

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
December 11, 2025, 7:00pm

Call to order 7:00pm Roll Call: Skeans here, Roach here, Bean here, Forrester here, Gomery
Absent 12 residents in attendance

Pledge of Allegiance

Amendments to agenda: None

Review Minutes of Meeting November 13th: Motion by Skeans to approve November 13th meeting minutes second by Forrester with amendment of changing all in favor from 5 to 4. All in favor 4 yes no 0 Gomery absent

Clerks Report: Been in contact with Steve Woodgate County clerk about EV, (early voting), and trying to hammer out the agreement before Mays election. Also still looking for more election officials Election officials will be trained in March or April prior to Mays election.

Treasurers Report: Winter taxes are well underway; some people may notice on their bill a paid line with amount of 1 cent to 4 cents mistake was made in the mileage rounding system and all townships are involved. It's a credit to come off your balance due. Our new assessor, as of yesterday, Tina Fuller and my office have fully balanced on everything. Three CD's have been opened for EMS of 100,000 each so that's done. New credit card payments can be made over the phone and there is a fee from the credit card agency township doesn't get that fee.

Supervisor Report: Annual maintenance on all three generators has been completed for Community center, EMS building and Library. Freezer in kitchen has been repaired and fully operational. Water has been tested and completed. Transfer station signs are made should be arriving soon. Signs will be recycling closed signs blue and an open top closed sign colored green and hung on the gate. Payne and Dolan have received the contract award to start work associated with the TAP grant and contractor meeting will start in February. Timeline should be set. Heart and soul meetings in January the dates are January 5th and the 26th 6:30pm volunteers doing story gathering and concerns. Saturday is a cookie exchange for heart and soul 1-2:30. Presentation of bills: Bills for November are amount of 46,470.64, Payroll is in amount of 51,059.61 grand total of 97,530.25. Motion by Skeans second by Forrester to pay November bills in amount of 97,530.25 roll call Skeans yes, Bean yes, Roach yes, Forrester yes, Gomery absent motion carries.

Correspondence/Recognition/Announcements: Treasurer Bean would like to recognize Dena Allen for the Christmas lighting and the Thanksgiving dinner.

Public Comment: Clerk read an email by David Cords asking the board to look at limitations to AI datacenters and Bit coin farms. We did in November did pass a Resolution to create a Moratorium for one year to stop any bitcoin and AI datacenters from being created in Whitefish Township and to give planning and zoning time to research this and build a bigger plan. The fire victim thanked Supervisor Forrester for responding to the fire and stated that Forrester had helped him on other occasions like pulling his car out. He thanked a neighbor for coming to his assistance he also thanked the community for their support and help during this trying time. Two citizens spoke strongly about their concerns with Fire response and lack of EMS response to the fire. After repeated interruptions, they were asked to leave the meeting. A disturbance then occurred outside when an EMS employee was reportedly chased across the parking lot. When

Sheriff Bitnar responded after 911 calls were made, the disturbance had already ended, and the 2 people had already left.

Aileen Bitnar spoke about the need for changes to Fire and EMS responses. Aileen will have public questions and will be addressed at the January 8th meeting.

EMS Director Gray reported that Whitefish Township EMS was never paged to respond to the fire and because the Central Dispatch distributed new 800mhz pagers to the Chippewa County fire departments but not to EMS agencies, Whitefish Township EMS VHF radios cannot receive Whitefish Township Fire 800mhz dispatches. (In other words, Chippewa County Fire and EMS departments operate with incompatible paging systems.) Gray requested that the Board contact Central Dispatch about Whitefish Township's EMS need for 800mhz radios. Gray stated that Whitefish Township will need to purchase the newer 800mhz radios at considerable expense for Whitefish Fire and EMS to hear each other's dispatches. The board previously discussed how understaffed Fire is.

Fire Report: Fire chief Loren Degeler recommends the board appoint Brandon Hatrick as deputy chief. Motion by Roach to appoint Brandon Hatrick as assistant chief of Whitefish Fire second by Bean Allin Favor 4 yes 0 No Gomery absent.

EMS: Report read and given.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Zoning has a meeting Friday night to set the meeting schedule for 2026.

Planning Commission: Planning commission met and has a agenda item to be discussed tonight.

Wilderness Station (old groomer barn): Per resolution from last month, Forrester makes a motion, so the minutes reflect that the sale of the wilderness station property id 016-219-001-50 has been sold and purchased by Danny and Ingrid Scheid in the amount of 130,000 closing date to be determined. Second by Roach all in favor 4 yes 0 No Gomery absent.

Intercept Agreement Luce County Ambulance: Forrester makes a motion to approve a rewritten agreement with Luce with Mutual Aid removed from the contract second by Skeans Roll call, Forrester yes, Skeans yes, Roach yes, Bean yes, Gomery absent motion passes.

Chippewa County Road Commission Property: No new info and still waiting for the title to clear the state of Michigan to remove the reverter clause from the county to the township. And then the environmental company can do their walkthrough 30 days prior of the close so this will be delayed by May.

Letter of Support ORV trail along M-123: Cori Krause living on North Superior Drive I would like to request the board to draft a letter to support the DNR to build an ORV connector trail from trail 8 along 123. Skeans makes a motion to support the ORV trail along trail 8 and 123 second by Bean. All in favor 4 yes 0 no Gomery Absent.

Planning Commission proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments: Planning has some definition changes to approve changes to rentals, structural wordage and dates on the renewal process. And water test reporting is less strict. Forrester makes a motion to table until next meeting January 8th gives board members time to review. Second by Skeans all in favor 4 yes 0 no Gomery absent motion carries.

Schedule Workshop with Fire/EMS/board: Clerk Roach and Treasurer Bean want to set in on this workshop as the 2 board members. And hopefully have it taken care of before the next board meeting. Renee Gray will work on getting an appropriate date for all parties.

Adjournment: Motion by Bean to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm second by Roach all in favor 4 yes 0 no Gomery absent motion carries.