

Tamarack City Utility (Water) Board Meeting

Tamarack City Fire Hall

February 9, 2026, 6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Klein at 6:03 pm.

Board members present: Steve Klein, Donald Wareham, Steven Westphal, Katie Johnson, Mark Halkola

Absent: Charles Westphal

Others present: Ron Kokkonen

Approval of Agenda: D. Wareham moved, seconded by S. Westphal to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: S. Westphal moved, seconded by D. Wareham to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2026, meeting. Motion carried.

Financial reports were reviewed and discussed.

S. Klein suggested moving the Review of Financial Reports to after the Township Reports update.

S. Klein called for Public Comment at 6:10 pm. No comments brought forward.

Osceola Township Update:

The following handouts were received (1) Tamarack City Water Fund Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2026, (2) Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual April 2025 through January 2026, (3) Check Detail for January 2026, (4) Deposit Detail for January 2026, (5) Water Secretary Report dated February 9, 2026, (6) Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual April 2025 through January 2026 with amendments approved February 4, 2026, (7) Tentative Tamarack City Utility Board and Osceola Township Board Meeting Schedules for FY26-27.

Water secretary reported that the delinquencies were not calculated by the time of this meeting due to a large number of last-minute payments being made.

K. Johnson asked if the board could receive a list of vendors/accounts payable and associated ledger codes for the next meeting.

M. Halkola reported that Zemnick widened the road to- and area around the water tank.

M. Halkola reported he talked to Pietela about tank cleaning and fixing the test faucets later this year. These costs will be included in next year's budget.

M. Halkola offered to look into widening the gate to the water tank.

Review of Payments and Bills:

S. Klein noted the Upper Michigan Water Co. bill was \$1,000 higher than last month. R. Kokkonen stated there were no leaks since the two leaks in early January (see January meeting minutes). The two January leaks are likely the cause for the increased January bill.

S. Klein questioned whether the ink pad for the stamp purchased from Nicolet Bank (Check 2253) is also used by Dollar Bay Water or the township, as there was not the usual division written on the invoice.

S. Klein noted an increased Ferrellgas bill. R. Kokkonen said the heat at the tank was changed from electric to propane.

Other Updates/Reports:

Range Communication – Emergency Alarm/Phone:

M. Halkola reported that the township is continuing to pursue purchasing emergency phone/alarm system from Range Communication; however, after discussions with Jeff and Mike from Range Communications and Mary Sears, the township will not be partnering this purchase with Franklin Township. One option being considered to save money is coordinating with Franklin Township to have a single installation day.

M. Halkola reported the communication system needed in Dollar Bay is taking precedent for the township, but the products/system for Tamarack City Water will be purchased prior to the end of this fiscal year (March 31st).

Water System:

R. Kokkonen gave a verbal report that meter reads are done and went well. The tank level is holding and there were no leaks since the first week of January. He gave out no red tags.

Township Utility Ordinance Draft:

M. Halkola reported he met with the attorney on Friday, February 6, 2026, and changes have been made to the ordinance draft that the Tamarack City Water Board has not seen as of the February 9th meeting. Changes to the draft were discussed among the board members.

New Business:

The amended budget was approved. There will be one more amendment at the end of March. The FY26-27 meeting schedule was verbally approved by all members. The November 2026 meeting will likely be changed as it falls on Veteran's Day.

C. Westphal has submitted a letter of resignation to the Tamarack City Water Board.

Motion by D. Wareham, seconded by S. Westphal to appoint K. Johnson to the board as a regular member and to post the alternate position as open. Motion carried.

Other:

D. Wareham inquired about the pursuit of an exemption for lead pipe mitigation. M. Halkola reports this pursuit is in progress.

Motion to adjourn was made by M. Halkola, seconded by D. Wareham at 7:15pm. Motion carried.

Date of next meeting: Monday, March 9, 2026, at 6:00 PM at Tamarack City Fire Hall