

Mark Halkola, Supervisor
Christa Gardner, Clerk
Christina Gardner, Treasurer
Don Wareham, Trustee
Aaron Janke, Trustee



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Osceola Township Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2025, 6:30 PM

The regular meeting of the Osceola Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Mark Halkola on February 12, 2025, at 7:01 PM at the Osceola Township Board Room. Board members present were Mark Halkola, Christa Gardner, Christina Gardner, Aaron Janke, and Don Wareham.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Wareham, supported by Christina Gardner, to approve the agenda as presented. AVIF

Motion by Christina Gardner, supported by Wareham to accept the minutes from the January 8, 2025, Board Meeting, and the January 22, 2025, Special Meeting. AVIF

Motion by Wareham, supported by Christina Gardner to accept the financial reports for the General, Road, Mason Wastewater, TC utility, and OT utility funds. AVIF

Motion by Janke, supported by Wareham for payment of the bills: General, Road, Mason Wastewater, TC utility, and OT utility funds. AVIF

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 7:18 PM. Steve Klein asked about the UPPCO bill for TC water, and wondering if the heat is electric at the reservoir. Discussion took place with members of the audience and board. Public Comment closed at 7:35 PM.

Reports:

- a. Assessor: Written report submitted.
- b. Maintenance: Written report submitted. Motion by Janke, supported by Christa Gardner to table the truck repairs until the March 2025 meeting, seeking additional information and bids. AVIF
- c. OT Utility Board Action items: Motion by Christina Gardner, supported by Wareham to accept the resolution for the low bidder and execute the Notice of Award as recommended by the Utility. Roll call vote: 5 yea, 0 nay. Motion carried.
- d. DBVFD: No report submitted.
- e. First Responders: Written report submitted.
- f. TCVFD: Written report submitted.
- g. TC Utility Board: Written report submitted.
- h. TLASA: Written report submitted.
- i. NHCWSA: Written reports submitted.
- j. Community Compost Site: No report submitted.
- k. Supervisor report: Wayne Siira was available to give an update on the ice rink. In the 13 days that he had been there, only twice was there any supervision. There are a lot of kids, but there is a definite lack of supervision. Some discussion took place about a broken heat dial, issues with the doors. The BOR schedule for March is in the packet, and training will be taking place on February 25. There is a final ARPA spending plan chart in the packet. OPG offered bids for a copier that run \$600 - \$1250. The Lake Linden issues are still pending. The snowmobile trail is open in Tamarack City. Info from the Torch Lake PAC in the packet. The Vet ad-hoc committee will meet in March or April. There will be a dredge meeting this month. Mark will reach out to Barron Wuebben about the truck.

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Unfinished Business:

- a. Water Project Plan – Updated at the utility meeting.
- b. UPPCO Street Light Project Plan – Sent the first contract. Motion by Wareham, supported by Christina Gardner, to accept the second agreement as presented for the additional lights going in. AVIF
- c. Elm Avenue Gooseneck Project – Discussed at the utility meeting.
- d. FY24-25 Draft Budget Amendments – Continued being worked on. Will have an initial amendment at the March meeting, and if necessary, one final by the end of March.
- e. CD's – update – waiting for deputy information to sign signature cards.

Tabled Business:

- a. Town Hall Meetings – leave on table

New Business:

- a. 2025 Township Road Projects – status – Meeting with John Cena from the Houghton County Road Commission to discuss township road projects. They are looking into boring on Maple Street this summer. A question was brought up about looking at the number of services that need replacing on 1st Street in Dollar Bay before the repair work is completed.
- b. Budget Meeting Schedule – We will need two meetings, possibly three. A schedule will be looked at over the next few weeks.
- c. FY 25-26 Meeting Schedule – Motion by Janke, supported by Christina Gardner to approve the FY 25-26 meeting schedule as presented. AVIF

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 8:38 PM. Steven Klein mentioned that the Lake Linden officer is not accredited outside of Lake Linden. Question about when property tax checks will be cashed. Wondered about the amount of water lost during the main break in Hubbell. Had a question about the check-valve, believes it needs to be inspected by a certified plumber. Mentioned that the backhoe the township purchased is not capable of digging water lines. The water leak on 2nd Street, we also don't know how much water was lost at that time. Katie Ek had some suggestions about the ice rink as a volunteer. She wondered if when the kids are touching the switch for the heater with their wet mittens, if it might be possible to enclose that so they can't have access to it. Also wondered if there could be a box for Lost and Found that goes from the ice rink, to maybe the township office, and then if not claimed, the items be donated. She also mentioned the entrance going out of the warming shack, how the kids water it to make it slippery, but it seems too steep and wondered if it could be made more gradual. Public comment closed at 9:09 PM.

Adjourn: Motion by Christa Gardner, supported by Wareham to adjourn at 9:09 PM. AVIF

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 6:30 PM at the Osceola Township office Board Room.