

# TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

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

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## Township Board Meeting December 11, 2024 Minutes

Attendance: 16

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 welcoming statement to the new Township Board by Supervisor Blake-Thomas. 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.

1. **Motion** made by Trustee Manshum to approve the minutes of November 13, 2024 as written. Seconded by Trustee Simpson. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comments: None

Clerk Report: Gary L. Loomis, Clerk

1. Detailed expense report dated December 11, 2024 for items totaling \$13,555.11 was presented.
2. **Motion** made by Treasurer Ellis 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 November 30, 2024 with a total of \$515,216.04 was presented.
2. Last day to pay winter taxes at the Hall will be February 28, 2025. Treasurer will be in the Hall on Tuesday December 31, 2024 from 9 am to 5 pm to collect taxes.

Fire Department Report: David Blake-Thomas, Supervisor

1. No runs for the month and the NFIRS Fire Report was entered for the month. NFIRS will be replaced with NERIS (National Emergency Response Incident System) by January 2026.
2. The Argo has been delivered and training will be scheduled.
3. Fire Department meeting with Dave Sharp, Mark Conroy, Brian McMillan, Rod Butson, Eric Butson and John Clark present.
4. Tracks are being installed on the Ranger to support emergencies during the snowmobile season.

Straits Area EMS Report:

1. Trout Lake Township had two runs for the month.
2. The amount of time that Straits EMS has ALS crews available has significantly increased.
3. David Blake-Thomas and John Clark are finishing advanced EMS classes.

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## Old Business:

1. The new board members were sworn in just prior to the board meeting.
2. **Motion** made by Clerk Loomis and Seconded by Trustee Simpson to hire Northwest Fire to do the Annual Fire Extinguisher and semiannual kitchen suppression system testing. All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion passed unanimously.**
3. Grants from the Sault Tribe have been received. The Trout Lake Historical Society was awarded \$2205.00 and the Township was awarded \$14,577.90 for the construction of a 126 ft fishing pier near the boat launch in the campground. The Trout Lake IGA has also donated \$1,500.00 toward the project. The total cost of the pier will be approximately \$30,000.00 and will be funded from the Campground reserve funds (less grant and donation monies). The pier will be handicap accessible, hand rail on one side with an eighteen ft Tee at the lake end. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Seconded by Trustee Manshum to purchase the pier from Pier d'Nort. Voice vote: All 'yes' and no 'nay' votes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

## New Business:

1. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Seconded by Treasurer Ellis to adopt the 2025 meeting schedule, second Tuesday of each month and 6:30 pm. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion passed unanimously.**
2. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Seconded by Clerk Loomis to appoint Crystal Schwesinger, John Simaz and Jeff Sindles to the Board of Review for two years. Voice vote: All 'yes' with no 'nay' votes. **Motion passed unanimously.**
3. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Seconded by Trustee Simpson to keep John Clark and the Township Fire Chief. Voice vote: All 'yes' and no 'nay' votes. **Motion passed unanimously.**
4. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Seconded by Treasurer Ellis to keep Supervisor Blake-Thomas as our representative on the Straits Area EMS board. Voice vote: All 'yes' and no 'nay' votes. **Motion passed unanimously.**
5. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake -Thomas and Seconded by Trustee Simpson to assign the position of FOIA Officer to Clerk Loomis. Voice Vote: All 'yes' and no 'nay' votes. **Motion passed unanimously.**
6. The assignment of non-statutory duties was made making Supervisor Blake-Thomas Campground Manager and Clerk Loomis Township Hall Manager and Cemetery Manager.
7. **Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Seconded by Trustee Simpson to hire Crystal Schwesinger to clean the Township Hall replacing Gary and Loretta Loomis. Voice Vote: All 'yes' and no 'nay' votes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

## Public Comments:

1. The Pride group was thanked for decorating the Mini Park "especially the candy canes".
2. The Pride group stated that they had spent \$900.00 for Christmas gifts for the children of Trout Lake.

## Board Comments:

1. Trustee Simpson requested that the board confirm their intent to continue keeping the Christ Chapel available to the Historical Society. The Board stated that they had no intention of using the facility for anything else.

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- Supervisor Blake-Thomas thanked the previous members of Township Board for their service.

**Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to pay the bills as submitted by Clerk Loomis. Seconded by Trustee Simpson. The motion approved unanimously by the Board Members in attendance with a voice vote.

Supervisor Blake-Thomas motioned to adjourned the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gary L. Loomis  
Trout Lake Township Clerk