

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 2024 Approved Pat MacLachlan, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Portage Township Board was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Supervisor Reed.

Board members present: Holbrook, McKeage, Reed, Abram and MacLachlan

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion McKeage; support MacLachlan to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes

Motion Holbrook; support Abram to approve the minutes of the 12/12/23 regular meeting. All ayes

Motion McKeage; support Abram to approve the bills as presented. EMS payroll \$18,978.50, Library payroll \$2,604.50, Township payroll \$10,518.08, General \$16,734.72, Fire \$146.67, EMS \$22,261.91, Library \$3093.14. All ayes

Reports

Clerk- February Election ballots will be available at the end of this week. The DNR real estate division has sent a preliminary letter of approval for the Saw Wa Quato “beach” property transfer. Survey, split and legal descriptions need to be finalized. Electronics and Tire recycling grants have been approved for implementation at 2024 clean up day. MSU Extension has a program called FIT that assesses your community for tourism. Clerk would like to pursue Portage Township applying for the assessment. It would help economic development via tourism.

Treasurer- Written report given to board.

Trustee – Holbrook is forwarding paperwork to TAS regarding the church property. School furnace needed repairs that have been completed.

EMS- 11 calls. 3 students from Portage are taking the EMT class at Luce County.

Building/Zoning- 2 new permits in January. There is road end public lake access at the blinker light and across from the Baptist Church.

Fire- 2 calls. Received approval for a DNR grant for wildfire turn out gear.

Library- Programs are moving forward. Library Board is working diligently. Board member Stephanie Anabel was introduced.

Park & Rec- MacLachlan updated board on Public Comment meeting that preceded this meeting.

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Action items

Old Business-

- 1. Reed updated Board and public on the status of the Big Lake Dam and legal lake level. Commissioners Brandon Wheeler, Luce and Corrina Clark, Mackinac have worked with Reed and others to make sure lake is as close to 686' as possible. They are waiting to hear what Schoolcraft is going to do with the dam, as it is located in Schoolcraft County. A meeting is set for next Thursday.**

Questions and comments from public were addressed by Reed.

- 2. Clerk shared information about the SDL mileage request that appears on the February 2024 primary ballot for Engadine School district voters.**
- 3. Special Board Meeting set for Tuesday, January 16th at 10:00a.m to discuss the MERS retirement programs.**

New Business-

- 1. Motion Reed; support Holbrook to pay for up to 5 Port-a –Potties and the garbage disposal at the Fish Coop event in February. All ayes**
- 2. Motion McKeage; support Holbrook to approve the Portage Township March BOR dates as presented. All ayes**
- 3. Resolution presented by Reed; support McKeage to adopt the 2024-2028 Portage Township Recreation Plan. Reed-y, MacLachlan-y, Holbrook-y, McKeage-y, Abram-y. 5 ayes, 0 Nays.**

Public Comment- none

Motion Holbrook/Reed to adjourn 8:16 p.m.