

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2024 Approved Pat MacLachlan, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Portage Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Reed.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion McKeage; second Holbrook to approve the agenda as amended, #1 old business to include "before 1997 parcel divisions". All ayes

Motion Holbrook; second Reed to approve the minutes of the 8/14/24 regular meeting. All ayes

Motion McKeage; support Holbrook to approve the bills as presented. EMS payroll \$21,527.00, Library payroll \$2,503.00, Township payroll \$11,682.27, General \$61,032.46 (includes \$44,500.00 for Pickle Ball courts), Fire \$1,529.45, EMS \$24,952, Library \$3,705.35, Roads \$174,399.50 All ayes

Manistique Lakes Pickle ball members attended the meeting. Charles Dozer and Randy Moore spoke on their behalf thanking the Township Board for the recent upgrades to the pickle ball and tennis courts. They said over 20 people play every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at the courts.

Reports

Clerk- Update on August election and the upcoming November General election.

Treasurer- Written report given to board.

Trustee Holbrook- Did a security walk at the school with administrator and others. No updates from TAS on the church property.

Assessor- Doing research for Equalization. Per assessor, all land splits will now be done by Portage Township Assessor.

EMS- 22 calls. '09 Rig turbo exhaust leak, may be \$3,000 to repair. Supervisor wants to discuss with EMS Captain about the status of the EMS house. Working on the Medicare report due November 1st.

Fire- 2 cancelled fire runs.

Library- Contractor to review the condition of the front porch for repairs due to cracking. The Friends Group have offered to help with the cost of the repairs.

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Supervisor-The next Big Lake Dam committee meeting is scheduled for 9/17/24.

Motion to accept Bowman Gas contract for \$1.56/gallon for the 2024 winter season. All ayes

All submitted bids for the old mower were rejected. New bids will be accepted after September 14. Spoke with Library Board chairman about personnel. Supervisor spoke with SOM Electrical inspector, Lance Ash, and was told there have not been any problems or delays with inspections in Portage Township. Reed suggested to “put the brakes” on a new inspector and continue using the state electrical inspector. He will contact Dan Dismuke about this decision.

Action items

Old Business

1.Motion Reed; second Abram to approve the 2024 Zoning Ordinance amendments to delete R-3 District, Economic Overlay District and Riparian Overlay District. Also to approve the creation of the MU-II District and changes to the MU-I District.

Holbrook-y, Abram-y, McLachlan-y, McKeage-y, Reed-y Motion carried.

Motion Reed; second Abram to approve the 2024 amendment to Temporary Dwelling Section 3.5, as presented in sections 3.5.B 1, 2 ,3a,b,c,d,e. Including changing days allowed, number of units allowed, process of permitting and waste disposal, with the following additions: To include noting lots created after 1997 requiring compliance with the LMAS minimum acreage for septic systems. Also, not allowing temporary dwellings in MU-1 on lots **less than 1 acre corrected to read: between Saw Wa Quato and H-33 on Main Street. * See October 8, 2024 minutes.**

McKeage-y, Holbrook-y, Abram-y, MacLachlan-n, Reed- y. Motion carried.

2. Update on Big Manistique Lake level- web site is not up yet. A winter drawdown of the lake will begin September 20th. EGLE must approve the winter level.

New Business-

- 1. Motion Reed; second McKeage to accept the Portage Township 2024 L-4029 as presented. All ayes.**
- 2. Approval given to advertise for snow plowing for winter 2024/25.**
- 3. Motion Reed; second MacLachlan to have Portage Township fire number creation/assignment done by Mackinac County 911. Ordering of signs and installation will be done by township.**

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Public Comment-

-Rose Ross has asked to use the old church building for worship services. Board directed her to TAS Superintendent as the township does not own the building.

-Sue Pann asked the Board when they planned to upgrade the Community Orchard walking trails, as it has been since 3/17/2020 that they said they would fix them. The 5 member Orchard Committee from Three Lakes has raised \$6,000 toward the project.

Motion MacLachlan; second McKeage to allocate up to \$20,000 for the Community Orchard Trail development.

All Ayes, Abram abstained.

-Wiegand shared that the AED unit is installed outside the Fish & Hunt for public use in an emergency.

- Tish Anderson said a media & communication plan for the AED has been created.

-Joe Smith shared that House Bill 4102 allows local communities to set speed limits via an ordinance adoption. Also, his driveway that was changed due to paving on Long Point has not been correctly graded causing vehicles and trailers to bottom out.

-Rich Erdlitz gave a list of properties with non-compliant campers on vacant lots to the clerk for the Zoning Administrator and township records.

-Reed shared information about the Curtis Area Trail groomers wanting to build a new groomer barn. They would like the township to pay \$125,000 for their current groomer barn on Davis Street and for the township to create a split of property and give them 5 acres at the corner of Sandtown and Lilac Lane.

-Two members of the Curtis Area Trail groomers in attendance did not know about this proposal.

Motion Holbrook/McKeage to adjourn 8:48 p.m.