



Classifieds

(Classified Ad deadline is Thursday at Noon)

Tuesday, December 23, 2025
Page 11, Cold Spring Record

Miscellaneous

**We pay top dollar
for junk cars, trucks
and late model
repairables!
Call 320-236-7477**

Public Notices

continued from page 10

During the Work Session Meeting, the Board of Commissioners reviewed the updated Flexible Work Arrangement Policy. Motion was made to approve the final edited version of the Flexible Work Arrangement Policy.

RESULT: APPROVED [3 to 2]

MOVER: District 1 Tarryl Clark

SECONDER: District 4 Bob Johnson

AYES: District 1 Tarryl Clark, District 4 Bob Johnson, and District 5 Steve Notch

NAYS: District 2 Joe Perske and District 3 Jeff Bertram

Approve Agenda

Motion was made to approve the agenda after adding Administration Item F.3, regarding Board and Committee Appointments, as there was not enough time to discuss this item during the Work Session that took place before the County Board Meeting.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 1 Tarryl Clark

SECONDER: District 4 Bob Johnson

Consent Agenda

E.1. Approve County Board Meeting Minutes from November 18th, 2025.

E.2. Approve the Bid Award for Deceased Body Removal and Transportation Services to Daniel Funeral Home, Inc. dba MarBen, in the amount of \$220,000 over a three-year period, from January 1st, 2026, through December 31st, 2028.

E.3. Appoint Karen Pund-sack to be the Chair of the Human Services Advisory Committee for 2026.

E.4. Approve, as recommended by the Stearns County Planning Commission, a **Re-zoning Request, submitted by Cory Yamry, Rice MN, adopt the Planning Commission's 5 Findings-of-Fact, and enact Ordinance Number 698.** This is according to Section 4.10 of Stearns County Land Use and Zoning Ordinance #439 to rezone approximately 10 acres from the Agricultural 40 (A-40) zoning district to the Residential 10 (R-10) zoning district. The property is part of the NW1/4 SW1/4, lying east of 65th Ave, in Section 20 of Brockway Township (126/28). The property address is 6494 County Rd 5, Rice MN.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 698

AN ORDINANCE

AMENDING

STEARNS COUNTY

ORDINANCE NUMBER 439

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of Stearns County, after a public hearing duly called and held, as required by law, and after due investigation and consideration, has recommended in writing, to the Stearns County Board of Commissioners, that certain boundary changes may be made on the Official Zoning Map; and

WHEREAS, the Stearns County Board of Commissioners, after due consideration, find that approving said boundary changes will be consistent with the Stearns County Comprehensive Plan.

THE COUNTY BOARD OF STEARNS COUNTY ORDAINS:

Section 1.0 That the following described property in Brockway Township is hereby rezoned from the Agricultural 40 (A-40) zoning district to the Residential 10 (R-10) zoning district:

See attached Exhibit A

Section 2.0 The Official Zoning Map, on file in the Stearns County Environmental Services Office, Stearns County Service Center, Waite Park, Minnesota is hereby amended to change the district boundaries as shown in Exhibit B which is hereby incorporated by reference as though a part of this Ordinance.

Section 3.0 This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the Stearns

Help Wanted

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Backes Wood Products is looking for someone to fill a full-time woodworking position. Some experience required. Good pay, paid insurance, paid vacation and holidays. Monday through Friday, 40 hours per week with no overtime. If interested please call 320-597-9663.

tfcc

County Board of Commissioners this 2nd day of December, 2025.

E.5. Approve, as recommended by the Stearns County Planning Commission, a **Re-zoning Request, submitted by Carol and Clark Jones, Clearwater MN, adopt the Planning Commission's 5 Findings-of-Fact, and enact Ordinance Number 700.** This is according to Section 4.10 of Stearns County Land Use and Zoning Ordinance #439 to rezone approximately 40.50 acres from the Agricultural 40 (A-40) zoning district to the Residential 10 (R-10) zoning district. The property is part of Government Lots 3 and 4, lying north and south of Lake Maria Rd, on both Crooked Lake and Maria Lake, in Section 8 of Lynden Township (122/27). The property address is 18564 Lake Maria Rd, Clearwater MN.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 700

AN ORDINANCE

AMENDING

STEARNS COUNTY

ORDINANCE NUMBER 439

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of Stearns County, after a public hearing duly called and held, as required by law, and after due investigation and consideration, has recommended in writing, to the Stearns County Board of Commissioners, that certain boundary changes may be made on the Official Zoning Map; and

WHEREAS, the Stearns County Board of Commissioners, after due consideration, find that approving said boundary changes will be consistent with the Stearns County Comprehensive Plan.

THE COUNTY BOARD OF STEARNS COUNTY ORDAINS:

Section 1.0 That the following described property in Lynden Township is hereby rezoned from the Agricultural 40 (A-40) zoning district to the Residential 10 (R-10) zoning district:

See attached Exhibit A

Section 2.0 The Official Zoning Map, on file in the Stearns County Environmental Services Office, Stearns County Service Center, Waite Park, Minnesota is hereby amended to change the district boundaries as shown in Exhibit B which is hereby incorporated by reference as though a part of this Ordinance.

Section 3.0 This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the Stearns

sistent with the Stearns County Comprehensive Plan.

THE COUNTY BOARD OF STEARNS COUNTY ORDAINS:

Section 1.0 That the following described property in Brockway Township is hereby rezoned from the Transitional 20 (T-20) zoning district to the Agricultural 40 (A-40) zoning district:

The SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 18, Township 126, Range 28

Section 2.0 The Official Zoning Map, on file in the Stearns County Environmental Services Office, Stearns County Service Center, Waite Park, Minnesota is hereby amended to change the district boundaries as shown in Exhibit A which is hereby incorporated by reference as though a part of this Ordinance.

Section 3.0 This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the Stearns County Board of Commissioners this 2nd day of December, 2025.

E.7. Approve and Authorize Final Payment to Knife River for County Road 145 Resurfacing CP 073-145-024.

E.8. Approve and Authorize Final Payment to Land Pride Construction, LLC for Munson Township culvert replacement SAP 073-599-087.

E.9. Approve Resolutions 25-46 through 25-50 supporting the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Applications for the following jurisdictions: Brockway Township, Luxemburg Township, LeSauk Township, City of Freeport, and City of Rockville.

E.10. Approve Resolution 25-51 supporting the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Applications for the City of St. Cloud.

E.11. Appoint Cortney Robins as the District 4 Human Services Advisory Committee Appointment for 2025.

E.12. For Informational Purposes Only, Claims Paid for November 8th, 2025, through November 21st, 2025, amounted to \$5,900,755.71, excluding investment purchases.

Consent Agenda Vote

Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 5 Steve Notch

SECONDER: District 2 Joe Perske

Administration

F.1. *Airport Authority Discussion*

Dr. Williams, County Administrator, reviewed the recommendation on developing a position regarding the Airport Authority Governing Board.

RESULT: NO VOTE - DISCUSSION ONLY

F.2. *Justice Center Approvals*

Kevin Korneck, Facilities Manager, updated the Board on the Justice Center Project. After some discussion, motions were made as follows:

1. Approve Advertisement for bids on the Justice Center Project and Accessory Building contingent upon successful closings on both parcels and an Ordinance for Annexation passed by the City of St. Cloud.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 1 Tarryl Clark

SECONDER: District 2 Joe Perske

2. Approve the Submission of Building, Plumbing, foodservice and other related permit applications to the State of Minnesota and the City of St. Cloud to begin plan reviews. Plan review fees not to exceed \$400,000 are approved to be paid.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 5 Steve Notch

SECONDER: District 4 Bob Johnson

F.3. *Boards and Committees*

Jill Suurmeyer, Assistant County Administrator, provided an overview of Board and Committee Applicants. Motion was made to approve the following Board and Committee Appointments for 2026:

Board of Adjustment – George Fiedler (District 3) and Amy Scherping (District 5)

Planning Commission – Dave Bentrud (District 2) and Angie Tomovic (At Large)

Regional Emergency Medical Services Central MN – Paul McIntyre (At Large)

Dairy Advisory Committee – Kris Gruenes (At Large)

Personnel Board of Appeals – Patrick Shepard (At Large) and Holly Schoenherr (At Large)

Parks Commission – Mark Thompson (District 2) and

Orville Willenbring (District 3)

Community Corrections Advisory Board – Zachary Dorholt (District 1)

Great River Regional Library Board – Aref Hassan (At Large)

Adjournment

Chair Bertram adjourned the County Board Meeting at 5:39 PM.

Truth and Budgeting Hearing

G.1. *Conduct (TnT) public hearing on the County's 2026 Proposed Budget / Levy.*

A public hearing was held at 6:00 PM in the Board Room of the Stearns County Administration Center, 705 Courthouse Square, St. Cloud MN 56303 for consideration of the County's 2026 Truth in Budgeting.

Members present were the County Budget Committee:

County Administrator Michael Williams, Assistant County Administrator Jill Suurmeyer, County Auditor-Treasurer Randy Schreifels and Financial Director Sarah Utsch.

County Administrator, Dr. Williams, began with a disclaimer that this Truth and Taxation Meeting is only regarding the County's 2026 budget. Dr. Williams discussed the budget timeline and what is involved in the budget process. He stated Stearns County's mission statement is to provide exceptional public services to assure a safe, healthy and vibrant County for all. This mission is achieved by the County's values of being approachable, responsive, fair and equitable. Dr. Williams reviewed the budget revenues from 2025 to 2026 and budget expenses from 2025 to 2026.

Sarah Utsch, Financial Director, reviewed the 2026 budget levy drivers and provided an expenditure breakdown for 2026. She discussed funds that are contributed to outside agencies and reviewed the budget use of fund balances.

Jill Suurmeyer, Assistant County Administrator, reviewed project highlights for 2026. Among the projects are major road construction plans, Justice Center groundbreaking, issuing biggest bond in County history, adding Veteran's Services Office in Melrose, statewide election administration, and expanding HHW services to accept electronics with screens for \$10 each.

Dr. Williams reviewed how Stearns County compares to other counties regarding per capita levy rates. Stearns County ranks as the 5th lowest per capita preliminary levy of counties in Minnesota.

Randy Schreifels, County Auditor-Treasurer, discussed changes in tax base for payable 2026. Mr. Schreifels reviewed the estimated impact of the 2026 budget on select property classes.

Jill Suurmeyer provided an overview of changes in expenditures and revenues since the adoption of the preliminary budget. These changes will be incorporated into the final budget but has no impact on the property tax levy.

Chair Bertram opened the public hearing for comment. After hearing public testimony, Chair Bertram closed the public hearing. Dr. Williams stated no correspondences from the public were received. The final levy and budget will be approved at the December 16th, 2025, County Board Meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Bertram adjourned the Truth and Budgeting Hearing at 6:56 PM.

(Publish December 23, 2025)

Stearns County Board of Commissioners Meeting Draft Minutes Tues., December 16, 2025

Call to Order

9:00 AM Meeting called to order by Jeff Bertram, Chair, on December 16th, 2025, in the Board Room of the Stearns County Administration Center, 705 Courthouse Square, St. Cloud, MN.

Roll Call

Present: Commissioner District 1 Tarryl Clark, Commissioner District 2 Joe Perske, Commissioner District 3 Jeff Bertram, Commissioner District 4 Bob Johnson, Commissioner District 5 Steve Notch

Approve Agenda

Motion was made to approve the agenda.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 1 Tarryl Clark

SECONDER: District 2 Joe Perske

Consent Agenda

E.1. Approve County Board

Meeting Minutes from December 2nd, 2025.

E.2. Approve Resolution 25-52 supporting the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Applications for Albany Township.

E.3. Approve and Authorize Final Payment to Knife River for County Road 160 Resurfacing and box culvert replacement SAP 073-598-021 and CP 073-160-023.

E.4. Approve and Authorize Final Payment to C & L Excavating, Inc. for Beaver Island Trail Extension along CSAH 75 SP 073-090-012.

E.5. Approve Resolution 25-53 for Funding Townline Road Project 073-593-001 and Authorize the Board Chair to sign a Joint Powers Agreement with local entities for cost sharing on the project.

E.7. Approve Delegated County Feedlot Program Grant Agreement for 2026-2027.

E.8. Approve the Police Liaison Joint Powers Agreement between Stearns County and Melrose Independent School District 740 for the 2025-2026 school year.

E.9. Approve Off Highway Vehicle Safety Grant for the funding period of July 1st, 2025, through June 30th, 2027.

E.10. Approve the Police Liaison Joint Powers Agreement between Stearns County and Holdingford Independent School District 738 for the 2025-2026 school year.

E.11. Approve the Police Liaison Joint Powers Agreement between Stearns County and Kimball Independent School District 739 for the 2025-2026 school year.

E.12. Accept the Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant for the funding period of July 1st, 2025, through June 30th, 2027.

E.13. For Informational Purposes Only, the Stearns County Sheriff's Office 2025 Body Worn Camera Audit was included in the agenda packet.

E.15. Authorize the Stearns County Attorney's Office to apply for the 2026-2027 Sex Trafficking Investigation Task Force Grant to continue grand funding for the Central Minnesota Human Trafficking Task Force for a two-year period beginning at a date to be determined in early 2026. Full funding for all three investigators as well as task force liability insurance, equipment, program expenses, and training/travel expenses will be pursued. Stearns County Attorney Office will continue to dedicate prosecution, data analyst, and victim assistance staff resources as cases are investigated and referred for prosecution.

E.16. Approve Managed Print Services RFP advertisement.

E.17. Approve Jail Food Agreement Extension with Elmor, Inc., dba Summit Food Service, LLC, for a one-year contract extension with a rate increase for 2026.

E.18. Approve Application to Conduct Off-Site Gambling submitted by Farming Lions Club for their event to be held on March 20th, 2026, at Trappers Pub & Grub located in Farming Township.

E.19. Approve Purchase of New Workstations on 2nd Floor of Service Center in the Recorder, Land, and Elections work areas to be paid by the restricted Recorder's Technology Fund for the Recorder's workstations and the remaining expense to come from Project Fund's existing reserves.

E.20. For Informational Purposes Only, Claims Paid from November 22nd, 2025, through December 5th, 2025, amounted to \$57,565,458.13, excluding investment purchases.

Consent Agenda Vote

Motion was made to approve the 18 items on the Consent Agenda, after Items E.6. and E.14. were pulled for further discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: District 2 Joe Perske

SECONDER: District 4 Bob Johnson

Items Pulled for Discussion

E.6. *Approve Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) Policy and related changes, including the Deletion of the Leave Donation Policy.*

Motion was made to approve the Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) Policy effective January 1st, 2026, and approve deletion of the Leave Donation Policy.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

Public Notices

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Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

If you are feeling half-hearted about what you are working on, then put it off for a little bit and focus on something more interesting this week, Aries. You can use the rest.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Make it your business to remind others not to take life so seriously this week, Taurus. The best way to do that is to show them how to laugh by example.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Your thoughts are on an important decision that you need to make, Gemini. It's best to wait a few days before you get into the thick of things. You need to mull all possibilities.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, you may have the courage and the confidence to deal with whatever life throws at you right now, but not everyone is as dedicated as you. Make allowances for others this week.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Sensitive feelings are coming to the surface this week and you are not sure what to do about them, Leo. You won't find peace of mind until you have dealt with them thoroughly.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, some unexpected news could come your way between now and the weekend. It may seem like a lot, but in the grand scheme of things, it will only be a minor issue.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

You have reason to be suspicious of someone's motives this week. Just don't go to extremes and start reading into every message or nuance, Libra.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you might look super confident on the outside, but underneath you get anxious like everyone else. At some point this week you may need to ask for some help.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

It is easy to believe you have enemies around every corner, Sagittarius. Although you might have rubbed a few people the wrong way, most people actually are on your side.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, usually you couldn't care less what other people think about you. But this week it seems important to get another person's approval for your actions.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, be careful when dealing with someone in a position of power. They may have sights on a promotion you also hope to earn. Keep your cards close to the vest.