

LeSauk Township Special Meeting W/Sartell Fire Department & Sartell City Representatives  
September 26, 2024

A special meeting of the LeSauk Township Board of Supervisors with Sartell Fire Chief Peter Kedrowski and representatives from the city of Sartell was called to order by Chairman Dan Heim at 6:30 p.m. in the Sartell Community Center – Liberty Room.

**LESAUK TOWNSHIP BOARD PRESENT: Supervisors Dan Heim, Jeff Westerlund and Paul Wagner and Clerk Marlyce Plante**

**CITY OF SARTELL – Sartell City Administrator Anna Gruber**

**SARTELL FIRE DEPARTMENT – Sartell Fire Chief Peter Kedrowski and Interim Fire Chief Lucas Dingmann**

The fire contract between the city of Sartell and LeSauk Township expires at the end of 2024. It has been in effect for almost 10 years and needed to be reviewed and updated. Fire Chief Kedrowski has had this on his agenda to discuss with the township. Supv Heim noted the contract is similar to the Government Center contract which the city and township had when the fire department and the township were housed in the same building.

Fire Chief Kedrowski stated that he has put his resignation in to the city of Sartell and will begin a new position with the fire department in St. Cloud. Until the city of Sartell can hire a new fire chief, Lucas Dingmann will be the Interim Fire Chief for the city.

Both Fire Chief Kedrowski and Dingmann reviewed with the township supervisors the “make-up” of the fire department; Fire Chief Kedrowski’s position is a full-time position while the remainder of the department are volunteer firemen. The department has 30 firemen but are OK’d to have up to 35. They have one of the youngest departments in the area with the average age of 42. Of the 30 firemen, three are women. All firemen are tested physically and must live within an 8-minute span.

Ms. Gruber questioned the town board on their thoughts and questions on the fire contract. The town board understands the increased amount for fire protection with the change of having a full-time fire chief. In the previous contract, the township’s fee was \$40,000, paying \$20,000 twice during the year. The fee in the new contract is now approximately \$71,000 payable in 2025. The town board is requesting that since the township’s levy has been set for 2025, they were not prepared for this increase, and are asking the fee to remain at \$40,000 for 2025 and the new fee increase will not be due until 2026.

In general, the township did not have any further issues with the contract. Township Attorney Gilchrist has also reviewed the contract and saw no issues with it. City Administrator Anna Gruber will discuss the change with the city council and recommend the request of the township board to have the yearly fee remain at \$40,000 for 2025 with the increased fee beginning in 2026. She thanked the board and also suggested that a yearly meeting be held so that any potential problems could be dealt with. It was the consensus to have the township pick a time and date for a meeting, contact the involved members and set up the meeting. Administrator Gruber will make the necessary changes to the contract when it has been approved by the city council.

**SUPV HEIM MOTIONED TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY SUPV WAGNER, MOTION CARRIED 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted, Marlyce L. Plante, LeSauk Township Clerk

