

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2024

Approved

Pat MacLachlan, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Portage Township Board was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Supervisor Reed.

Board members present: Holbrook, McKeage, Reed and MacLachlan

Absent: Abram

Guests: Tina Massey

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion McKeage; second Reed to approve the agenda as amended to include Old #4- McGahan Rd, New #2 Wallace/campers, #3 Library Board contract for employees. Supervisor is calling a closed session at the end of the regular board meeting to discuss EMS legal issues. All ayes

Motion Holbrook; second McKeage to approve the minutes of the 6/11/24 Budget hearing and 6/11/24 regular meeting. All ayes

Motion McKeage, second Reed to approve the bills as presented. General \$27,575.25, Fire \$24,476.74, EMS \$28,548.29, Library \$3,395.11. All ayes.

Tina Massey, candidate for Mackinac County Treasurer introduced herself and shared her qualifications.

### **Reports**

Clerk- Update on election preparations and absent voter ballots have been sent out. Waiting for updated dust control bill from Wilkinson. Electronics Recycling is 7/20, from 9-1. Brian Turner has requested a refund of \$75 because the fire sign he requested Last year has not been ordered or installed. Still looking to fill the part time maintenance position, possibly consider someone to help with mowing, allowing Lee to care for buildings.

Treasurer- Written report given to board.

Trustees – Furnace relay repair completed. New exterior doors will not be installed before school starts. A safety inspection of the facility is being done by the school for a possible new grant application.

Supervisor- New mower has been delivered. Will place an ad to sell old mower. Par Plan visited to update our facility and coverage. Camp A Rd. west off N. Gould City Rd needs to be upgraded since properties are being occupied full time.

July 9, 2024  
Minutes page 2

Fire- Newest firefighter hire has successfully completed the FF training. All Fire Department staff is certified. Questioned updating of property fire signs as they are hard to read and locate.

EMS-22 calls. The 2024/55 ambulance state licensure inspection is in process.

Planning- Hoping to have a quorum at the July 25th Planning Commission meeting so a final decision on proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments can be made.

Assessor- Property updates were given to treasurer for tax bills. Assessor will be in the office on 7/25 from 8 a.m. - noon, but may be out in the field during those times.

Park & Rec- Creation of online Recreation survey, along with QR code access is in process to receive public input for the township recreation plan.

Building/Zoning-Don will talk with Dennis about the fire sign situation.

Library- Turtle Day is July 18 and there are 31 “Turtle Stops”. Annual Friends of the Library book sale is Wednesday, August 8 in the Community Building from 10-4.

### Action items

#### **Old Business-**

- 1. Discussion will be addressed during closed session.**
- 2. Clerk shared additional pricing on commercial grade dock for Lake Street road end, provided by Watson Marine. Reed to follow up.**
- 3. Update on Portage Creek pier, Bill Sanders to take care of bid out process after final plans approved by DNR.**
- 4. Update on McGahan Road and EGLE/DEQ requirements- Reed to verify.**

#### **New Business-**

- 1. Reed will talk with Scott McKeage about the Planning Commission looking into the issue of short term rentals in Portage Township.**
- 2. Resident Steve Wallace shared his concerns about campers being on residential properties and the violations of the ordinance regarding temporary dwellings on lakefront property being unenforced.  
The current ordinance limiting campers to 21 days, is still in effect until a new one is approved.**
- 3. Motion Reed; second McKeage to approve the contract between Curtis Library and Portage Township for library employees.  
Roll Call Vote: Reed-y, McKeage-y, Holbrook-y, MacLachlan-y.  
Motion passed.**

July 9, 2024  
Minutes Page 3

**Closed Session called by Reed at 8:20 p.m. Public was excused.  
Township Board Meeting was called back in session at 8:50 p.m.**

- Board suggested discussing legal issues involving EMS, with proper authorities.**
- Proposing the process of training new recruits to be changed as funding and time is available.**

Public Comment- none

Adjourn 8:55 p.m.