setbacks and regulations, and if they are housing, confining, feeding, breeding animals or allowing manure to accumulate; regardless of the number of animals contained; they may not place the structure in a shoreland overlay area (300 feet landward, each direction, of a publicly protected stream) and if the parcel contains floodplain; the floodplain regulations applies to all buildings and/or structures regardless of size.*

### **Other permits:**

In shoreland overlay areas (within 300 feet landward, each direction, of publicly protected stream or river) and in floodplain areas: Permits may also be required for removal of vegetation, grading, and/or filling.

**Consequences:** Any action for which a permit is required, which was not obtained and in-hand before the construction or development began, triples the normal fee established by the county board.

**Violations:** Violations of the Mower County Ordinance are a misdemeanor. Misdemeanor penalties are up to \$1,000 and/or 90 days in jail, or both, for each day of offense. *This involves being charged by the Mower County Attorney's Office with a violation of the ordinance and will require appearance before a judge; who determines the penalty. The amount listed above is the maximum penalty allowed under the law. Mower County's goal is always first to entice compliance from a landowner voluntarily.*

LANSING TOWNSHIP  
PO BOX 85  
LANSING MN 55950

*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*

## For Your Information

**Township Contacts and Committees:**

Duane Mortensen, Chairman, Zoning,	507 438-1278
Gary Braaten, Vice Chairman, Road Committee	507 433-2415
Lynn Allas, Sewer/Water Committee	507 438-8992
Steve Torgerson, Planning Commission	507 219-9555
Mark Ratigan, Road Committee	507 438-6193
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

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.