

PORTAGE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2025 Approved

Pat MacLachlan, Clerk

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

Board members present: Holbrook, McKeage, Sicinski and MacLachlan.

Abram-excused

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion McKeage; second Holbrook to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes

Motion Holbrook; second McKeage to approve the minutes of the 2/11/25 regular meeting. All ayes

Motion Holbrook; second Sicinski to approve the 2/19/25 special meeting minutes. All ayes

Motion Sicinski, second McKeage to approve the bills as presented. EMS payroll \$17,990.00, Library payroll \$2,294.50, Township payroll \$10,746.21, General \$16,974.85, Fire \$9,019.04, EMS \$23,368.62, Library \$3,553.70. All ayes

Reports

Park & Rec- CLMCD grant update for Pocket Prairie project. Committee meeting date to be set soon.

Library- Library board will meet tomorrow. Received donation from Lakefield Township. Update on library porch design.

Building/Zoning- Some clearing of metal from Burton property. T-Mobile construction is proposed for the area in Portage Township. (Corrections approved at 4/8/25 meeting)

Fire- 1 run in February.

EMS- 13 calls, 2 additional EMT's are off until mid-May.

Trustees- Holbrook gave update on unfunded school security grant. As building owner, board will be responsible for needed updates.

Treasurer- Written report given to board. 2 CDs are due to renew. General 1 yr @3.85% & EMS 6 mo@ 4.10%.

Motion McKeage; second Holbrook to roll over CDs at 3.85% & 4.10% as recommended. All ayes

Clerk- Cloverland will be cutting trees at recreation/cemetery area. Time clock is working, maintenance staff will be using, as it will verify hours worked for ESTA. DNR requested owner information for the islands in Big & South Manistique Lakes. This will be used in conjunction with the planned cormorant removal. Additional electric outlets are needed in the community building. Stove & microwave are tripping the circuit breaker. Additional outlet needed for extra refrigerator. Planned recording of township board meetings delayed until April. Assistance from Dan Edwards is scheduled.

March 11, 2025

Page 2

Action items

Old Business-

- 1. Motion Sicinski; second Holbrook to approve the corrected, updated 2025 building permit fees. All ayes**
- 2. Board members to review proposed 2025 township policies. Discussion/approval planned for April board meeting.**
- 3. Clerk shared ESTA eligibility, implementation and calculations update with board.**
- 4. Discussion about confusion on required power cot installation in new ambulance and status of 2009 chassis per original purchase contract wording. Supervisor to look into this for clarification.**
- 5. No update on metal removal or copies of disposal receipts. Questions as to whether this is legally required.**
- 6. Updated purchase agreement for groomer building was read by supervisor. Both purchase terms and Lilac Lane property lease were on same document. Sicinski to send copy of agreement to attorney for review.**
- 7. Update on North Road. Survey copies of North Road and Lilac Lane properties given to board members. Splits need to be requested through Mackinac County Equalization.**

New Business-

- 1. Motion MacLachlan, second McKeage to participate in the MSU Extension FIT (First Impressions Tourism) program. Cost to township is \$1,500, paid at completion of contracted program. All ayes**

Public Comment-

-Why aren't township flags put at half-staff when appropriate. Why aren't they illuminated?

-Big Lake level is up. What is being done about the potholes on Main Street? The railing and sidewalk at the first bridge in town needs work. It is a safety hazard. Are we getting a township credit card?

- What is the status of the current zoning infractions and metal dump site proof of removal?

-What is the purpose of the township buying the groomer building? Why was it presented in December and was there a private meeting to discuss the purchase?

- With all the items, equipment stored outside, the groomer building will be filled up. Will the access sites/boat launches be dredged? Date for Annual Clean-Up day?

Motion to adjourn at 9:00