

TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

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Supervisor: David Blake-Thomas
Clerk: Gary Loomis
Treasurer: Melissa Ellis
Trustee: Laurey Simpson
Trustee: Susan Manshum

Township Board Meeting January 14, 2025 Minutes

Attendance: 12

The meeting at the Township Hall was called to order at 6:30 PM by Supervisor Blake-Thomas. The Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Roll Call of Board Members; Supervisor Blake-Thomas, Treasurer Ellis, Trustee Manshum, Trustee Simpson, and Clerk Loomis present. A quorum of the Township Board was in attendance. A **Motion** made by Treasurer Ellis to approve the minutes of December 11, 2024, as written, seconded by Trustee Simpson. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comments: Pride group announced that the fishing tournament will be held on February 15, 2025 from 10 – 4.

Clerk Report: Gary L. Loomis, Clerk

1. Detailed expense report dated January 13, 2025 for items totaling \$26,613.97 was presented with the \$15,000.00 fishing pier down payment the only unusual item.
2. **Motion** made by Trustee Manshum to approve the expense report, seconded by Trustee Simpson. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Treasure Report: Melissa Ellis, Treasurer

1. All accounts report dated December 31, 2024 with a total of \$641,426.25 was presented.
2. Last day to pay winter taxes at the Hall will be February 28, 2025.

Fire Department Report: John Clark, Fire Chief

1. One run this month and the NFIRS Fire Report was entered.
2. Fire Department meeting was called with Dave Sharp, Brian McMillan, Dennis McGowan, John Clark and Michael Foster (a new member) attending.
3. **Motion** was made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas, seconded by Clerk Loomis to hire Michael Foster and Crystal Schwesinger for the fire department. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
4. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas, seconded by Trustee Simpson to purchase four shock struts from NAPA for the mini pumper exterior doors. Cost not to exceed \$200.00. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
5. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas, seconded by Trustee Simpson to purchase batteries and pads for our four AED units. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Straits Area EMS Report: David Blake-Thomas

1. Trout Lake Township had two runs for the month.

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Park and Recreation Committee

1. A list of monthly events beginning in February and lasting thru July 2025 offering different activities was presented. More information coming soon. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas, seconded by Trustee Manshum to give the committee \$500.00 from the Park and Recreation fund to support the activities. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Seconded by Clerk Loomis to approve the "Annual Guideline Resolution for Poverty Exemption". Roll Call Vote: Trustee Simpson – Aye, Trustee Manshum – Aye, Treasurer Ellis – Aye, Supervisor Blake-Thomas – Aye and Clerk Loomis – Aye. **Motion carried.**
2. Supervisor Blake-Thomas shared with the board the "Certificate Of Achievement" from the State of Michigan Tax Commission for receiving a perfect score on the PA 660 audit review.
3. Supervisor Blake-Thomas presented to the board a study that he had made concerning the board's compensation history for the last 24 years. There have been no wage adjustments made in 13 years even though the work load has increased significantly. **Motion** was made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas, seconded by Treasurer Ellis to increase the Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer monthly wage by \$200.00 and the Trustee wages by \$30.00. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comments:

1. Dave Hillman stated that the skating rink at the Township Hall should be ready to use by the middle of next week with the temperatures staying low enough to make ice

Board Comments:

1. Trustee Manshum would like to see our main street more festive at the Holiday Season.

Motion made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to pay the bills as submitted by Clerk Loomis. Seconded by Trustee Simpson. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Supervisor Blake-Thomas motioned to adjourned the meeting at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L Loomis
Trout Lake Township Clerk