

TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

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Supervisor: David Blake-Thomas
Clerk: David Hillman
Treasurer: Joseph Boudreau
Trustee: Laura Simpson
Trustee: Gary Loomis

Township Board Meeting, February 8, 2022 Minutes

Attendance: 16

Meeting at the Township Hall called to order at 6:30 PM, by Supervisor Blake-Thomas. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Roll Call of Board Members David Blake-Thomas, Joseph Boudreau, Gary Loomis, Laura Simpson and David Hillman present. A quorum of the Township Board was in attendance.

1. **Motion** by Treasurer Boudreau to approve the general meeting minutes January 11, 2022 as written. Second Trustee Simpson Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comments:

1. Condolences to Deb Baker on the loss caused by fire. Thanks to community members Dave Blake-Thomas, Stefanie Clark, Jeff Waybrant, Cari Fischer, Mary Sharp, Shelly McGowan, Border Patrol, Chippewa County Sheriff, Hulbert Fire Department, Straits EMS, and Trout Lake Township Fire Department for their support during this traumatic event.
2. Medical help from non-medical personnel is covered by the "Good Samaritan Law".
3. Fireworks are scheduled for July 2nd. Please observe the safety zone restrictions during the event.
4. Port-a-John needs for July were identified.

Clerk Report: David Hillman, Clerk

1. Detailed expense report dated February 7, 2022 for items totaling \$19,262.64 was presented.
2. Clerk attended a meeting of the Chippewa County Road Commission.
3. Adding Molly Gibson Road to the county plowing schedule was discussed. Assessment and plan needed for further consideration of this request.
4. Ice Skating Rink is being used by local hockey players and visitors. It is being maintained by John Clark, Stan Ellis, Harvey Barrett and Dave Hillman. Several volunteers have helped keep it clear of snow.
5. **Motion** by Trustee Loomis to accept the Clerk report. Second Trustee Simpson Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Treasure Report: Joseph Boudreau, Treasurer:

1. Financial report dated January 31, 2022 total of all accounts \$610,296.96 was presented.
2. February 28, 2022 is the last day to pay Winter taxes at the Township Hall.
3. **Motion** by Clerk Hillman to accept the Treasurer Report. Second Trustee Simpson Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Assessor Report: Jessica McLean, Assessor c/o Supervisor Blake-Thomas

1. Personal Property Tax exemption limit going up to \$180,000. Contact assessor for impact to businesses.
2. The third week of March Board of Review dates and times will be posted soon.

Fire Department Report: John Clark, Fire Chief

1. One run for the month of January 2022 with Dave Sharp, Rod Butson, Sean Waybrant, Eric Butson, and John Clark responding.
2. Fire department meeting called with Dave Sharp, Eric Butson, Sean Waybrant, John Clark, and Rod Butson present.
3. Skid unit has been received. DNR matching funds request will be processed.
4. NFIRS fire report entered for the month.
5. Winter issue: Please clear address signs of limbs and debris
6. **Motion** by Trustee Simpson to accept the Fire Chief report. Second Trustee Loomis Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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Ambulance Report:

1. Two ambulance runs to Trout Lake this month.
2. St. Ignace Area Council will disband and St. Ignace Area EMS Authority to be formed to take over.
3. EMS Authority may in the future request a millage to collect funds specifically for operation expenses in lieu of contributions from the member communities.
4. Ground breaking for the new ambulance building is anticipated for early spring.
5. **Motion** by Treasurer Boudreau to accept the Ambulance Report. Second Trustee Simpson Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Old Business:

1. Trout Lake Historical Society is in the organization phase. Anyone wishing to contribute is encouraged to contact Loretta Loomis.

New Business:

1. Assessor contract renewal was considered. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to renew the current contract with amendments to include (1) mandatory 2 office hours per month at the Township Hall at published predetermined times (2) an automatic renewal provision for a one year extension with a 90 day termination notice provision (3) assessor is encouraged to attend Township Board meetings or notify absence in advance. Second Clerk Hillman. Roll call vote: Supervisor Blake-Thomas Yes, Treasurer Boudreau Yes, Trustee Loomis Yes, Trustee Simpson Yes and Clerk Hillman Yes. All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
2. FY 2022 budget. Increasing the line item for the EMS budget from \$10,000 to \$20,000 to adjust for the new ambulance contribution in addition to the annual fee. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to amend the EMS budget. Second Trustee Loomis: Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
3. FY 2022 budget. Increasing Town Hall maintenance budget from \$2000 to \$6500 for hall parking lot paving and unanticipated mechanical repairs. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to amend the Town Hall maintenance budget. Second Trustee Simpson: Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
4. Fix the kitchen propane feed by eliminating the 125-gallon tank and plumb a new line to the 1000-gallon tank. **Motion** by Trustee Loomis to replace the propane feed line to the kitchen with anticipated cost of \$1000 and sell the smaller tank to offset the change cost. Work to be done in Spring 2022. Second Supervisor Blake-Thomas: Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion made by Trustee Loomis to pay the bills as submitted by Clerk Hillman. Second Trustee Simpson. Motion approved unanimously by the Board Members in attendance with a voice vote.

Motion made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to adjourn. Second Trustee Loomis. Voice approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hillman
Trout Lake Township Clerk