Township of Breitung Agenda – Regular Board Meeting

Township of Breitung Regular Board Meeting 11-17-2026
Timothy Tomsich Community Center 6:00 PM

- Call the meeting to order/Roll Call
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Acceptance of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
  - 10/20/2026 Regular Board Meeting

- Approval of October 2026 Treasurer's Report
  - Checks Written: 60587 – 60660
  - Total Disbursements: $251,662.83
  - Fund Balance: $877,825.95
  - Voided Checks: None

- Correspondence
    - SLCAT: Monthly Minutes
    - Northeast Range Students & Staff
    - St. Louis County: Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Reports:

- Police – Attached
- Fire & Rescue – Attached
- Road and Bridge – Attached
- Water – Attached
- Wastewater Board
- Ambulance Commission
- Recreation
- Joint Powers Recreation Board
- Joint Airport Zoning Board

Public Input

Old Business

- Current Infrastructure Projects
    - McKinley Park Trail Loop
    - Thompson Farm Road
    - Stuntz Bay Access Rd
        - Final Pay Request
    - McKinley Park: ADA Project
    - 2026 Recreation Project
- Broadband Project
- Joint Comprehensive Plan
- Blight
    - Community Pick-up
- Fire Truck Sale
- Indian Point Road Association Request
- Facility Use Forms Update
- IOUE Local 49 Contract

New Business

- Pay Bills as presented
- Resolution 2026-24: Accepting Donations
- Snowplow Assessment
- Assistant Maintenance Job Description

Next Board Meetings

Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 15, 2026

Adjourn

Breitung Township
Regular Board Meeting 10-20-2026, 6:00 PM
In Person Meeting at the Timothy Tomsich Community Center
33 First Avenue, Soudan MN 55782

Present In Person:
Board Members: Chairman Matthew Tuchel, Supervisor Erin Peitso, Supervisor Stephen Tekautz, Clerk Amber Zak, Treasurer Teresa Dolinar
Public: Police Chief Daniel Reing, Scarlet Stone (Timberjay), Tony Perpich, Robert Gregg, Adrienne Devries, Trudy Hendricks, April Wamhoff

Call to Order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Tuchel

Pledge of Allegiance

Acceptance of Agenda
Motion by Supervisor Peitso to accept the agenda as presented
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion Passed 3-0

Approval of Minutes
Motion by Supervisor Peitso to approve the minutes of the 09-16-2026 Regular Board Meeting and the 10-16-2026 Special Board Meeting, as presented
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion Passed 3-0

Approval of Treasurer's Report
Treasurer Dolinar discussed and summarized the provided reports.
Motion by Supervisor Peitso to accept the September 2026 Treasurers Report as presented
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0

Correspondence

- St. Louis County: Planning & Zoning Department
- RAMS: Annual Meeting & Dinner
  - Chairman Tuchel questioned whether two supervisors could attend this event without an issue concerning Open Meeting Law; directed Clerk Zak to check with MN Association of Townships
- SLCAT: Monthly Minutes, Annual Minutes, and Schedule

Correspondence so noted.

DRAFT

Reports

- Police – Attached; Chief Reing noted that the new CAD system can't write tickets, all departments were having this issue around the area. He noted he'd need to handwrite tickets for the time being and that there was just some fine-tuning to be done with the systems on the new vehicle.
- Fire& Rescue – Attached
- Road and Bridge – Attached
- Water – Attached
- Wastewater Board – Chairman Tuchel noted that the RIBS project had started three weeks ago, half of one pond had been built
- Ambulance – Supervisor Peitso updated the board: Special Taxing District was currently paused to see how the partnership would go with Ely Area Ambulance, also paused due to the ongoing annexation of parts of Greenwood Township; board was still considering re-chassissing older rig, but has not yet received a quote. Noted that all contributors had made their payments for 2026.
- Recreation – No updates
- Joint Powers Recreation Board – Supervisor Tekautz updated the board: the group had a meeting, noted there was money available for recreation projects so that if anyone is in need, they should apply for funds; explained that the current president of the group was leaving at term end, there would be a space open for someone that would like to participate.
- Joint Airport Zoning Board – Correspondence had been received regarding Breitung Townships ownership of property in airport zones; a public meeting will be had on Thursday, October 22, 2026.

Motion by Supervisor Peitso to approve the reports as present
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0

Public Input

Robert Gregg questioned whether the matter of the sign posted on/near his property had been resolved; Chairman Tuchel responded that Clerk Zak was directed to communicate with him that through township attorney and MN Association of Townships correspondence, it was determined that the right-of-way of the road was 8 feet; the sign was outside of the 8-foot right-of-way and was therefore on Mr. Gregg's property. He was welcome to remove the sign as he saw fit given that the placement of the sign was on his property. Any further questions from the party that placed the sign originally would have to come before the board.

April Wamhoff was in attendance to voice frustration over the Special Meeting held on 10-16-2026 and the resulting use of McKinley Park Campground for the purpose of allowing Neutrino Detectors to be placed in Lake Vermilion; overall she stated that in the future, it would be nice to know where to look for special meetings and to have more information. Chairman Tuchel explained that legally, a Special Board Meeting needs to be posted 5 days in advance which was done; he noted that it had also been put on Breitung Township website and Facebook site in order to let as many people as possible know about it. Ms. Wamhoff suggested a notification-blitz to let all people know when, where, and how notices were posted; Clerk Zak took the request under advisement. Ms. Wamhoff requested a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding between Veit & Company, Inc. and Breitung Township; this was provided to her.

DRAFT

Trudy Hendricks and Adrienne Devries were in attendance to voice similar concerns; Ms. Hendricks suggested putting special meetings on a more eye-catching type of paper, such as neon or using a highlighter. Ms. Devries questioned whether there had been a choice if they wanted the Neutrino Detectors in the lake at all; Chairman Tuchel advised her that it was not Breitung Township's choice to make and that the project had been permitted by the MN-DNR.

Old Business:

Current Infrastructure Projects

- McKinley Loop Trail – Chairman Tuchel noted that the project had received approval from the State and FAA, currently waiting for county to provide the contract for the grant
- Thompson Farm Road Project – Chairman Tuchel remarked that changes required by MNDoT had caused an overage in engineering fees, which Breitung Township will be responsible for; he mentioned possibly asking the Prospector's ATV group for some help on the engineering fees but was not hopeful to receive anything, overall, the project was a major benefit to Breitung Township at a very low cost to us, even with the increased engineering fees. One of the items required by MNDoT was a bypass lane in the Southbound lane; this bypass lane requires blasting some ledge rock and a 2nd coat of asphalt, neither of which were contracted. The additional work should be covered by the grant but it is not guaranteed.
- Stuntz Bay Access Road – Chairman Tuchel noted that the $5,000 bill was due to an overage of material near the start of the bike trail. He indicated that he'd be interested in simply paying the overage to keep Breitung Township in Mesabi Bituminous Inc's good graces, as they have always gotten our projects completed and worked well with us. The matter would be tabled until next month's meeting when a clear breakdown of the overage would be available.
- McKinley Park: ADA Project – Supervisor Tekautz reported that he was still waiting to receive the plans from the consultant, would get in contact with her prior to the next meeting.
- 2026 Recreation Project – Supervisor Peitso reported that there was approximately $6,000 remaining in grant dollars if the paving cost comes in as proposed, noting that a grant amendment could be requested if it was too far over cost; Mesabi Bituminous recommended an overlay for the remainder of the bike trail not being done in order to mitigate any wear and tear that was currently seen in the asphalt. Heard that people have been using the Disc Golf course.

Broadband Project

Chairman Tuchel reported that CTC had no remaining work this year, no update on the grant application.

Joint Comprehensive Plan

Supervisor Tekautz reported that the ARDC meeting went really well being held in conjunction with Big Truck Night, waiting for update from ARDC for next steps.

Blight

Discussion was had regarding holding a community clean-up day, noted that volunteers would be needed. Clerk Zak questioned whether requesting volunteer labor was legal as requesting donations was not, clerk was directed to look into the matter. Supervisor Tekautz would speak with Tower's Mayor Setterberg about coordinating joint participation.

Fire Truck Sale

The fire truck had not sold in the latest sales attempt of $20k on MN-Bid
Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to relist the truck at $10k for 14 days on MN-Bid
2nd by Supervisor Peitso
Motion passed 3-0

DRAFT

Indian Point Road Association Request
Chairman Tuchel explained that Indian Point Road is indeed a township road, based on every file we have; it was originally intended to be a minimum maintenance road or be turned over to the road association, if that were the case, the road association would also have to accept it. He noted that Maint. Sup. Gorsma would be reaching out to plowing contractors as it would be hard to add to the schedule for this winter; discussion on possibly offering use of old 1-ton truck to the road association for plowing purposes was on the table as well. Chairman Tuchel and road association president Tony Perpich would meet to discuss options; Clerk Zak was directed to email the attorney communications regarding Indian Point Road to other supervisors.

Resolution 2026-20: Project Labor Agreement
Motion by Chairman Tuchel to approve Resolution 2026-20: Project Labor Agreement
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0

Facility Use Forms Updated
Clerk Zak reported that this project had not yet been completed, she was still working with the attorney on the final version. This discussion item was tabled until next meeting by Chairman Tuchel.

New Business:
Pay Bills as Presented
Motion by Chairman Tuchel to Pay Bills as Presented.
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion Passed 3-0

Facility Use Request
The board reviewed a facility use request to serve alcohol at a private event. The supervisors considered it and questioned the rules in the agreement; Clerk Zak noted that renters were required to have an off-duty police officer in attendance
Motion by Chairman Tuchel to approve the facility use request
2nd by Supervisor Peitso
Motion passed 3-0

IOUE Local 49 Contract
The union contract for Road & Bridge employees was set to expire on 12/31/2026; Breitung Township had received a request to open negotiations
Motion by Chairman Tuchel to appoint Supervisor Peitso as liaison for negotiations with the union
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0

LMCIT Dividend
Treasurer Dolinar had received the annual dividend from LMCIT Workers' Compensation and asked for direction on how the board would like the money utilized: either for safety trainings as suggested by LMCIT or deposited by fund based on dues paid (as it had historically been); board supervisors indicated they would like to continue seeing it deposit by fund based on percentage paid by each department.

DRAFT

McKinley Park Campground Contractor Site Use
Chairman Tuchel explained that employees of Veit & Company, Inc were interested in renting camping spaces for the time they were working at McKinley Park Campground to install Neutrino Detectors as approved at the 10-16-2026 Special Board Meeting. He noted they would have electricity, but no water or sewer.
Motion by Supervisor Peitso to allow contractors use of the campground at a 2/3 rate
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0

Veit & Company, Inc. Contract
Chairman Tuchel explained that Veit & Company, Inc would be drawing up an agreement for use of McKinley Park property; the agreement could be forwarded to township attorney once received.
Motion by Supervisor Peitso to authorize Chairman Tuchel to sign the contract once it is reviewed and approved by township attorney
2nd by Supervisor Tekautz
Motion passed 3-0

Resolution 2026-22: Accepting Donations
Motion by Chairman Tuchel to approve Resolution 2026-22: Accepting Donations
2nd by Supervisor Peitso
Motion passed 3-0

Resolution 2026-23: Grant Authorization
The grant being applied for was the MN Department of Public Safety (TZD) grant for reimbursed overtime expenses for state sponsored TZD activities (click-it-or-ticket, sober driving, etc.)
Motion by Supervisor Tekautz to approve Resolution 2026-23: Grant Authorization
2nd by Supervisor Peitso
Motion passed 3-0

Next Board Meetings
Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 6:00 PM

Adjourn
Motion by Chairman Tuchel to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM
2nd by Supervisor Peitso
Motion passed 3-0

Respectfully Submitted

Amber Zak
Clerk, Breitung Township

DRAFT

Township of Breitung
October 2026

Liabilities

Frandsen Bank and Trust

ReHab Loan	$169,006.15

Total Liabilities

Assets

Bank Accounts

Frandsen - Now Checking #000086	**$311,880.12**
Frandsen - MMD #86	$5,094.26
McKinley Park - Camp Ground	$82,445.22
4M Account	$347,476.11
Frandsen High Yield Money Market	$219,762.19
Frandsen MMD # 110183438	$13,661.69
Cert # 1300319690	$0.00
Total Cash	$980,319.59
Outstanding Checks September, 2026	$2,570.38
	$0.00

Funds		**Checking Account**	**Other Accounts**	**Total**
100	General	$66,121.87	$273,354.00	$339,475.87
201	Road & Bridge	$67,089.06	$75,000.00	$142,089.06
225	Fire	$35,532.72	$0.00	$35,532.72
620	Park	$38,867.45	$122,421.96	$161,289.41
227	Recreation	$14,797.64		$14,797.64
226	Police	$84,615.71	$0.00	$84,615.71
230	Projects	-$20,914.71		-$20,914.71
231	Town Hall Payment Reserve		$0.00	$0.00
250	Equipment Reserve	$0.00	$28,414.29	$28,414.29
251	Police Equipment Reserve	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
252	Firemen's Pension Reseve		$23,500.00	$23,500.00
253	Buildings and Grounds	$300.00	$33,350.00	$33,650.00
254	Sick Days Reserve		$22,183.05	$22,183.05
255	Projects Reserve		$0.00	$0.00
257	Gravel Reserve		$11,398.91	$11,398.91
258	Police Vacation Reserve		$1,794.00	$1,794.00
	Total Funds	**$286,409.74**	**$591,416.21**	**$877,825.95**

	Total Funds	**$877,825.95**
Disbursements	$251,662.83	
Checks	60588- 60660	
Vendor Payments	$218,721.49	
Payroll 9/8/26 (gross wages)	$13,193.43	
Payroll 9/19/26 (gross wages)	$19,747.91	
Receipts	$224,237.57	
Transfers	$500.00	$224,737.57
Investments - Transferred	$77,000.00	
Investments - Transferred used	$50,514.87	
Interest * included in the receipts.	$2,018.12	

Treasurer report for November 2026

Movement of Funds between Bank Accounts

Fund	Amount	Moved from	Moved too
258 Equipment Fund One Ton Accessories	$50,514.87	High Yield Money Market	Checking
Total Moved	$50,514.87		

Projects Is negative by $20914.71, recent payment of $22,149.00 to JPJ Engineering for the Thompson Farm Road, that was not accounted for. We have another bill which will be paid, for another $10,000.00 Engineering costs.

Thanks Teresa Dolinar

As on 10/31/2026

Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Sale of Investments	Transfers In	Disbursements	Purchase of Investments	Transfers Out	Ending Balance	Investment Balance	Total Balance
General Fund	6,806.82	337,035.33	165,010.00	0.00	212,372.12	170,358.16	60,000.00	66,121.87	273,354.00	339,475.87
Road and Bridge	75,096.20	282,297.61	0.00	0.00	213,304.75	75,000.00	2,000.00	67,089.06	75,000.00	142,089.06
Fire	38,113.40	135,692.45	0.00	0.00	133,273.13	0.00	5,000.00	35,532.72	0.00	35,532.72
Police Department	105,441.17	211,510.86	0.00	0.00	217,342.32	0.00	14,994.00	84,615.71	0.00	84,615.71
Recreation	50,017.14	28,098.12	0.00	0.00	63,317.62	0.00	0.00	14,797.64	0.00	14,797.64
Projects	23,363.78	40,797.13	0.00	60,000.00	145,075.62	0.00	0.00	(20,914.71)	0.00	(20,914.71)
Town Hall Payment Reserve	0.00	20,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment Reserve	0.00	34,283.16	380,551.41	65,000.00	279,595.65	140,238.92	60,000.00	0.00	28,414.29	28,414.29
Police Equipment Reserve	0.00	3,000.00	53,147.29	18,101.81	68,249.10	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Firemans Pension Reserve	0.00	2,500.00	5,092.00	0.00	0.00	7,592.00	0.00	0.00	23,500.00	23,500.00
Buildings and Grounds Reserve	0.00	2,800.00	25,150.00	0.00	19,150.00	8,500.00	0.00	300.00	33,350.00	33,650.00
Sick Days Reserve	0.00	30.08	7,101.81	4,200.00	0.00	4,230.08	7,101.81	0.00	22,183.05	22,183.05
Projects Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Operating Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gravel Reserve	0.00	8.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.42	0.00	0.00	11,398.91	11,398.91
Police Vacation Reserve	0.00	0.00	17,794.00	9,794.00	0.00	19,588.00	8,000.00	0.00	1,794.00	1,794.00
Water	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
McKinley Park Camp Ground	72,800.91	219,989.27	219,445.47	0.00	131,557.29	341,810.91	0.00	38,867.45	122,421.96	161,289.41
Total :	**371,639.42**	**1,318,042.43**	**933,291.98**	**157,095.81**	**1,523,237.60**	**813,326.49**	**157,095.81**	**286,409.74**	**591,416.21**	**877,825.95**

ST. LOUIS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIPS
SEPTEMBER 23, 2026 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 28, 2026 6:00 PM
SPEAKER: ELECTION CANDIDATES
https://meet.goto.com/SLCATO
Phone: 1-312-757-3121 Access Code: 964-698-949

Following Meeting: January 27, 2027 6:30 pm Cotton Community Center
++

Call Meeting to Order: President Jim Aird called the September 23, 2026 meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm, Cotton Town Hall. There were 33 township officers present and five officers virtually present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Speaker: The association heard from Paul Peltier, Executive Director of the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS). This fall Minnesotans can vote to pass a constitutional amendment modernizing how Minnesota's Permanent School Fund Supports students, schools, and communities. The bill to put the amendment on the ballot was passed overwhelmingly with bipartisan support in the Minnesota State House and the Senate. More information can be found at www.minnesotaPSFamendment.org or your can contact Paul Peltier email: paul@rams.mn.org or 218-431-1317. His presentation was followed by a Q & A.

St. Louis County Commissioner Mike Jugovich: The St. Louis County Board voted to cap the maximum 2027 property tax levy increase at 6.25%. The public works garage in Balkin is moving along. Commissioner Nelson has been dealing with medical problems, but making progress and steps in the right direction. Township government is, and always will be important to Commissioner Nelson. Constituents from District 6 can contact Commissioner Jugovich as he is helping alleviate his work load.

St. Louis County Auditor Nancy Nilsen: The Auditor's office has been busy prepping for elections and testing machines. She is extremely proud of how well elections are run and St. Louis County and thanked all the township clerks for their hard work. If you have questions regarding the Permanent School Fund Amendment question/wording that will appear on the ballot at the general election, feel free to reach out to the St. Louis County Auditor's Office.

District 10 MAT Director Jon Upton: The Legislative and Research meeting was held on September 15, 2026 with about 35 officers in attendance. Topics included transportation, annexation, broadband and rural EMT services. The order of importance for these topics will be decided by officers in attendance at the MAT Annual Conference. The MAT Annual Conference will be held December 10-12, 2026 at Grand View Lodge in Nisswa. The MAT Board is considering holding L&R on December 10th before the Annual Conference. Township Day at the Capitol will be held on March 1, 2027. MAT Short Courses will run March 15-April 6, 2027 at various locations. MAT is looking for local stories about rural EMT and annexation to bring to the legislature. A County Unit Information Update from MAT was disbursed. There was only one resolution reviewed that pertained to cement trucks dumping on township roads. There was discussion about the MAT Board of Director's process of reviewing/accepting resolutions and other procedures.

Secretary's Report: April 24, 2026, minutes were sent by email to all township clerks, interested officers, St. Louis County commissioners, and state representatives. A motion was made by Sandi Nelson, seconded by Kevin Comnick and carried to approve the April 24, 2026 minutes as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: The following cash flow statement was presented: Beginning Balance 3/7/26 $11,905.23; Deposits $2,970.90; Expenses: $4,718.55. Ending Balance 8/07/2026 $10,157.58. A motion was made by Lita Wallace, seconded by Penny Dieryck and carried to approve the treasurer's report as submitted

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business: Commissioner Jugovich suggested having a representative from the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office or Attorney's Office attend a meeting to speak about property blight.

Adjourn: There being no further business, a motion was made by Kevin Comnick and seconded by Margaret Taylor to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Megan Julin, Sec/Treas.
Phone: 218-348-5959, Email: slctownshipofficers@gmail.com, Address: PO Box 126 Cotton, MN 55724

(police)



THANK YOU!

Northeast Range wants to thank you for participating in the NER Truck Night event on October 5th. We appreciate you taking your time and sharing your vehicles, animals, and talents with the families at Northeast Range. It gave our families the opportunity to learn about local resources and meet some of the support people in our community.

Thank you for all that you do for our community!

Sincerely,

NER Students and Staff



St. Louis County HMP Planning Team Meeting #2
11/9/26 Meeting Summary & Documentation

Summary: On November 9, 2026, St. Louis County Emergency Management convened key county, city, and township representatives, as well as neighboring jurisdictions and other stakeholders to participate in the 2nd and final Planning Team Meeting for the update of the St. Louis County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The purpose of the meeting was to formally convene the St. Louis County HMP Planning Team for a presentation on the draft plan and discussion of key items prior to public review and submission of the plan to HSEM and FEMA. The meeting was held via Zoom webinar video conference and was facilitated by members of the U-Spatial at the University of Minnesota-Duluth project team.

Stakeholder Invitations: St. Louis County Emergency Management invited all stakeholders included on the county's HMP Update Jurisdictional Contact List, which includes the key County Contacts, City Contacts, Township Contacts, Other Stakeholder Contacts, and Neighboring Jurisdiction Contacts identified to be invited to participate in the plan update process. Contacts were encouraged to engage additional staff or to send someone in their stead if they could not attend.

Meeting Participants: Following is a list of people that attended the meeting. Representation included elected officials and departmental staff from St. Louis County and participating jurisdictions who were available to attend. Other stakeholders, including neighboring jurisdictions, also participated in the meeting. A participant list is provided below:

1. Josh Brinkman, St. Louis County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Management Coordinator
2. Alex Jaye, St. Louis County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Management Specialist
3. Scott Lesnau, St. Louis County Public Health, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
4. Steven Leslie, St. Louis County Public Health, Public Health Supervisor
5. Tony Chamberlin, City of Babbitt, Fire Chief and Street Supervisor
6. Michael Schultz, City of Biwabik, City Administrator
7. Robecca Jaeger, City of Buhl, Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator
8. Tiffany Larson, City of Chisholm Ambulance Service, Director
9. Dawn Kehoe, City of Cook, Clerk/Treasurer
10. Daniel Manick, City of Cook, Mayor
11. Jim Shoberg, City of Duluth, Landscape Architect
12. Robert Morehouse, City of Duluth Fire Department, Deputy Fire Chief
13. Ben VanTassel, City of Duluth, Director, Planning & Economic Development
14. Tom Johnson, City of Duluth Public Works and Utilities, Senior Engineer
15. Cari Pedersen, City of Duluth, Director, Public Works and Utilities Department
16. Ryan Granlund, City of Duluth, Utility Programs Coordinator
17. Dave Marshall, City of Ely Fire Department, Fire Chief
18. Pat Oman, City of Eveleth, City Administrator
19. Brian Ness, City of Eveleth Police Department, Deputy Chief
20. Corinne Suonvieri, City of Floodwood, Deputy Clerk

21. Ryan Jaeger, City of Kinney/Great Scott Fire Department, Fire Chief
22. Toni Blomdahl, City of Rice Lake, City Administrator
23. Jayme Heim, City of Rice Lake, Mayor
24. Tammy Mortaloni, City of Tower, Clerk/Treasurer
25. Nicole Mattson, City of Virginia Police Department, Chief Of Police
26. Scott Fredrickson, City of Virginia Fire Department, Fire Chief
27. Gloria Erickson, Retired Dovetail Partners, Retired Contracted St. Louis County Firewise Coordinator
28. Teresa Floberg, Dovetail Partners, Project Director
29. Abby Andrus, Dovetail Partners, Facilitator and Project Manager
30. Laura Murphy, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Firewise, Northeast Minnesota Region Firewise Specialist
31. Kim Boland, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Area Hydrologist
32. Clinton Little, MN DNR - Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program, Coastal Program Data Specialist
33. Nathan Lynum, National Weather Service - Duluth Office, Embedded Meteorologist
34. Brian Grondahl, Lake Country Power, Area Supervisor
35. Meredith Cornett, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth, Board Member
36. Margaret Rinne, Alango Township, Township Clerk
37. Sherry Rovig, Clifton Township Volunteer Fire Department, Firewise Coordinator
38. Armand Nelson, Duluth Township, Emergency Management Director
39. Heidi Yokel, Ellsburg Township Volunteer Fire Department, Emergency Medical Responder / Secretary
40. Bobbi Pirkola, Northland Township, Deputy Clerk
41. Kathy Weiand, Portage Township, Township Clerk
42. Allen Treviranus, Pequaywan Township, Township Supervisor
43. Stephen Jones, Pequaywan Township, Township Supervisor - Board Chair
44. Jeff Keppers, Solway Township, Township Supervisor
45. Lisa Dusek, Van Buren Township, Township Supervisor
46. Steven Lotz, Vermilion Lake Township, Fire Chief
47. Patrice Erickson, Aitkin County Sheriff Office, Dispatch Supervisor/Deputy Emergency Manager
48. John Linder, Itasca County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Manager

Presentation Overview: The PowerPoint presentation covered the following items about the process and content of the plan update:

- Meeting Purpose and Agenda
- Recap of Key HMP Points
- Review of the Prioritization of Natural Hazards
- Overview of HMP Deliverables (website and document)

- Review of Risk Assessment and Vulnerability Analysis in website
- Overview of FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Funding
- Review of Mitigation Action Plans and Strategies
- Comments and Questions
- Overview of Next Steps to close out the HMP update

During the presentation, participants were provided with opportunities to review and discuss the information provided. These discussion periods offered an opportunity for questions and answers prior to the U-Spatial Team completing the draft plan document and website for public review.

St. Louis County HMP Planning Team Meeting #2 Discussion Notes

- During the walk-through and demonstration of the draft St. Louis County HMP website, Clinton Little and Jayme Heim pointed out some corrections in mapping for the City of Rice Lake to Stacey Stark, which were noted and will be addressed for the final version.

- Tom Johnson asked "Can we add critical infrastructure to the GIS mapping that is currently not shown?" > Stacey Stark replied: "Tom, yes, what did you have in mind? Do you have location (x,y) for the infrastructure?" > Tom Johnson: "There a number of critical infrastructure assets. I can provide additional information regarding type and location." > Stacey Stark: "Great." > Josh Brinkman commented "I ask that any very sensitive critical infrastructure information not be included, just due to public visibility of the plan." > Stacey Stark responded "Yes Josh, only public data for CI is shown; no Tier 2 facilities."

- Regarding FEMA HMA grant funding, Bobbi Pirkola asked "Is there a link to apply for generator grants from FEMA?" Bonnie directed anyone interested in learning more about HMA grants to visit the following website to review programs and guidance on eligibility of mitigation activities: https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/learn/hazard-mitigation-assistance-guidance

- Regarding local plan adoptions, Abby Andrus asked "Will broader townships (beyond city limits) get mitigation action plans? If not, does that suggest they will not be able to apply for/receive FEMA funding?" Stacey and Bonnie answered that townships do not need to adopt the HMP by resolution unless they intend to apply for a FEMA grant independently of St. Louis County. Otherwise, townships are covered by the umbrella of the county adopting resolution. Townships are also free to adopt the plan if it is just something they would like to do.

- Adopting resolution templates will be made available after FEMA provides Approval Pending Adoption Status. Please contact Josh Brinkman if you are not a city government but are seeking to adopt the county HMP.

Documentation: Accompanying this meeting summary is a copy of the meeting invitation to stakeholders and a handout of the Power Point presentation slides.

To submit comments or questions regarding this meeting summary, please contact:
Josh Brinkman, St. Louis County Emergency Management Coordinator
218-625-3966| BrinkmanJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov

Outlook

St. Louis County Hazard Mitigation Planning Meeting

From Josh Brinkman <BrinkmanJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>
Date Thu 9/10/2026 1:37 PM
To Josh Brinkman <BrinkmanJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>
Cc Bonnie K Hundrieser <hundrieserconsulting@outlook.com>; Stacey Stark <slstark@d.umn.edu>

Good afternoon,

Your presence is requested at the 2nd and final Planning Team Meeting for the update of the **St. Louis County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP).** You are requested to participate in this vital meeting because you have a position of administrative or departmental responsibility within either the county, a municipal government, or are a key stakeholder related to the planning process. Emergency Managers from neighboring jurisdictions are also encouraged to attend so we may strengthen our shared mitigation efforts. We will be holding the meeting virtually using Zoom webinar.

Please click on the link below to register.

Date: Monday, November 9, 2026
Time: 1:00-2:30 p.m.
Register here for the meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to provide an overview of the plan and interactive website, including a review of the updated risk assessment for natural hazards that affect the county. We will also discuss the Mitigation Action Charts that will be specific to St. Louis County and each city, as well as funding opportunities available under the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs.

Your participation in this meeting and feedback on the draft plan is important to us. The draft St. Louis County HMP is nearing completion and will be ready for review by planning team members and the public in the coming weeks.

When you register, you will automatically be placed on an RSVP list. If you are not able to attend, please consider sending another representative in your stead.

Thank you,

Josh Brinkman
Emergency Management Coordinator
St. Louis County Sheriff's Office
5735 Old Miller Trunk Hwy
Duluth, MN 55811
Office: 218-625-3966
brinkmanj@stlouiscountymn.gov

St. Louis County
Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2026
Planning Team Meeting #2

November 9, 2026

U-Spatial
University of Minnesota

Welcome & Introductions

U-Spatial@UMD Project Leads



Stacey Stark
Project Manager
U-Spatial, UMD



Jane Lindelof
Project Coordinator, Communications Specialist
U-Spatial, UMD



Bonnie Hundrieser
HM Planning Specialist
Hundrieser Consulting LLC

St. Louis County Project Lead

- Josh Brinkman, St. Louis County Emergency Management Coordinator

Please type your name and representation in the CHAT – so others know who is here

PRESENTER: STACEY STARK

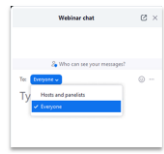
Zoom Logistics

PLEASE REMAIN MUTED AND VIDEO OFF SO EVERYONE CAN HAVE THE BEST EXPERIENCE.

USE CHAT:

- Send a message to everyone
- Send a message to individuals or
- Send a message to host to ask for help or ask a question that isn't for the whole group. The host is Stacey Stark





ASK TO SPEAK:



PRESENTER: U-SPATIAL

Meeting Purpose & Agenda



This meeting formally convenes the St. Louis County HMP Planning Team for a presentation on the draft plan and discussion of key items prior to public review and submission of the plan to HSEM and FEMA.

Agenda

- Recap of Key HMP Points
- Preview of Deliverables
- Review of Risk Assessment & Vulnerability Analysis in Website
- Overview of FEMA HMA Funding and Mitigation Action Charts
- Review & Feedback
- Next Steps

PRESENTER: U-SPATIAL

Overview of Plan Update

- St. Louis County is updating its **Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)** to fulfill a state & federal requirement.
- The plan must be updated every **5** years. The county's last plan was updated in **2020**.
- The purpose of the plan is to identify & assess natural hazards that pose risk to the county and its jurisdictions and **develop long-term strategies and mitigation actions** that will help to reduce or eliminate the impact of future hazard or disaster events.



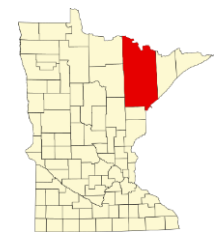
Hazard Mitigation is any action taken to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from natural disasters.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Who the Plan Covers

This is a **multi-jurisdictional plan** that covers St. Louis County, including all **27** cities and **72** townships within the county.

The plan also takes into consideration the needs and concerns of other stakeholders such as schools, watershed districts, and agencies or organizations involved in mitigation or services to vulnerable populations within the county.



PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Stakeholder Involvement



Planning Team

- Representatives from: St. Louis County, all cities and townships, neighboring jurisdictions, and related agencies or organizations.
- Participation in planning team meetings, public outreach, local mitigation survey, provision of spatial or other data, and review of draft plan.

The Public

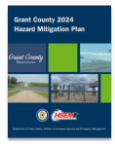
- Opportunity to learn about the plan and provide feedback on local-level concerns, mitigation ideas, and review of draft plan.

Deliverables

PDF document:

- All FEMA required elements
- Limited figures & images
- Integrated links to website
- Local mitigation surveys
- Plans & programs in place
- Past mitigation action review
- Planning team meetings
- Outreach & engagement documentation





- Risk and vulnerability of each hazard
- Mitigation actions!

Both formats

Website companion:

- Links to PDF components
- **Interactive maps** and context
- Critical infrastructure and assets
- Simple, concise explanations
- Public input form on site

Prioritization of Hazards for St. Louis County

NATURAL HAZARDS

- Probability and Severity of natural hazard events (risk)
- Observed increase or decrease in risk since last plan
- Jurisdictional variations in risk (i.e., local vulnerabilities, changes in development)

HAZARD	St. Louis County 2026
Flooding	High
Wildfire	High
Windstorms	High
Winter Storms	High
Tornadoes	Moderate
Hail	Moderate
Extreme Cold	Moderate
Extreme Heat	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Lightning	Moderate
Coastal Erosion	Moderate
Landslides	Low
Land Subsidence	Low
Dam/Levee Failure	Low

Hazards Risk Assessment







- Validates the prioritization of hazards
- Provides probability and severity of future events as possible
- Identifies vulnerable populations and structures at risk as possible
- Considers variable geographic vulnerability
- Informs Mitigation Actions in the HMP

Website Demo

Example:
z.umn.edu/StLouisHMP

Comments and Questions?

Overview of Jurisdictional Mitigation Action Plans



Mitigation Action Plans are the end product of the HMP.

They demonstrate each community's 5-year plan to:

- **Reduce future risk to natural hazard events.**
- **Address local vulnerabilities through targeted activities.**
- **Utilize local capabilities to implement actions.**

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Mitigation Action Development

Each mitigation action includes the following:

- ✓ Hazard + Mitigation Action ★
- ✓ Mitigation Strategy
- ✓ Priority
- ✓ Timeframe
- ✓ Responsibility
- ✓ Comments on Implementation and Integration
- ✓ Possible Funding

★ *Eligible FEMA HMA grant activities **must** be included in the plan of action to support a future grant application.*

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

St. Louis County

Wildfire: Provide targeted wildfire mitigation information, training, and assistance to homeowners in high-risk WUI areas to increase defensible space and reduce fuels around structures.

- **Strategy:** Education and Awareness Programs
- **Status:** Existing
- **Priority:** High
- **Timeframe:** 2027–2032
- **Responsibility:** St. Louis County Firewise
- **Comments on Implementation and Integration:** This is ongoing work conducted through the St. Louis County Firewise program. Firewise specialists and trained local fire departments have conducted hundreds of free, on-the-ground Home Site Assessments. They evaluate roof materials, gutter debris, and vegetation gaps to help individual property owners establish a 30-foot ignition-resistant perimeter.
- **Possible Funding:** St. Louis County Firewise program funding

City of Chisholm

Flooding: Work with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) to address flood mitigation issues with Longyear Lake during high rain events.

- **Strategy:** Structure and Infrastructure Projects
- **Status:** Existing
- **Priority:** Moderate
- **Timeframe:** 2027–2032
- **Responsibility:** City Maintenance
- **Comments on Implementation and Integration:** Longyear Lake floods its banks during high rain events. When the lake crests past its capacity, water backs up into the town. In past historic floods, this has resulted in widespread residential basement flooding and ankle-deep water entering municipal buildings, including the local Fire Hall. The city of Chisholm has been working with the MN DNR to clean out Longyear Lake to increase drainage when we do have times of high water.
- **Possible Funding:** City general operating fund, MN DNR funding

"Previous Integration of HMP"



In addition to development of jurisdictional mitigation actions, the plan must include:

- How the past HMP was **integrated into other planning mechanisms** by the county and each participating city jurisdiction.
- This section of the plan has been developed based on information provided in the Local Mitigation Survey forms.

What are "Planning Mechanisms"?

- *Plans, Policies, Ordinances*
- *Public Education & Outreach*
- *Implementation of projects (i.e., warning sirens, flood mitigation, installation of generators)*
- *Other EM related programs or projects (i.e., shelter planning)*
- *County and partner coordination*

FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding

FEMA

Sec. 406 - (Public Assistance Mitigation) – Post disaster. Tied to repair of disaster-damaged infrastructure.

Sec. 404 (HMGP) - Available only after a Presidential Disaster Declaration declared for a state – may include 5% Initiative funding

Annual Pre-Disaster HMA Programs (national)

- BRIC
- FMA
- HMGP Post Fire

*A grant application begins with submitting a Notice of Interest (NOI)

*Watch for Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) from HSEM

*Potential grant activities must be included in plan of action, but are not a guarantee to be eligible/awarded

*Eligible Applicants: State and local government, State agencies, and certain Private Non-Profit Orgs

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide (link)

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #1 - Local Planning & Regulations

Examples:

- Enforcement of ordinances that reduce impacts of high rain events (Floodplain, Shoreland)
- Partnering with agency partners on coastal erosion and watershed related planning.
- Enforcement of burning restrictions during periods of extreme drought.
- Enforcement of state or local regulations for new development.





PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #2 - Structure & Infrastructure Projects









Examples:

- Installation of new outdoor warning sirens
- Safe Room Construction (retrofit/new construction)
- Utility retrofit projects (i.e., power line conversion)
- Property buyouts for flooding
- Minor Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects (i.e., stormwater management, upsizing culverts)
- Ignition-resistant construction (i.e., installation of metal roofs > must be combined with a defensible space component)

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #3 - Natural Systems Protection







Examples:

- Conduct vegetation management along roads to reduce the risk of downed trees and branches resulting from heavy snow, ice, or high winds.
- Other examples:
  - Planting Living Snow Fences to reduce snow drifting
  - Installing Rain Gardens to reduce impacts of high rain events
  - Hazardous fuels reduction (i.e. fuel breaks)
  - Defensible space activities

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #4 - Education & Awareness Programs

Examples:

- Promoting sign-up for county and local emergency notification systems.
- Encouraging residents to be aware of and prepared for severe weather events, extreme temperatures, wildfire risk, and extended power outages.
- Communities identify how they share information with the public (via websites, social media, community bulletin boards, local newspapers, public meetings, or other in-person events0.

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Strategy #5 - Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support







Examples:

- Obtaining generators for backup power (FEMA grant funding eligibility: stand alone generators must protect a "Critical Facility" or part of a larger eligible project)
- Emergency Operations Plans
- Shelter Plans
- Planning assistance to schools and LTC Facilities for vulnerable populations
- Testing of outdoor warning sirens.
- Local EM planning, training, and exercising

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Comments and Questions?

Nov-Dec, 2026

Review of Draft Plan and Public Review & Comment Period



Following Planning Team Mtg. #2

- Completion of City MAC reviews
- Local government review of draft plan
- Public review & comment period (News Release #2) – documentation of local postings

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

December, 2026

Draft Plan Submission to HSEM & FEMA, Plan Approval, and Collection of Adopting Resolutions

- Draft plan will be submitted first to HSEM and then to FEMA for approval for meeting all Federal requirements.
- Typically requires 1-2 months.
- **FEMA "APA" letter**
- EM coordination of adopting resolutions and submission to HSEM.
- **Final FEMA approval letter**

PRESENTER: BONNIE HUNDRIESER

Questions?

What questions do you have for U-Spatial@UMD about the draft HMP or next steps ?

PRESENTER: U-SPATIAL

Contact Information

Stacey Stark, MS, GISP
U-Spatial@UMD
slstark@d.umn.edu
218-726-7438

Bonnie Hundrieser, HM Planner
Hundrieser Consulting LLC
hundrieserconsulting@outlook.com
218-343-3468

PRESENTER: U-SPATIAL

BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

SERVING BREITUNG TOWNSHIP, THE TOWN OF SOUDAN, AND THE CITY OF TOWER

PHONE: (218) 753-6660
FAX: (218) 753-2407

41 1ST AVE ● P.O. BOX 6
SOUDAN MN 55782

DANIEL REING
CHIEF OF POLICE

October 2026 Monthly Police Report

Calls for Service (ICRs) 77

Citations 2

1 adult male citation for Motor Vehicle Tampering
1 adult male citation for Driving After Revocation

BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

SERVING BREITUNG TOWNSHIP, THE TOWN OF SOUDAN, AND THE CITY OF TOWER

PHONE: (218) 753-6660
FAX: (218) 753-2407

41 1ST AVE ● P.O. BOX 6
SOUDAN MN 55782

DANIEL REING
CHIEF OF POLICE

October was a busy month, by October standards. Our seasonal residents have left for the winter, but the weather was beautiful and pleasant.

October 3rd, was our 5th annual Tacos with Cops. We enjoy serving our area residents and visiting with them. Thank you to everyone that came, visited, and donated! A special thank you to Officer Stauty, Officer Vukad, Officer Karolczak, and Officer Shenett for your help. Officer Shenett also enjoyed sampling the tacos for "quality control." I also want to say thank you to Dianna Sunsdahl for the beans, they were excellent. A special thank you to Miranda Haapala and Jules Long for your help. I am truly blessed to work in Breitung. I have a fantastic group of officers that I work with.

On October 5th, Officer Stauty and I attended the Big Truck Night in Babbitt. We received an invite from the Northeast Range School and we were happy to attend.

The new squad is in service, with the exception of the CAD (in car computer). We have a few tasks in the software to work out before it is fully ready to work.

As hunting season is coming soon, please be careful as we take to the woods. On that note, please be mindful of your surroundings. Tower resident Derek Lerfald is still missing, and it is considered an active missing person case. If you observe anything suspicious, please call 911 or the Breitung Police Department 218-753-6660.

Daniel Reing

Breitung Fire & Rescue
Box 337
33 1st Ave.
Soudan, Mn. 55782

October 2026 Fire Dept Report

Our regular monthly fire department training consisted of Solar Panel Fire Training. Blue Fire conducting the training.

For the month of October, we responded to the following calls: Motor vehicle accident with injuries, an excavator fire on Indian Point Road, and a smell of a gas leak.

We received our new side by side fire/ems unit. We are in the process of equipping it with a radio, decaling, siren, and tracks. It should be in service by the end of November. With the cold weather coming we will be pulling our boat out of service within the next week.

Road and Bridge report November 2026

Maintenance and grading of gravel roads

Finished wintering McKinley Park, one dock to lift yet

Extensive maintenance on equipment

Seasonal maintenance on buildings and grounds

Numerous seasonal water shut offs

Tree and brush removal

Trimming trees for visibility and safety concerns

Brush removal and maintenance of bike trail

Set up election

Striping and signage completed on TFR

Bike trail was paved for REC GRANT 2026

BREITUNG WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS **October-26**

Checking Balance Forward		17,742.06
Deposits - Accounts Receivable		23,167.52
Interest		16.10
Balance		40,925.68

Disbursements

Township Payroll Reimb - October 2026	3,256.99
WW Board - September & Quarterly	15,888.40
WW Board - McKinley Park	248.41
US Postal - Stamps	0.00
Minnesota Department of Health	0.00
Minnesota Rural Water - Membership Dues	450.00
Township - Reimb Leak Detection	2,227.88
Township - snowplow Assessment - Devaney	10.00
Total Disbusements	22,081.68

Ending Balance		18,844.00
Checking Account		17,742.06
Savings Account		78,369.35
Interest	48.28	
TOTAL Oct-26		**96,111.41**

Invoice

KNIFE LAKE CONCRETE, INC.

2026 Rowland Road
Mora, MN 55051

Phone: 320-679-4141
knifelakeconcrete@gmail.com

August 28, 2025

No.: 0824.2

Mesabi Bituminous
office@mesabibit.com
ATTN: Matt

Job: St. Louis County Stuntz Bay Access Road

Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Amount
158 SF	Replaced B624 - Incorrect Survey Offset	$34.85	$5,506.30

Total Due **$5,506.30**

If you have any questions concerning this invoice, please call:
320-679-4141

Tower-Breitung Comprehensive Plan: Community Engagement Summary

September 30, 2026

Overview

ARDC Planning staff held two in-person engagement events on September 23 and 24, 2026 to test the survey findings for the Tower-Breitung Comprehensive Plan against what residents say face to face and expand on public input. About 65 people took part across both events, and the same three activities ran at each.

Event	Location	Time	Turnout
Sept 23: Big Truck Night	Soudan Park, Soudan	4–6 PM	About 200 attended; ARDC spoke with about 50
Sept 24: Open house	Herb Lampaa Community Center, Tower	4–6 PM	15 attended; short presentation of survey results

Josh Bergstad and Carson Polomis staffed both events and handed out a one-page summary of the survey. The three activities were:

1. **Dot voting.** Participants placed up to 3 dots to confirm or challenge the survey's community values (what makes Tower-Breitung special and worth protecting) and priorities (what to focus on over the next 10 years).
2. **Mapping exercise.** Participants marked community assets, development or improvement opportunities, areas of concern, and places to preserve or protect on a map of Tower and Soudan.
3. **Comment cards.** Participants named one realistic action and how it would change the community, then dropped the card in a basket.

Key themes

Participants confirmed the survey's top priorities, led by streets and infrastructure, and added healthcare, downtown upkeep, and pedestrian safety as concerns the survey did not rank as highly.

- **Streets, sidewalks and intersections.** Streets and infrastructure drew the most priority dots across both nights, and "Sidewalks!" was written beside it. The map backs this up: bad streets, bumpy roads, blind intersections, a damaged stop sign and unsafe pedestrian crossings.

- **Housing.** Housing was the second most-marked priority. Participants mapped infill and new-housing sites, including an empty lot, the football fields, and possible State Park land.
- **Essential services.** Healthcare, daycare, mental health care, a 24-hour police officer (supported mainly by the skewed September 23 tally), a grocery store, a dentist, and on-demand transportation for low-income and elderly residents were all raised. Participants also asked to rehab the clinic.
- **Downtown appearance and follow-through.** Comments and a comment card called for landscaping, painted light poles, less blight, and maintenance that continues after a project is finished.
- **Recreation and trails.** Participants asked for pickleball courts, playground upgrades, trail repair and links, OHV parking, and Hoodoo Point Campground improvements.
- **What people value.** Natural resources and lakes and small-town character drew steady support on both nights and led on September 24. Safety's September 23 total was inflated by dots placed for people who were not there, so it is not a reliable leading value. Friendly atmosphere drew few dots on both nights.

Top survey priorities

Streets and infrastructure tied for first with housing with both at 10 dots; downtown improvements drew the fewest dots on the charts but the most written comments.

Priority	Sept 23 dots	Sept 24 dots	Comments added
Streets and infrastructure	5	5	"Sidewalks!"
Housing	8	2	None
Economic development	3	1	Culinary kitchen with community garden
Downtown improvements	0	2	See below
Recreation and tourism	3	3	See below

Downtown improvements (Sept 24)

- Help businesses that are already here.
- Clean and nice sidewalks.
- Preserve essential services: clinic, grocery store, and dentist.
- Provide on-demand transportation for low-income and elderly residents, beyond the AEOA bus.

Recreation and tourism (Sept 24)

- Add pickleball courts.
- Add a parking and unloading area for ATV, snowmobile, and bike users.
- Reorganize and upgrade Hoodoo Point, with more space and a new bathroom and shower.
- Make use of the trail system the community already owns.

Other priorities

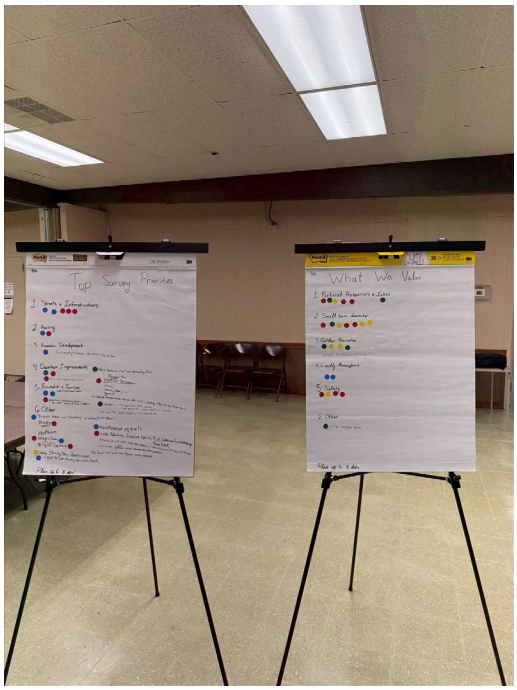
- Sept 23: a second police officer drew about 6 dots, the most of any write-in, but that tally was skewed by repeated dots for absent people (see What we value). Daycare and mental health care drew 1 each, and healthcare was also written in.
- Sept 24: blight, blight in town, and keeping the clinic, each drew dots. Others were a town "identity" as a gateway to Lake Vermilion, saving the Stuntz Bay boathouses and getting them away from the DNR, trail maintenance, and lake pollution, invasive species, and the DNR fish consumption warning.
- Sept 24 comments on upkeep: maintenance seems to stop once something is improved; the Civic Center ladies' bathroom needs attention, as does landscaping; Main Street light poles and the flagpole need refurbishing.

What we value

Natural resources and lakes (11 dots) and small-town character (10) are the clearest top values. Safety's raw total of about 14 is inflated by repeated dots placed on September 23, which leaves the 4 dots from September 24 as the more reliable count.

Value	Sept 23 dots	Sept 24 dots	Comments added
Safety	10 (skewed)	4	None
Natural resources and lakes	5	6	None
Small-town character	3	7	None
Outdoor recreation	4	4	Upgrade the playgrounds more
Friendly atmosphere	3	2	None
Other	0	1	Keep the tax base down

The September 23 Safety votes and the 24-hour police officer write-in were skewed by a couple of individuals who placed multiple dots on behalf of other people who were not there, so those counts overstate support and should be read with caution.

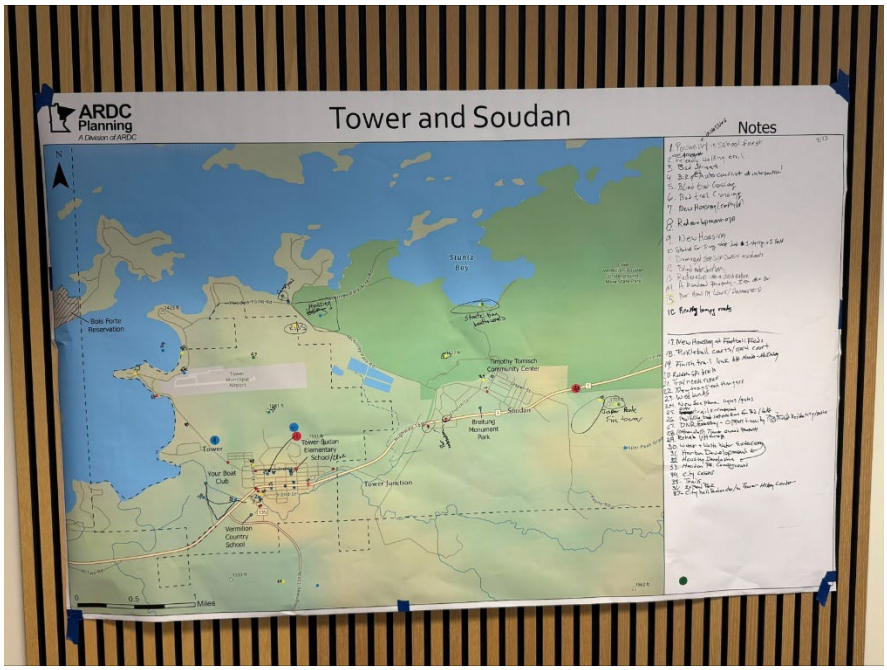


Sept 24 flip charts: Top Survey Priorities (left) and What We Value (right), with dot votes and written comments.

Mapping exercise: Tower and Soudan

The compiled map carries 42 markers, and development or improvement ideas outnumber every other category, with housing and trail sites the most common. Most markers cluster in downtown Tower along Main Street and S 2nd St, with smaller clusters at Hoodoo Point, Soudan, and Stuntz Bay. Numbers in parentheses match the notes on the map.

Category (map color)	Markers	What participants marked
Development or improvement (blue)	18	New housing: an empty lot (7), football fields (17), other sites (9, 32), and State Park land (42). Redevelopment of vacant or abandoned property, including the old Iron Ore Bar (8, 13, 14). An accessible walking trail (2), pickleball or sport court (18), and a trail link between Hoodoo and McKinley (19). Transient hangars and seaplane signs and gates (22, 24). Water and wastewater extension, harbor development, City Hall relocation with a Tower History Center, and DNR forestry replanting (30, 31, 37, 27). Parking for the Jasper Peak OHV area (43).
Area of concern (red)	11	Poor streets and a very bumpy road (3, 16). Unsafe intersections: bike and pedestrian conflict, blind intersections, a damaged stop sign, a spot that may need a 3-way stop, and several bad crossings for pedestrians (4, 10, 11, 12, 26). Blind and bad trail crossings (5, 6). A trail needs repair (21). Poison ivy and invasives in the school forest (1).
Community asset (yellow)	7	Hoodoo Point Campground (33), city cabins (34), OHV trails and campground (25), ski trails that may need relocating (20), the VH clinic, which participants want rehabbed (29, marked twice, in Tower and Soudan), and the park, which participants want expanded (36).
Preserve or protect (green)	6	Wetlands (23), Ancient Cedars Trails (35), McKinley Campground (38), Stuntz Bay boathouses (39), Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park (40), and Jasper Peak Fire Tower (41).



Tower and Soudan map with participant markers and handwritten notes.

Comment cards

Four comment cards were returned, all on September 24, and each proposes a specific downtown project.

Proposed action	Detail
Pocket park	Create a pocket park at 506–508 Main Street.
Culinary kitchen	Serve budding food businesses, individual chefs, and caterers. The same idea appeared on the economic development chart, paired with a community garden.
Old City Hall	Solicit an arts group to develop the old City Hall.
Main Street improvements	Make Main Street more inviting with fresh, maintained landscaping: paint the poles and clear weeds and tree bases, so that driving through town invites a stop. The card names the city, local organizations, business owners, and residents as the people who would need to be involved.

Considerations for the plan

The input supports keeping the survey's priority order and adding a few topics to the plan's scope.

- Keep streets, sidewalks, and intersection safety as the lead infrastructure theme, and use the mapped problem locations to sequence projects.
- Treat housing as a site-specific topic, since participants named candidate parcels, including State Park land and noted that developable land in Tower and Soudan was limited.
- Add essential services (clinic, daycare, mental health care, grocery, dentist, on-demand transportation, and policing if demand is confirmed) to the plan, even though they sit outside the five survey priorities.
- Address maintenance and follow-through on downtown improvements, which participants raised several times.

FACILITIES USE AGREEMENT

This Facilities Use Agreement ("Agreement") is made as of this ____ day of _____, 20____, by and between Breitung Township, a body politic, (herein "Township") with offices as 33 First Avenue, Soudan, MN 55782 and _____ with an address of _____ _____, (herein "User"). This Agreement is made in response to the following circumstances:

A. Township owns those certain facilities located in Soudan, Minnesota, which are commonly known as the Breitung Community Room, the Skate Shack, and the Margaret Lilya Pavillion (collectively referred to as "Breitung Buildings and Grounds").

B. User has requested the right to use certain portions of Breitung Buildings and Grounds, namely _____, for the purpose of _____.

C. Township is willing to grant User a license to use the Breitung Buildings and Grounds for the purpose described above subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

ACCORDINGLY, the Township and the User, in consideration of the premises, hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. Term. Township hereby grants to User a license to use the Breitung Buildings and Grounds described above for the purpose described above on the ____ day of _____, 20___. This Agreement is only valid during such day. User has no right to modify, extend, or change the date of use.

2. Incorporation of Township of Breitung Facility Use and Rental Rules and Regulations. The Township of Breitung Facility Use and Rental Rules and Regulations, attached hereto as Exhibit A, are made a part hereof and incorporated herein by reference. User acknowledges that he or she has read and understands the same and will abide by the same, including any and all restrictions and obligations that are provided for.

3. Consideration. User agrees to pay the consideration provided for in the Township of Breitung Facility Use and Rental Rules and Regulations, if any.

4. Condition of the Premises. User acknowledges that it takes the premises on an as-is, where-is, and with all faults basis, based upon its own judgment, and hereby disclaims any reliance upon any statement or representations made by the Township. Township makes no warranty with respect to the Breitung Buildings and Grounds or any portion thereof, express or implied, and Township specifically disclaims any warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose and any liability for consequential damages arising out of the use of or the inability to use the Breitung Buildings and Grounds of any part thereof.

5. Compliance with Law. User, at its own cost and expense, shall comply promptly with all laws, rules and orders, of all federal, state, and municipal governments, or departments thereof, which may be applicable to the Breitung Buildings and Grounds and shall likewise promptly comply with any requirements of the Board of Fire Underwriters concerning the same.

6. Waiver and Indemnity. Township, and its officers, elected officials, employees, and agents shall not be liable to User or anyone claiming through User, and User hereby releases such parties from all damage, compensation or claims from any cause, other than the intentional misconduct of the Township or its officers, elected officials, employees, and agents, arising from loss or damage to personal property or personal injury

DRAFT

occurring in or about Breitung Buildings and Grounds. User agrees to indemnify, defend and hold Township and its officers, elected officials, employees, and agents harmless from and against any claim, loss or expense arising out of injury, death or property loss or damage occurring in or about the Breitung Buildings and Grounds, except only to the extent the same arises out of the intentional misconduct of the Township, or its officers, elected officials, employees, and agents.

If required by the Breitung Township Facility Use and Rental Rules and Regulations, User shall provide a Certificate of Insurance to the Township evidencing the required insurance coverage.

7. Partial Invalidity. If any provision of this Agreement shall to any extent be invalid, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affective and each provision of this Agreement shall be valid and enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.

8. Entire Agreement. All representations and understandings between Township and User are merged and incorporated into this Agreement and this Agreement may be modified or altered only by a written agreement signed by both Township and User.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of this ___ day or _____, 20___.

Township of Breitung

By:_____
Its:_____

User:

_____
Name_____

DRAFT

Township Office Use only: □Scheduled □Key Picked Up □Key Returned □ Fee Paid

Exhibit A

THE TOWNSHIP OF BREITUNG

FACILITY USE AND RENTAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Adopted: November 17, 2026

The Township of Breitung Buildings and Grounds are a gift to our community due to the support of our township residents and taxpayers. These buildings and grounds are an asset to our community and we want them to remain so. There are two portions of Breitung Township that are reservable, those being The Timothy Tomsich Community Center located at 33 First Avenue, Soudan, MN and The Margaret Lilya Pavillion & Skate Shack, located at 10 Church Street, Soudan, MN. The Community Room was created primarily to serve the Township's government operations and the residents of the Township of Breitung. Use of the Community Room and Margaret Lilya Pavillion & Skate Shack is governed by the Town Board and is set as follows:

PRIORITY FOR USE

In the event of conflicts or multiple requests, use of Breitung Buildings and Grounds will be permitted according to the following priorities

1. Breitung Township Operations:

   Town Board meetings, township governing bodies, administrative board meetings, and activities or events sponsored or presented by the Town Board.

2. Breitung Township Community Organizations:

   Local organizations and groups serving Breitung Township such as non-profit educational, civic, or cultural organizations and groups operating within Breitung Township or who have a member residing within the Township.

3. Other non-township events such as: weddings, showers, birthdays, anniversaries, family gatherings, graduations, individual and/or groups for community meetings, or support groups.

RULES

1. FEES

   A. Breitung Buildings and Grounds may be reserved free of charge by any organization that meets the definition of Priority One or Two per above provided that the estimated attendance is 75 or less. If attendance is estimated to be over 75, then the fees are based on section B.1 that follows unless the fees are adjusted by pre-approval of the Town Board.

DRAFT

B. For non-public events that meet the definition of Priority Three above, the following fees on a daily (full or partial) basis apply:

1) Residents & Township Property Owners – Community Center: Total fee of $100, $50 of which will be refundable for cleaning deposit

   Residents & Township Property Owners – Skating Shack: Total fee of $50, refundable as a cleaning deposit

   Fees must be paid within 72 hours of reserving the room and before use of the room. This must be paid in the form of two checks or money orders in the amount of $50.00 each made out to the Township of Breitung. The $50 cleaning deposit will be refunded by mail within 30 days after the key is returned and the room is left as specified below in Section 4.

2) Non-residents – Community Center: Total fee of $150, $50 of which will be refundable for cleaning deposit

   Non-residents – Skating Shack: Total fee of $100, $50 of which will be refundable for cleaning deposit
   Fees must be paid within 72 hours of reserving the room and before use of the room. This must be paid in the form of two checks or money orders in the amount of $100.00/$50 for rental and $50.00 for the deposit made out to the Township of Breitung. The $50 cleaning deposit will be refunded by mail within 30 days after the key is returned and the room is left as specified below in Section 4.

C. For any organization serving alcohol in any Township building or grounds, an additional $200 cleaning deposit will be collected and returned in the same manner of the normal $50 cleaning deposit. Please note that alcohol is prohibited at the Margaret Lilya Pavillion and Skating Shack.

D. Organizations using Breitung Buildings and Grounds and wanting to charge for attendance or admission must get Board Approval prior to doing so. Consideration by the Board is on a case-by-case basis.

2. RESERVATIONS

A. Reservations must be made in advance at the Township of Breitung clerk's office. All requests are honored on a first come, first serve basis.

B. Only adults can reserve Breitung Buildings and Grounds and an adult must be present while the room is in use.

C. The Community Room is available from 9 a.m. to 12 a.m. midnight. EXCEPT for the Township of Breitung Operations (i.e., the posted hours of operation for the office of the clerk and treasurer, etc.)

   The Margaret Lilya Pavillion and Skating Shack is available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EXCEPT for the Township of Breitung Operations

DRAFT

D. Those who use Breitung Buildings and Grounds may set-up the day before **ONLY** if the room is not in use.

E. Breitung Buildings and Grounds may only be reserved for one day at a time unless specifically pre-approved by the Town Board.

3. REGULATIONS

A. The Township of Breitung reserves the right to limit use of Breitung Buildings and Grounds by organizations whose activities interfere with township operations, adversely affect public safety or cause public disturbances. Any modifications to this policy or one-time exceptions shall be pre-approved upon a vote by the township supervisors.

B. The person renting Breitung Buildings and Grounds whose signature appears on the Facility Use Agreement form is fully responsible for any damages. If damages are found, the cleaning deposit shall be forfeited as to that portion which is necessary to repair such damage. If the cost of said repairs exceeds the deposit, damage charges will be invoiced by the Township of Breitung clerk's office to the lessee and shall be paid in full no later than one month following the date on the invoice.

C. The Township of Breitung buildings and grounds are a smoke free environment.

D. Serving of alcohol is prohibited except when given pre-approval by the town board. Events serving alcohol must pay the additional $200 deposit described above, acquire the presence of either an off duty or hired law enforcement officer for the duration of the event and provide proper proof of liability insurance coverage for their event. Please note that alcohol is prohibited at the Margaret Lilya Pavillion and Skating Shack.

E. Parking on the grass is prohibited. Parking should be limited to the designated parking areas and adjacent parking lots or streets.

F. All equipment, furniture, tables, chairs, etc. contained within Breitung Buildings and Grounds shall remain inside the buildings and shall not be removed at any time during the event.

G. The Township of Breitung board and its employees are not responsible for injuries or damage to any member of a party ~~of~~ or the equipment they bring in for set up or use.

H. Use of permanent Grate/BBQ grill allowed, but needs to be cleaned prior to returning of deposit (No Grilling on shelter floor).

I. For groups larger than one hundred (100), Special Event Liability Insurance must be provided naming the Township of Breitung as an additional entity insured on your policy. The Township reserves the right to require security at the user's cost.

J. Music may be played between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. unless otherwise approved by the Township of Breitung board. Excessive volume is prohibited.

K. Use of any equipment that requires electricity must meet appropriate fire and electrical

DRAFT

codes.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF USE

A. Keys for the buildings may be picked up one week ahead of reservation time during office hours. Keys to the town hall should be left in the clear mailbox in the kitchen near the office door at the end of the reservation; keys to the skating shack should be returned within 3 business days to the town office during office hours.

B. Leave Breitung Buildings and Grounds in a clean and orderly condition. Wipe down all tables and chairs before restacking them or setting the tables and chairs back to the original set up, unless otherwise directed.

C. Do not use tape on the walls or ceilings. Activities that may cause excessive wear on surfaces will be prohibited. Decorations that would tend to deface the structure should not be attached to the buildings or grounds including but not limited to staples, tape, tacks, crepe paper, or any material that will stain.

D. Remove all trash from the building and grounds, it is the user's responsibility to properly remove and dispose of all garbage including garbage from the restrooms.

E. Wash all dishes, utensils, etc. used, dry and place back where found.

F. Sweep and/or mop the floor and vacuum to bring the community room in a clean and orderly condition. Use the janitor's room sink to dispose of mop water.

G. Clean the sinks, toilets, and floor in the restrooms.

H. Adjust the setting on the thermostat back to the original setting (70 Degrees).

I. When you leave, turn off all the lights and make sure the doors are locked.

J. Check the parking lot for any debris that guests may have left behind.

K. Complete the “Cleaning Checklist for Renters” with a dry-erase marker provided in the clear mailbox in the kitchen near the office door.

5. OTHER GUIDELINES

A. In the event of an emergency, please call 911. Please report any other problems or concerns during business hours to the maintenance supervisor or the clerk's office.

B. In the event that you are not able to properly secure the building at the end of your reservation, or for other major issues, please contact the clerk at the number provided on the “Cleaning Checklist for Renters”

C. The person who signed the facility use agreement is responsible for the condition of Breitung Buildings and Grounds. Failure to comply with the above rules and regulations will be grounds for denying the groups' future requests to us the facility.

D. The Township of Breitung is pleased to be able to offer our Breitung Buildings and Grounds for use and we appreciate your assistance in helping us maintain our buildings and grounds.

The Breitung Township Board

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 2026-24
BREITUNG TOWNSHIP of St. Louis County, MN
Resolution Accepting Donations

WHEREAS, Breitung Township is authorized to accept and maintain donations of real and personal property pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 465.03 for the benefit of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the following persons and entities have offered to contribute the donations set forth below to the township:

Name of Donor	Donations	Date
1. ALLETE Clean Energy, Inc.	$1,578.00	10/22/2026

WHEREAS, the terms or conditions of the donations, if any, are as follows:

Donation Number	Terms or Conditions
1. ALLETE Clean Energy, Inc.	For repair of baseball field scoreboard

WHEREAS, all such donations have been contributed to the township for the benefit of its citizens, as allowed by law; and

WHEREAS, The Township Board finds that it is appropriate to accept the donations offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF BREITUNG TOWNSHIP, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The donations described above are accepted and shall be used in accordance with noted terms or conditions either alone or in cooperation with others, as allowed by law.

2. The town clerk is hereby directed to acknowledge to each donor the town's acceptance of the donor's donation.

Adopted by the Town Board of Breitung Township on November 17, 2026. Chairman Matthew Tuchel, Supervisor Erin Peitso, Supervisor Stephen Tekautz

Ayes:
Nays:

Approved: Chairperson

_____

Matthew Tuchel – Chairman

Attested: Clerk

_____

Amber Zak - Clerk

DRAFT

From: Quinn Carlson
To: treasurer@breitungtownshipmn.gov
Cc: "Amber Zak, Clerk"; Matt
Subject: RE: $10 Snow Plowing Assessment
Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2026 12:56:21 PM

Hello,

If Breitung chooses not to certify an assessment to the taxes for the following year all you would have to do is not send us a list of parcels and we would move on and not put anything on the taxes.

Thank you
Quinn

From: treasurer@breitungtownshipmn.gov <treasurer@breitungtownshipmn.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2026 12:34 PM
To: Quinn Carlson <CarlsonQ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>
Cc: 'Amber Zak, Clerk' <clerk@breitungtownshipmn.gov>; Matt <supervisor3@breitungtownshipmn.gov>
Subject: $10 Snow Plowing Assessment

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hi Quinn,

The board is looking into not doing the Snow Plowing assessment of $10 per resident in 2028. (We have already began collecting for the current year).

What would the Township need to do if they would choice to stop collecting this amount. For the amount of time the collection takes the amount is small and seems to be more effect than it is worth.

We would not like to end the possibility, just put it on hold.

Thanks Teresa Dolinar, Treasurer Breitungtownship
218-753-6020

Township of Breitung
Job Description-Maintenance Assistant (Full Time)

Under direction of the Working Maintenance Supervisor and Town Board, assists and performs daily maintenance operations and activities. This includes parks, water and sewer, snowplowing, landscape, lighting, facilities, streets and drainage. Troubleshoots maintenance work; and performs related work as directed by Maintenance Supervisor.

Requirements and Working Conditions:

Must possess strength, stamina and mobility to perform heavy physical work out of doors in all weather conditions and with exposure to potentially hazardous conditions, use varied hand and power tools, drive a motor vehicle and/or heavy construction equipment; lift and move materials and equipment weighing up to 90 pounds and heavier weights with the use of proper equipment; vision to read printed materials and a computer screen; and hearing and speech to communicate in person and over the telephone and/or radio. Must work emergency overtime as required. Must be willing to work outdoors in all weather conditions with exposure to traffic and potentially hazardous conditions.

License-Required to have and maintain a Commercial Class B Minnesota Driver's License with Air Brake Endorsement or able to successfully complete and pass an exam to obtain one within 4-6 months from the date of hire.

Examples of Key Duties: Duties are illustrative and not inclusive and may vary with individual assignments.

Building Maintenance

- General Cleaning (floor care, window care, seating, garbage removal, bathroom care)
- Maintain and repair Township heating and cooling systems, as appropriate
- Maintain and repair Township electrical systems, as appropriate
- Minor structural repairs (lighting replacement, plumbing, paint)
- Access Control

Streets/Sidewalks/Public Areas

- Remove snow from street, sidewalks, and appropriate public areas with shovel, snow blower, snow plow, dump truck. Maintain safe conditions with salt and sand applications
- Perform basic repairs on streets, sidewalks, and traffic structures
- Maintains parks, medians, grounds and landscaping
- Weed abatement and pest control
- Grade roads and alleys

Water and Sewer

- Reads, repairs and replaces water meters
- Operate, maintain, and repair municipal water and sewer system components
- Assist in keeping water and sewer parts inventory current

Vehicles, Equipment and Tools

- Keep all vehicles, equipment, and tools clean and in good operating condition
- Perform appropriate maintenance on vehicles, equipment and tools

Other

- Other duties, as appropriate to maintain the Township's land, infrastructure and equipment
- Assume the duties of Maintenance Supervisor during absence
- Keep track of time and materials spent at various tasks to ensure proper accounting for work done
- Assists with answering complaints and questions regarding Township projects; contacts residents and businesses to inform them of work to be performed
- Interacts professionally with the public, vendors and Township staff. Maintains effective working relationships and works in cooperation with other Cities, Township's and the Board to effectively meet the Township objectives
- Responds to emergencies as requested
- Ability to follow safe working practices and ensure the safety of the community

