

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 February 11, 2025, Minutes

Attendance: 9

The meeting at the Hall was called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Blake-Thomas. The Pledge of Allegiance followed by Roll Call of the Board Members: Supervisor Blake-Thomas, Treasurer Ellis, Trustee Manshum and Trustee Simpson were present. Clerk Loomis was absent. A quorum of the Township Board was in attendance. A **Motion** was made by Trustee Simpson to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025 Board Meeting as written. The Motion was seconded by Treasurer Ellis and **approved** by voice vote of the Board Members.

Public Comments: No public comments were made.

Clerk's Report: Gary L. Loomis, Clerk

1. There was no report due to the absence of Clerk Loomis.

Treasurer's Report: Melissa Ellis, Treasurer

1. All accounts report dated February 11, 2025 with a total of \$798,713.13 was presented.
2. Tax season is running smoothly.
3. The last day to pay Summer and Winter taxes to the Township Treasurer is February 28, 2025. After February 28, 2025 all unpaid Summer and Winter 2025 taxes must be paid to the Chippewa County Treasurer in Sault Ste. Marie with possible penalties and interest.
4. Treasurer Ellis will be in the office from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm on February 28, 2025, for anyone wishing to pay their taxes prior to them being sent to Chippewa County.

Fire Department Report: John Clark, Fire Chief

1. One run for the month and the insurance company has been billed.
2. NFIRS report done for the month.
3. Fire Department meeting was called with John Clark, Dennis McGowan, Mark Conroy and Crystal Schwesinger attending.
4. Chief Clark noted that the Township will need to purchase new turnout gear for the two new members of the Department. Supervisor Blake-Thomas asked Chief Clark

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to investigate the cost of the equipment so that the Board can determine whether to request a grant to cover the cost.

5. New shocks and struts were purchased and installed on the Fire mini-pumper.
6. New AED batteries and pads were purchased and installed in the 3 Township AEDs.
7. The Fire Department fishing derby is scheduled for February 15, 2025 where the new Argo will be utilized and displayed.
8. **Motion** was made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas, seconded by Trustee Manshum to have MES perform annual flow testing on the Fire Department's SCBAs at a cost of \$368.12. **Motion was approved** by voice vote of the Board Members and Chief Clark will schedule this to be done.
9. Chief Clark has acquired 4 new 800 Pagers at a cost of \$350 each rather than a price of \$750 which was previously quoted and approved. These 4 new Pagers in addition to the 8 Pagers previously provided by Chippewa County are currently being programmed.
10. Chief Clark requested authorization to purchase 12 tabletop charging stations for the new 800 Pagers at a cost of \$89.95 each. **Motion** was made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas and seconded by Trustee Simpson to authorize the purchase at a total cost of \$1079.40. **Motion was approved** by a voice vote of the Board Members.
11. If anyone needs a smoke detector or combo smoke/CO2 detector, please contact Chief Clark at (906) 203-0621.
12. Anyone interested in joining the Fire Department please contact Chief Clark or Assistant Chief Dave Sharp.

Parks and Recreation Committee Report:

1. Had a good turnout for the sledding, ice skating and games event on Saturday, February 9, 2025. Many kids attended and everyone had a good time.
2. A Potluck dinner is scheduled for February 19, 2025 at 5:30 pm, everyone is welcome.
3. A snowshoeing, sledding and ice-skating event is scheduled for February 22, 2025, at noon.
4. The Committee is looking at scheduling a CPR & First Aid class in the April/March time frame, more information to come.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Supervisor Blake-Thomas noted that the March Board of Review will meet on Monday, March 10, 2025 at the Township Hall from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and again on Friday March 14, 2025, from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Anyone wishing to appeal their tax assessment should attend one of the meetings.

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Additional Public Comments:

1. Ron Manshum asked if the Board was taking any action regarding a raise in Chief Clark's compensation. Supervisor Blake-Thomas commented that this matter is under consideration by the Board and may be addressed at the Board meeting in March.
2. Gary Mitchell asked if the Board Meeting in March was on Tuesday or Wednesday. Supervisor Blake-Thomas commented that pursuant to the schedule previously adopted by the Board, the March meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday March 12, 2025.

Board Comments:

1. Trustee Simpson commented that it was nice to see some faces in the audience that do not regularly attend the Board meetings.
2. Supervisor Blake-Thomas thanked the Park & Recreation Committee for hosting the community event last Saturday. It certainly appeared to be well attended and enjoyed by all that showed up.

Supervisor Blake-Thomas adjourned the meeting at 6.51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Loomis

Trout Lake Township Clerk