

# TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

PO Box 215  
Trout Lake, MI 49793  
906-569-3291 phone  
906-569-3772 fax

Supervisor: David Blake-Thomas

Clerk: David Hillman

Treasurer: Laura Sindles

Trustee: Laura Simpson

Trustee: Gary Loomis

---

## Township Board Meeting, July 11, 2023 Minutes

Attendance: 15

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, Trustee Simpson, and Clerk Hillman present. A quorum of the Township Board was in attendance.

1. **Motion** by Trustee Loomis to approve the general meeting minutes of June 13, 2023 as written. Second Treasurer Sindles Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Public Comments:

1. Thank you from the Pride Committee to all that helped make the 4<sup>th</sup> holiday a successful celebration.
2. Thanks to the Pride Committee for championing the 4<sup>th</sup> activities, holding fund raising activities throughout the year, coordinating the parade, fireworks, and Mini-park Craft fair.
3. A lot of supportive comments on the fireworks display being well presented.
4. The 'no personal fireworks in the park' request was well received and contributed to a relaxed and festive atmosphere.

### Clerk Report: David Hillman, Clerk

1. Detailed expense report dated July 9, 2023 for items totaling \$19,062.59 was presented.
2. Chippewa County Commission was attended.
3. With the grand total expenditure for the FY2023 year being under budget a **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to amend two FY2023 Budget items 101-101-700 Legislative from \$45,000 to \$48,208.08 and item 101-261-700 Other Government from \$27,500 to \$30,198.88. Second Clerk Hillman 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**
4. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas 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 June 30, 2023 with a total of \$ 498,727.57 was presented.
2. Summer taxes are being collected with treasurer office hours of Tuesdays 9 to 5 and Saturdays 11 to 3.
3. **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 June and the NFIRS Fire Report was entered for the month
2. Fire Department meeting with Dave Sharp, Rod Butson, Dennis McGowan, Mark Conroy, David Blake-Thomas, Brian McMillan, and John Clark present.
3. Thank you to all that helped to make the holiday safe with no incidents to report.
4. Chief Clark will attend a fire investigation class.
5. Yellow caution tape, red danger tape, and restrictive paint will be ordered.
6. Check the DNR website for open burning restrictions.
7. Fire Department volunteers did a fine job contributing to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.
8. If interested in joining the Fire Department please contact John Clark 906-203-0621.
9. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to accept the Fire Department report. Second Treasurer Sindles Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously**

### Straits Area EMS Report: Supervisor Blake-Thomas

1. No ambulance calls to Trout Lake since the last meeting.
2. New St. Ignace ambulance building construction on track to finishing this year.
3. New ambulance (~\$275,000) is needed with possible funding by the federal government.
4. **Motion** by Trustee Loomis to accept the EMS report. Second Trustee Simpson Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously**



# TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

---

## Park Report: Supervisor Blake-Thomas

1. Reservations so far this year are more than all of 2022 as of this report
2. No incidents in the park over the 4th thanks to Alan, Crystal, Brian, Dan, and Jeremy as park monitors.
3. The showers are reportedly working well and the upgrade was appreciated by the campers.
4. **Motion** by Trustee Simpson to accept the park report. Second Treasurer Sindles Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## Old Business:

1. The Trout Lake Township Hall debt of ~\$18,000 will be paid off in full this month. The 2023 winter property tax bills will be adjusted to remove the appropriate millage.
2. A draft of a Township Noise Ordinance was presented in detail with significant discussion. A decision on adoption of this ordinance was postponed to the August Board meeting.

## New Business:

1. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to approve a pass-through grant of \$3,000 to the Trout Lake Historical Society. Second Clerk Hillman. Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
2. Highline fiber internet \$200 connection fee discussion. Board to consider paying the entire connection fee for all residences (~500 buildings) in Trout Lake Township from the Township general fund.
3. Chapel needs repairs to railings and soffit. Trustee Loomis will get estimates. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to approve the repairs subject to review and approval of the estimates by the Supervisor and Clerk prior to the work. Second Trustee Simpson. Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
4. Chapel dead tree needs to be removed. **Motion** by Clerk Hillman to authorize Davis Tree, Newberry to remove the tree for an estimate cost not to exceed \$800. Second Supervisor Blake-Thomas. Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**
5. Concern of cars parking at the Mini-park too close to the railroad tracks during events. All actions deferred.

## Public Comment:

1. The trimming of the large tree in the Mini-park will stay the removal for a year to see if it recovers.

## Board Comments:

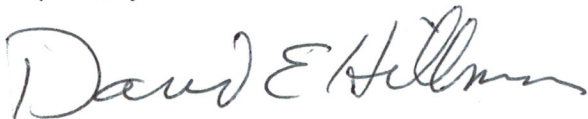
Supervisor Blake-Thomas:

1. Speed limit sign entering Trout Lake on H40 from the west. Check with CCRC for a new sign.
2. Thanks to the Pride for all the great work making the parade, fireworks, craft sale a success. The Women's Club ice cream social on Sunday was also well attended.
3. Next year add a Board staffed dunk tank on the 4th with kudos to the one with the most donations raised.

Trustee Simpson: The Mini-Park looks great.

**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 motioned to adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



David Hillman  
Trout Lake Township Clerk