

TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

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Supervisor: David Blake-Thomas
Clerk: David Hillman
Treasurer: Laura Sindles
Trustee: Laura Simpson
Trustee: Gary Loomis

Township Board Meeting, June 13, 2023 Minutes

Attendance: 60

Meeting at the Township Hall called to order at 6:30 PM, by Supervisor Blake-Thomas. The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call of Board Members; Supervisor Blake-Thomas, Treasurer Sindles, Trustee Loomis, and Clerk Hillman Present, Trustee Simpson absent. A quorum of the Township Board was in attendance.

1. **Motion** by Trustee Loomis to approve the general meeting minutes May 9, 2023. Second Treasurer Sindles Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
2. **Motion** by Treasurer Sindles to approve the special meeting minutes May 23, 2023. Second Trustee Loomis Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Guest Speaker: Highline, Bruce Moore, CEO

1. Highline announced that Giga Bit fiber internet to each home will be installed in Trout Lake Township beginning in July 2023 with installation scheduled for completion in August 2023.
2. Pledged support of the community including being a sponsor of the 2023 July 4th parade.

Public Comments:

1. Thank you to Mark Mullens and Sons Plumbing for donating a water pump for the Mini-park.
2. Fireworks were ordered and scheduled for July 1st in the park at dusk.
3. No softball tournament is planned for this year at the Trout Lake ball field.

Clerk Report: David Hillman, Clerk

1. Detailed expense report dated June 13, 2023 for items totaling \$41,959.14.
2. Chippewa County Commission reported on legislature pending on mandatory 5-year sewer and well inspections that could affect all property owners in the township.
3. FOIA request for 2020 election information was again received and response sent.
4. **Motion** by Trustee Loomis to accept the Clerk report. Second Treasurer Sindles Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Treasure Report: Laura Sindles, Treasurer

1. Bank balance report dated May 31, 2023 with a total of \$ 509,273.57 was presented.
2. Summer tax bills will be mailed by the bill printing company in the last week of June.
3. 2023 park expenses were paid out of the general checking account. A transfer from the Park account to the general checking account of ~\$75,000 will be made to balance those accounts.
4. **Motion** by Clerk Hillman to accept the Treasurer report. Second Trustee Loomis Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Fire Department Report: John Clark, Fire Chief

1. No runs for the month of May and the NFIRS Fire Report was entered for the month
2. Fire Department meeting with Dave Sharp, Rod Butson, Dennis McGowan, Eric Butson, David Blake-Thomas, and John Clark present.
3. New batteries purchased for the mini-pumper
4. Ranger reconfigured for summer use.
5. Run 0041023 invoice payment received \$1950.
6. Mark Conroy passed written test and practical is still pending.
7. DNR grant will support gear for new firefighter.
8. Check the DNR website for open burning restrictions.
9. MI Fire Grant program request for \$10,000 has been submitted
10. If interested in joining the Fire Department please contact John Clark 906-203-0621.
11. Advance of \$150 for candy for the 4th of July parade requested.
12. **Motion** by Treasurer Sindles to accept the Fire Department report. Second Trustee Loomis Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously**

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Straits Area EMS Report: Supervisor Blake-Thomas

1. Four ambulance calls to Trout Lake since the last meeting.
2. New St. Ignace ambulance building construction site ground breaking 3 pm Friday June 16th.
3. **Motion** by Clerk Hillman to accept the EMS report. Second Treasurer Sindles Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Park Report: Supervisor Blake-Thomas

1. Shower renovation was completed. All shower stalls now have functioning temperature and flow controls.
2. Reservations for 3600 nights have been booked as of 13 June compared to 4000 for all of 2022.
3. Boat launch was dredged. A levee to hold back silt from entering the launch area is being considered.
4. Park office porch deck and support structure was replaced.
5. **Motion** by Trustee Loomis to accept the park report. Second Treasurer Sindles Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Old Business:

1. Adjustments to the FY2023 budget were proposed. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to amend the FY2023 budget as indicated on the list presented. Second Treasurer Sindles Roll call vote: Supervisor Blake-Thomas Yes, Treasurer Sindles Yes, Trustee Loomis Yes, Clerk Hillman Yes, Trustee Simpson absent. All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
2. Blight complaints were presented.

Public Hearing on FY2024 Proposed Budget:

1. Fiscal Year 2024 proposed budget was presented and reviewed. No public comment or questions.

New Business:

1. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to adopt a resolution titled Fiscal Year 2024 Trout Lake Township General Appropriations Act. Second Trustee Loomis. Roll call vote: Supervisor Blake-Thomas Yes, Treasurer Sindles Yes, Trustee Loomis Yes, Clerk Hillman Yes, Trustee Simpson absent. All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Supervisor declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted on the 13 day of June 2023.**
2. Resolution #23-04 2023 Poverty Exemption Guidelines Resolution: **Motion** by Clerk Hillman to adopt the Resolution #23-04 that establishes the 2023 poverty exemption guidelines to be used by the Board of Review. Second Treasurer Sindles Roll call vote: Supervisor Blake-Thomas Yes, Treasurer Sindles Yes, Trustee Loomis Yes, Clerk Hillman Yes, Trustee Simpson absent. All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried and resolution adopted.**
3. A draft of a Township Noise Ordinance was presented for future consideration.

Public Comment:

1. Trout Lake water level control suggested to raise the lake water level.
2. Trees need to be trimmed/removed in the Mini-park and on the Chapel property.

Board Comments:

Supervisor Blake-Thomas: Congratulations to Stefanie Clark named Employee of the Year at Lake Superior Academy (ISD)

Motion made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to pay the bills as submitted by Clerk Hillman. Second Trustee Loomis. Motion approved unanimously by the Board Members in attendance with a voice vote.

Supervisor Blake-Thomas adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



David Hillman
Trout Lake Township Clerk