

TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP  
PO Box 215  
Trout Lake, MI 49793  
906-569-3291 Phone

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

---

**Township Board Meeting August 12, 2025**

**Attendance: 22**

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 July 8, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes as written, seconded by Trustee Simpson. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.

**Public Comments:** No Public Comments.

**Clerk's Report: Gary L. Loomis, Clerk**

1. August 2025 Expense Report Totaling \$25,815.89 was presented. The major expenditures of \$6905.86 for DNR Grant (Fire Equipment purchase), Township Spring Cleanup and Campground seasonal Cloverland electric costs.
2. The Chippewa County Road Commission has reimbursed the Township \$2000.00 toward the Brining cost.
3. Shute Oil and Propane Pre-Buy Plan was presented. The cost per gallon in the 2025-2026 season is \$1.69. The Township used 2248 Gallons in 2024-2025 and has \$941.73 in its account from the 2024-2025 season. A **Motion** was made by Clerk Loomis and seconded by Trustee Simpson to Pre-Buy \$3500.00 of Propane for the 2025-2026 Season. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.
4. **Motion** was made by Trustee Simpson, seconded by Treasurer Ellis to approve the Clerk's report. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report: Melissa Ellis, Treasurer**

1. September 15<sup>th</sup> is the last day to pay taxes. Treasurer will be at the Township Hall from 9 to 5.
2. The Board needs to decide how to proceed with the invested money in CD/Money Markets that are maturing.

**Fire Department Report: John Clark, Fire Chief**

1. One call from an I phone reporting a crash on H40. No Phone or crash found. The Nfirs report was completed.
2. Fire Meeting called, Dennis McGowan, Crystal Schwesinger, Dave Sharp, Brian McMillan, Rod Butson, David Blake-Thomas and John Clark attended.
3. Trout Lake's call signs with Central Dispatch have been changed to add Trout Lake's "City" code of "15". The new call numbers will be 1501, 1502, 1503.... instead of 1, 2, and 3....
4. The Polaris Ranger needs to be serviced for the winter season. Supervisor Blake-Thomas made a **Motion**, seconded by Clerk Loomis, to take the Ranger to Blake Ellis for the service needs. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.

**Campground Report: David Blake-Thomas, Supervisor**

1. The Park is on track to match last year's revenue.
2. A **Motion** was made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas, seconded by Trustee Manshum, to purchase a 40 ft storage container for the winter storage of the fishing pier at a cost of \$5000 to \$10,000. The container would also relieve some other park storage issues. **Motion was approved** by voice vote.
3. Trustee Simpson suggested that life saving rings be purchased and placed on the fishing pier.
4. Heavy rains caused wash outs of some roads and beach. These have been repaired.
5. The Campground Fall Fest is the first weekend of October. The Park closes Monday October 13, 2025.

August 15, 2025

Trout Lake Township  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

**Park & Recreation Committee Report:**

1. Two Pot Luck Dinners are scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup> and November 12<sup>th</sup> 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:**

1. The new phone system was installed and is operational. The main hall phone restricts outgoing calls to 911 only.
2. Significant discussion ensued concerning a shipping container data center in Trout Lake with many people voicing their fears relative to what they have heard and read concerning similar issues in other communities. Supervisor Blake-Thomas explained that Trout Lake Township does not have Zoning and therefore the Board has no power to stop the owner of any parcel from using it the way they want. Supervisor Blake-Thomas and Clerk Loomis attended the Court Hearing being held for the Dafter data center law suit. Very little came forth from the proceedings except an order for mediation between the two parties as a first step. More information to follow as it develops.

**New Business:**

1. Supervisor Blake-Thomas brought up the item of creating an ordinance to address the concerns related to noise. It would be best if the Township hired an attorney that has experience working with Noise Ordinances in case we are taken court by an unhappy Township land owner. Supervisor Blake-Thomas made a **Motion**, seconded by Trustee Simpson, to let the Supervisor find an attorney that would meet our needs. **Motion** was **approved** by voice vote
2. Straits EMS is putting together an EMT Class to prepare individuals to take the tests to become a licensed EMT. Supervisor Blake-Thomas ask the board if Trout Lake Township would be interested in reimbursing the participants for the cost of taking the class and passing the exams. Trustee Simpson made a **Motion**, seconded by Clerk Loomis, that we should pay up to \$2000 to each person to cover their cost of getting licensed. **Motion** was **approved** by voice vote.
3. Supervisor Blake-Thomas reminded everyone that the Mobile Secretary of State Office will be at the Hall August 26, 2025 from 11 to 1, for your convenience.

**Board Member Comments:**

1. Trustee Manshum stated that it was a good meeting "turnout" this evening.

**Pay Bills:** Supervisor Blake-Thomas made a **Motion**, seconded by Trustee Simpson, to Pay Bills. Voice vote with all Ayes and no Nays, **Motion** passed.

Supervisor Blake-Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gary L. Loomis

Trout Lake Township Clerk

August 15, 2025

Trout Lake Township  
An Equal Opportunity Employer