

Lee Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 9th, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Lee Township Board was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Lee Township Hall, located at 877 56th Street, Pullman, Michigan.

Members Present: Clerk Blackburn, Treasurer Godlew, Trustee Lewis, Trustee Hatfield

Members Absent: Supervisor Rawson

Agenda Amendments: None

Board Comments:

Trustee Lewis: Trustee Lewis reported being unable to find our blight complaint for on the website. Treasurer Godlew illustrated where to find the complaint for on the website, navigate to Leetwp.org > Department Pages > Township Ordinances and on that page you'll find the complaint form. Also linked here:

<http://www.leetwp.org/Forms%20File/complaint%20form.pdf>

Trustee Lewis is working with Michigan Township Services to put together language for an updated ordinance. Trustee Lewis was unaware of the process for updating ordinances. Clerk Blackburn offered advice on the steps to propose changes to the ordinance, noted the need for a board agenda item, board approval and eventually if needed a full public hearing in order to change or adopt ordinances.

Treasurer Godlew: Treasurer Godlew reported that regarding property taxes, \$3.9 Million came through the treasurer's office representing 5,157 separate transactions that then had to be distributed accurately to the appropriate tax entities. We received the county initial approval and can consider tax season closed. Anyone now attempting to pay property taxes, go to the county of Allegan and the county will assist. A big thank you to Karen Jesson for her assistance as deputy treasurer in helping through tax season.

Reminder that our annual budget meeting is Saturday March 28th at 10:00am at the Township Hall.

Clerk Blackburn: Clerk Blackburn gave updates on a few items:

1. **Elections:** Lee township will NOT be hosting an election in May. We will be hosting elections in August and November. We will be co-hosting early voting for the August and November election with Fennville and surrounding townships as part of our early voting agreement. Early voting period begins the second Saturday prior to Election Day and ends the Sunday before an election. We are always looking for election poll workers to serve on election day as well as certain days during the early voting period and are actively accepting applications. It is a paid position for the time worked at a rate of \$20/hr. Election worker applications can be found here or request the clerk to mail you one if needed: https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/01vanderroest/Elec_InspecAppl.pdf - submit your filled in application to the Clerk via e-mail or mail.
2. **I voted sticker contest:** The state is running an I Voted Sticker competition – applications for the stickers are being accepted through May 1st. To learn more visit: [Michigan.gov/IVotedSticker](https://www.michigan.gov/IVotedSticker)
3. **Minimum Wage:** Reminder that the state of Michigan's planned minimum wage increases have taken effect and been updated as of Jan 1, 2026 for the calendar year. **Effective January 1, 2026, the minimum wage rate is \$13.73 per hour.** Effective January 1, 2027, the minimum wage rate is \$15.00 per hour.

4. **Impersonation Reminder:** Impersonations of government officials and others has been on the rise. If you ever receive an e-mail from Lee Township or any user where the e-mail looks different than standard, maybe the e-mail is asking for sensitive information or a reply of some sort – always check the sender of that e-mail and verify the address is legitimate. If for any reason the e-mail does not look correct, please find the correct email of the person or a phone number to talk to a real human to verify the requested information or action needed. For example all board members of Lee Township have an email that ends with ‘leetwp.org’. A potential impersonation email might try to trick you, for example leetwpclerk@gmail.com is NOT a real e-mail from our clerk’s office. If ever you are unsure, check our website to confirm the address or call our office. Check contact details here:
<http://www.leetwp.org/contactus.htm>

Citizens Comment:

Tom Siver – Running for District Court Judge in Allegan County.

Guest Speakers:

Pivot Energy – Georgia O’Neill presented information about the company and the specific project that they have contracted to build at the corner of 102nd and 58th st. For more information reach out to Georgia at: goneill@pivotenergy.net

Approval of Regular Board Minutes:

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Hatfield to approve the previous months regular meeting minutes as presented. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasures report was read by Treasure Godlew.

A motion was made by Blackburn and seconded by Hatfield to receive the Treasurer’s Report as given. Motion carried. Roll call - Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes, Trustee Lewis, - yes.

County Commissioners Report:

Mr. Lubbers reported updates to the transition from community action house hot meals delivery service to the new meals on wheels frozen meal delivery service provided through the senior millage. Please visit Allegan County’s website ‘Home Delivered Meals – Transition’ with any questions:

<https://www.allegancounty.org/departments/senior-services/home-delivered-meals-transition-faq>

Q: Do current clients need to do anything to ensure they will continue to receive meals?

No. Current clients will be contacted and transitioned automatically, nothing additional needs to be completed for current clients to continue receiving meals under the new frozen delivery model.

Q: How do potential new clients enroll in the HDM service?

Following initial transition of current clients, new Home Delivered Meals clients will enroll in meals through the Meals on Wheels Western Michigan client intake process. Allegan County Senior Service staff will remain on staff to assist in client management where necessary to ensure satisfaction in meal services. To learn more about Meals on Wheels Western Michigan, please visit www.mealsonwheelswesternmichigan.org or call 616-459-3111.

Allegan County Senior Services

3255 122nd Avenue, Ste. 200

Allegan, MI 49010

269-673-3333

1-877-673-5333 (Toll-Free)

Deputy Report:

Deputy Wasilewski will be moving his services to a different location and as of March, Lee Township will be served by a new Deputy, Deputy Kevin LaForge. Deputy LaForge has been working closely with Deputy Wasilewski during the transition.

The township board thanks Deputy Wasilewski for his time in the township and the time and attention he has given to Lee Township.

Fire Department/ EMS Report:

Chief Zack Clark: We had a total of 40 calls, 33 of which were medical. Training for the month was our CPR re-certification and annual ice rescue training performed on Scott Lake. We've recently recruited a new member for our cadet program and he will start this week.

The new First Responders unit is out of paint and in the final stage of production. The old cop car, we got wrapped and now matches our fire color scheme. The old command vehicle will be retired soon and given back to the DNR as this was not a township owned vehicle. The old cop car will then become our new command vehicle.

Code Official Report:

For February there were 5 ordinance violation letters that were mailed to property owners. 3 of these were blight and 2 of them were for dangerous buildings.

Clerk Blackburn reminded participants about the complaint form available on our website: <http://www.leetwp.org/Forms%20File/complaint%20form.pdf>

The Clerk also proposed that the board be given a more detailed summary of the complaints and action in process. The board should be made aware what stage in the process any given complaint is each month. We've had several entities approach the board recently asking about status and how things are managed. It is the whole board's statutory duty for code and ordinance enforcement.

Assessor's Report:

The March Board of Review is ongoing this week.

Ambulance Reports: None.

Building Inspector's Report: Building Inspector's report was read by Clerk Blackburn. There were 6 mechanical permits and inspections, 3 electrical permits and inspections, 0 building permits, with \$721.66 of value to the township.

Cemetery Report:

A.J. Canfield gave an update on cemetery plans for the upcoming summer.

The well point needs to be addressed and potentially replaced.

The fuse box also needs addressed.

Received a quote for resurfacing the cemetery roads would be roughly 2,024.90 plus cost for rentals and labor. More will be discussed during the budget meeting in March.

Transfer Station Report: Transfer station report was read by Treasurer Godlew. There was a total of 41 tickets collected and \$1,199.00 funds received for material disposal.

Lake Board: None.

Newsletter Report: Any additions to the newsletter should be to Trustee Hatfield by May 1.

Holiday Committee Report: None.

Pullman Pride Report: Pullman Pride will be hosted on Saturday, July 18th 2026; A planning meeting will be held on Tuesday March 24th at 4:30pm at the PHP Pantry – all interested in helping to volunteer with the event is welcome to attend.

Road Committee Report: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dates for free dump days

May 16th, July 11th, and September 19th 2026

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Hatfield to approve the scheduled dump days of May 16th, July 11th, and September 19th 2026.

Motion carried. Roll call - Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes. Trustee Lewis, - yes.

Culvert repair at 58th street north of 109th

Supervisor Rawson acquired a quote from the Allegan County Road Commission (ACRC) to address the failed culvert. Clerk Blackburn presented the information from ACRC The quote is for \$35,000 which includes material, labor, equipment, and overhead as provided by the ACRC.

A motion was made by Blackburn and seconded by Godlew to approve spending up to \$35,000 to address the failed culvert at 58th st just north of 109th.

Motion carried. Roll call - Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes. Trustee Lewis, - yes.

Payment of the Bills: Presented by Clerk Blackburn, totaling \$528,710.30.

Note – \$431,000 of this was a pass-through payment from the County of Allegan to 123.NET.

A motion was made by Godlew and seconded by Hatfield to approve the payment of the bills for a total of \$528,710.30 presented by Clerk Blackburn. Motion carried. Roll call - Clerk Blackburn - yes, Treasurer Godlew – yes, Trustee Lewis – yes, Trustee Hatfield, - yes.

Correspondence:

- Trustee Lewis read correspondence regarding Cheshire fire district. Chief Zack provided that we usually receive 10-15 calls in the Cheshire township to support per year.
- Clerk Blackburn commended Beautify Pullman and Lee Township for being recognized in the [Michigan Office of Rural Prosperity 2025 Impact Report](#) for their diligent efforts on the Safe Routes to School project.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Lewis and seconded by Godlew to adjourn the meeting. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Minutes submitted by: Kathryn Blackburn, Clerk