

Trout Lake Township

32686 W H40

PO Box 215

Trout Lake, MI 49793

906-569-3291

Supervisor: David Blake-Thomas

Clerk: Gary Loomis

Treasurer: Melissa Ellis

Trustee: Laurey Simpson

Trustee: Susan Manshum

Township Board Meeting September 9, 2025

Attendance: 16

The Trout Lake Township Board Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Blake-Thomas. The Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Roll Call of the Board Members: Supervisor Blake-Thomas, Treasurer Ellis, Trustee Manshum, Trustee Simpson and Clerk Loomis were present, there was a quorum. Trustee Manshum made a **Motion** to approve the August 12, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes as written, seconded by Trustee Simpson. **Motion** was **approved** by voice vote.

Public Comments: Mary Fischer-Sharp Thanked Jean Beaudoin for all the time she had put into maintaining the flowers in the Mini Park. The Pride Committee is getting a quote for the removal of a tree in the Mini Park.

Clerk's Report: Gary L. Loomis, Clerk

1. September 2025 Expense Report Totaling \$26,776.24 was presented. The major expenditures were at the Campground covering Start-up costs.
2. **Motion** was made by Treasurer Ellis, seconded by Trustee Simpson to approve the Clerk's report. **Motion** was **approved** by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Melissa Ellis, Treasurer

1. The total for all Township Accounts was \$ 606,778.92 as of 8/29/2025.
2. September 15th is the last day to pay taxes. Treasurer will be at the Township Hall from 9 to 5.
3. Supervisor Blake-Thomas stated that the Township has had a Thirty-Four (34%) increase in revenue from that of five years ago. Many of our expenditures have been paid with Grants that we have acquired.

Fire Department Report: John Clark, Fire Chief

1. One run for the month, power pole line behind the Buckhorn. The Nfirs report was completed.
2. Fire Meeting called, Dennis McGowan, Crystal Schwesinger, Dave Sharp, Mark Conroy and John Clark attended.
3. Wildland Gear Grant paperwork has been submitted to the DNR for payment.
4. The Fire Department will need to have CPR/AED recertification by April 2026, Chief Clark will get this scheduled.
5. Issues have occurred with some smoke detectors sounding alarms without reason. Contact Chief Clark at 906-203-0621 if you have a problem

Campground Report: David Blake-Thomas, Supervisor

1. The Campground Fall Fest is the first weekend of October. There will be many activities, face painting, pumpkin carving, campsite décor competition, craft show and a DJ at the Pavillion in the evening.
2. The 40 ft storage shipping container will be delivered soon at a cost of \$9400.
3. The **Park closes Monday October 13, 2025.**

Park & Recreation Committee Report:

1. Two Pot Luck Dinners are scheduled for October 15th and November 12th at the Township Hall 6:00 pm.
2. A tree lighting ceremony is planned at the Mini Park on Saturday December 13, 2025

Old Business:

Proposed Ordinance

Supervisor Blake-Thomas presented to the Board a proposed **Trout Lake Township Data Center Ordinance** that was created by a legal firm in Okemos, MI. He discussed each item in the ordinance and addressed all

September 9, 2025

Trout Lake Township
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Trout Lake Township

questions asked. The ordinance would regulate a newly created permit process put in place by the Township to establish reasonable and uniform regulations for such projects.

After a lengthy discussion Supervisor Blake-Thomas made a **motion**, seconded by Clerk Loomis, that the Board adopt the **Trout Lake Township Data Center Ordinance 2025-1**. A roll call vote proceeded as follows: Trustee Simpson-Yea, Trustee Manshum-Yea, Treasurer Ellis-Yea, Supervisor Blake-Thomas- Yea and Clerk Loomis-Yea. There were no Nays. The **Trout Lake Township Data Center Ordinance 2025-1 was Adopted**. Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Clerk Loomis will complete the legal process for implementation.

New Business:

1. **Sault Tribe 2% Grant:** Supervisor Blake-Thomas requested ideas concerning the areas that we could use for our Grant Application. He stated that Trail Riders and Historical Society representatives had already spoke with him requesting inclusion. The Township will also include EMS Training costs. No other options were offered by the Board or the Audience. Clerk Loomis made a **motion**, seconded by Trustee Simpson, to submit a Grant request to the Sault Tribe for the following Trail Riders \$2500, EMS Training \$4000, Historical Society \$3000. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.
2. **Michigan SOS Mobile Office** visit was a success and they will return November 18, 2025.
3. **2025/2026 Winer Snow plowing.** Clerk Loomis made a **motion**, seconded by Treasurer Ellis, to hire Mark Beaudoin again this year to take care of the plowing needs of the Township. The cost will be \$80 for the Hall and \$40 for the Fire Station. There will be no charge for the use of his loader to push piles back if needed. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.
4. The Township Office Computers are at the end of their life. Support for Microsoft 10 is going away and our computers cannot be upgraded to Microsoft 11. New computers are needed. A **motion** was made by Trustee Manshum, seconded by Treasurer Ellis to purchase the necessary equipment. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.
5. Supervisor Blake-Thomas will be scheduling a Flu Shot Clinic at the Hall again this year and will post the date and time as soon as it is available.
6. 2026 Early Voting (9 days), which is required by our State Constitution, was a topic of a meeting attended by Clerk Loomis concerning the 2026 election year cooperation agreements between townships. The 2025 Election Coordinator and host voting location are opting out of those positions for the 2026 Election. Without a new agreement we will have to provide our township the nine days of early voting here at the Hall which would increase our Township expenditures. The committee has until April 2026 to agree on solutions to the issues concerning this matter. There will be more information to come on this topic.

Additional Public Comments:

Traffic speed issues are a significant problem in Trout Lake. Everyone is concerned and would like to know what can be done to slow the vehicles down? Different things have been tried but nothing has worked. Supervisor Blake-Thomas stated that MDOT controls M123 and the Township cannot do anything without their permission. Supervisor Blake-Thomas said that he will speak with the Road Commission about the issue.

Pay Bills: Clerk Loomis made a **Motion**, seconded by Trustee Simpson, to Pay Bills. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.

Supervisor Blake-Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,


Gary L. Loomis

Trout Lake Township Clerk

September 9, 2025

Trout Lake Township
An Equal Opportunity Employer