

**SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING**  
**March 11, 2025**

SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP TOWN HALL  
20381 FAIRLAWN AVENUE, PRIOR LAKE, MN

The 2025 Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Clerk, Melissa Hanson, at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Three times the Clerk called for nominations for the meeting Moderator. Wes Steffan nominated Loren Hanson seconded. Loren Hanson was elected Moderator of the 2025 Spring Lake Township Annual Town Meeting.

- The moderator presented a draft agenda for discussion and approval. The moderator called for revisions to the agenda. Quinn requested to add a CAC report under Water Resources. Quinn made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Steffan seconded. All in favor.

Noting that the minutes were made available for review before the meeting, the Moderator called for a motion approving the minutes of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting. Kowalski made a motion to approve the Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting. Quinn seconded. On a voice vote the minutes were approved.

Noting that the draft audited financial statements were made available for review before the meeting, the Moderator called for a motion waiving the reading of the draft audited financial statements. Steffan made a motion to waive the reading of the financial statements. Quinn seconded. On a voice vote the reading of the financial statements were approved.

**Sheriff's report.** Dan Aszmann, Scott County Sheriff Deputy, presented an overview of Sheriff's calls for the period 01/01/2024 through 12/31/2024 and provided an infographic with 2024 data (attached). Top service calls for Township and County-wide: Assists (lift assist, vehicle breakdowns, other agency assist), Suspicious Activity, Accidents and Traffic. The busiest call days are Mondays. Total events in Township 950 – second highest in County. Dispatch received 138,652 calls with nearly 100,000 being non-emergency.

**Fire Services Report.** Jake Theisen Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marschall presented report (see supporting documents). Highlights: 2024 total calls 143; Marshall position created position in 2024. New software system going into place in 2025 "First Due" coordinates with Jordan, Shakopee, Savage and helps with preplanning. No new equipment purchases planned for 2025. Highest call volume: medical calls. Fire is now primary for all medicals for Spring Lake, Prior Lake and Credit River but for mental health which are initiated by an officer. A new rescue vehicle was brought on in 2024 and used for medical calls saving wear and tear on big rigs and providing more call coverage. Standard call-out time during daytime hours (6 am-10pm) 1 minute; nighttime (10 pm-6 am) 2 minutes compared to 7-15 minutes prior to going full time. Crew conducts CPR Training for Prior Lake and other agencies charging only for overtime required to be fully staffed.

**Water Resources Report.**

- Spring Lake Association Presentation- (see supporting documents)
  - Discussed Mission- educate and unite, goal: lake improvement
  - Events- summer concert moving to Spring Lake Regional Park. Shared social event list.
    - New: Take a kid fishing tournament.
    - Highlight- Night to Unite- collaboration with partners – 5 events around the lake.
  - Education – encouraging boat certification. Those born after 2004 will need to complete

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certification. Wake boat map created and handed out at boat ramp. Canoe and Kayak map created for use at Spring Lake Regional Park ramp.

- Communication – Email, Facebook, Website, 450 newsletters.
- Lake Improvement Efforts – Curly leaf pondweed survey & treatment 19 acres in 2024. Milfoil surveys will continue but no additional treatment needed in 2024. Legislative grant in 2024- \$500,000 for ramp improvements. Prior Lake received a new ramp in 2024. Spring Lake received a new floating dock to replace a fixed dock and new buoys to help keep boats in a specified area to reduce issues with power loading. Spring Lake will have ramp 15 feet further with concrete planks into the lake to with issues with power loading concern as a result of shallow water. Ramp to be closed about 5 days for the project.
- Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District Presentation (PLSLWD)- Highlights – Daniel Studer (See supporting documents)
  - Most PLSLWD projects in some of the undeveloped areas in Spring Lake Township.
  - Fish Lake- water quality trending in the right direction for improvement. 2023 Fish Lake Management Plan completed. Projects continue.
  - Buck Lake – volunteer water quality monitoring. Clarity has improved but phosphorus and chlorophyll levels have not.
  - Spring Lake – overall trend for water quality is good but the drought plus flood spiked some levels.
  - Carp Management – Spring Lake will be priority now that Upper Prior is stable. Stocked bluegill in carp spawning areas in Spring Lake.
  - Projects in Upper Watershed Projects- Highlights;
    - Fish Lake Management Plan- 3 initiatives underway.
    - Buck Lake – Stream restoration – prevents 56 tons of sediment from eroding.
    - Swamp Lake Iron Enhanced Filter – County Ditch 13 – Contributor of phosphorous to Spring Lake
    - Ferric Chloride System Update– improvements for Spring 2025. Facility removes 60% of phosphorus.
  - Reviewed various outreach events over the year.
- Citizens Advisory Committee – Loren Hanson
  - Provided overview of the CAC -roles and responsibilities.
  - 2025 – Focus: AIS – Groundwater, Lake shore restoration.
  - Communication – social media – Instagram and Facebook. Residents interested in participating on CAC should contact Daniel Studer with PLSLWD

#### Resident Questions/Comments:

**MS4 Report** – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System – pipes, ponds, curb, inlets, outlets, ditches.

As part of our permit we need to report each year at a public meeting.

- In 2021 a new MS4 permit to discharge water was issued by MPCA and completed the township. Because of the significant changes to the permit, an annual report for 2022 or 2023 has been postponed but we are planning with Stantec for 2024 reporting with the same six minimum control measures:
- The six minimum control measures

- **Public Education and Outreach-** facilitated by Scott Clean Water Education Program (SCWEP) with partners across the County to educate businesses and individuals about various impact on stormwater. Brochures for upcoming classes on pollinators and other programs in the lobby.
  - **Public Participation-** sharing information at this meeting. 9 people attended.
  - **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination-** we ask that everyone watch for dumping into the storm water systems which includes ditches. If you see anything, please contact Megan Tasca with Scott County. Hanson completed training on 3/11/2025.
  - **Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control-** Scott County manages this by managing sediment and erosion control for construction sites.
  - **Post-Construction Storm Water Management-** after construction of new roads or other developments, the run off must be managed and storm water maintained. Our engineers help the township with this and we have implemented a new system to help us track and manage maintenance more easily with GIS.
  - **Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations-** this applies to this facility – Spring Lake Townhall. We maintain the raingarden here and maintain catch basins in the township so that they are kept clean and functioning properly.
- **BUILDING PERMITS**
    - 2024: **26 new home permits**
      - 2023: 26 new home permits
      - 2022: 14 new home permits
      - 2021: 10 new home permits
  - **DEVELOPMENT**
    - 2024: Developments- 4 Subdivisions or Admin Splits approved – 2 new parcels; 2 were lot line changes.
      - 2023: Developments – 6 Subdivisions or Admin Splits approved for 7 new parcels
      - 2022: 4 Developments/Admin Splits approved: 64 parcels
        - Includes: Amazed Acres=37; Scenic Bay=19; Vergus South=7
      - 2021: 10 Small Developments/Admin Splits approved: 11 parcels
  - **ANNEXATION-**
    - Orderly Annexation Agreement Signed in September of 2024 – leaving 12% of tax base permanently in Spring Lake Township with Prior Lake receiving approximately 1800 acres for future annexation.
      - Additional agreements for shared roads, two parks and utilities still being worked on.

- Kowalski shared efforts around rezoning and study at Cty 10 and Cty 13 and beyond to replace loss of Rural Industrial at Dairy Lane which will be annexed by Prior Lake.

- **ELECTIONS**

- 2024 –Votes: **General-1531 in person; 1080 absentee**; Prim.- 244; Pres Prim-482; Total Registered ~2900 – 90% of registered voters voted.
- Supervisor Quinn Re-elected, Supervisor Miller – Elected.

- **MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN 2024**

- Town Hall and Pavilion Rentals 2024
  - Town Hall/Pavilion Reservations approximately 141 (excluding board meetings) (*2023-122 events*)
  - Town Hall- events/meetings- 135 events totaling \$14,760 (*2023: 113 events, \$13,337.50*)
    - 94 paid reservations (70%)
    - 41 unpaid (30%) (includes other gov't meetings/ Fish Lake Sportsman's Club, Republican Women's Group)
  - Pavilion- 6 events -\$220 (*2023: 9 events- \$240*)

Fish Lake Sportsman's Club once a month September-May- barter agreement  
Living Joy every Sunday and a few other holidays throughout the year- pay

Regular Renters:

Cub Scouts

Cornerstone Family Enrichment (Home School Group)

- **LOOKING AHEAD IN 2025**

- **Residential Developments** – potential development on north side of Cynthia Lake 5-20 homes some other smaller subdivisions with 1-3 lots.
- **Rural Industrial/Commercial Development**- Comp Plan Amendment Approved by County– currently with Met Council awaiting approval. Larger Rural Industrial study underway with help from Scott County CDA/EDA which will be used to inform 2050 Comp Plan.
- **McMahon Lake Outlet**- Scott Soil and Water Conservation working to obtain easement from land owners.
- Prior Lake'
  - Proposed annexations: Grube on 180th
  - Prior Lake will be working on an Alternative Urban Areawide Review for 1800 acres in the new annexation area. This process is a hybrid of the environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) and environmental impact statement (EIS) review processes used as a planning tool to understand how

different development scenarios will affect the environment of their community before the development occurs.

- Elections – No planned for 2025 unless a school referendum is requested.

**Treasurer's Report.** Copies of the 2024 audited financial statements were made available at the meeting place at least one-half hour prior to the meeting. Johnson presented the Treasurer's Report, providing an overview of activity in the General Fund and Road & Bridge Fund. A clean audit was reported.

In 2024 the Township had total receipts of \$1,457,575 and total disbursements of \$1,424,438.

The General Fund has total receipts of \$615,080 and total disbursements of \$723,737. The General Fund was reduced by \$108,657, leaving an ending balance of \$862,038

The Road & Bridge Fund had receipts of \$824,770 and total disbursements of \$629,420 including transfers increase of \$195,000. The ending balance for the Road & Bridge Fund was \$2,377,816.

**Road Report.** Supervisor Miller presented the road report as follows:

- Road miles – 40 paved / 16 gravel (56 miles)
  - No roads added in the past year
  - Potential new road in Industrial Park in Lydia
- Gravel Roads
  - Dust control project for collector roads successful in 2024 and will continue for 10 collector roads.
- Bituminous Roads
  - No major road improvement project in 2024
  - 2025
    - Planned:
      - Mill and overlay of overlay of South Shore Drive, South Shore Circle, Rustic Hill Drive, Rustic Hill Court, and Sunrise Court, bid accepted and project will take place this spring.
    - Reviewing:
      - Reclaim, shape and pave 190<sup>th</sup> between Panama Ave and Fairlawn
      - Reclaim, shape, and pave 195<sup>th</sup> west of Fairlawn
- 2025 Road Maintenance work will be similar to past years.
  - Snow removal and ice control
  - Road tour will determine which roads need crack filling, seal coating, patching and other work
  - Ditch spraying for noxious weeds and woody vegetation
  - Shoulder mowing
  - Graveling
  - Grading
  - Routine tree trimming
  - Removal of hazardous trees including those infected with Emerald Ash Borer

**Parks and Trails Report.** Supervisor Quinn Presented the Parks and Trails Report:

- Raymond Park and South Shore Drive will be transferred to Spring Lake Township for ownership and maintenance - no major changes planned. Goal to form Citizen’s Advisory Group(s) to help shape the ongoing planning of parks. Two non-contiguous parcels will also be returned to the Township.
- Domer shared information about Memorial Bench Program for South Shore and Fish Lake Parks.

**Designate time and location for 2026 Annual Town Meeting.** Quinn made a motion to set the time and location of the 2026 Annual Town Meeting for 7:00 p.m., March 10, 2026 at the Spring Lake Town Hall, 20381 Fairlawn Avenue, Prior Lake, MN. Steffan seconded. All in favor.

**General Discussion of Items of Concern.**

**Motion to continue meeting.** Tom Quinn made a motion to recess the annual meeting to September 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of setting the General Fund levy and the Road & Bridge Fund levy., Kowalski seconded. All in favor. The meeting was recessed at 8:30 p.m.

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Moderator Hanson reconvened the annual town meeting at 8:00 p.m. on September 11, 2025

**Setting the General Fund Levy.** Johnson reviewed the proposed 2026 General Fund budget. The proposed 2026 general fund budget is \$835,000 with a proposed levy of \$725,000.

General Discussion had regarding the large portion of the budget that goes to fire protection.

Wes Steffan made a motion to approve the 2026 general fund levy of \$725,000 Tom Quinn seconded. All in favor. The motion passed on a voice vote.

**Setting the Road and Bridge Fund Levy.** Johnson presented the proposed 2026 budget for the road and bridge fund totaling \$2,355,000. The proposed levy is \$875,000.

General discussion had on why the significant increase in budget.

Wes Steffan made a motion to set the road and bridge fund 2026 levy at \$875,000. Tom Quinn seconded. All in favor. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Loren Hanson motioned to adjourn. Wes Steffan seconded. All in favor. The motion passed on a voice vote. The 2025 Annual Town Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

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, Moderator

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Melissa Hanson, Clerk