

# TROUT LAKE TOWNSHIP

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Supervisor: David Blake-Thomas

Clerk: David Hillman

Treasurer: Laura Sindles

Trustee: Laurey Simpson

Trustee: Gary Loomis

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## Township Board Meeting, February 13, 2024 Minutes

Attendance: 12

The meeting at the Township Hall was 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 Simpson, and Clerk Hillman were present, Trustee Loomis absent. A quorum of the Township Board was in attendance.

1. **Motion** by Treasurer Sindles to approve the general meeting minutes of January 9, 2024 with minor typo of the year corrected on the minutes title. Seconded by Trustee Simpson Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comments: None

Clerk Report: David Hillman, Clerk

1. Detailed expense report dated February 13, 2024 for items totaling \$9,003.11 was presented.
2. Attended one CCRC meeting.
3. Presidential Primary Election set for EV 17<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> and Vote Day Feb 27<sup>th</sup>.
4. Discussion about EV Tabulator order.
5. **Motion** by Treasurer Sindles to accept the Clerk's report. Seconded by Trustee Simpson Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Treasure Report: Laura Sindles, Treasurer

1. Bank balance report dated January 31, 2024 with a total of \$575,259.32 was presented.
2. Winter taxes are being accepted in person. Office hours Feb 29, 2024 9am-5pm
3. **Motion** by Trustee Simpson to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Clerk Hillman 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 January and the NFIRS Fire Report was entered for the month
2. Fire Department meeting with Dave Sharp, Brian McMillan, and John Clark present.
3. Need 6 extra 800 pagers which will be tested.
4. Residential smoke/CO detector installs continue, if interested call 906-203-0621.
5. Fishing derby cancelled due to weather/ice conditions. Raffle of auger on the 17<sup>th</sup> as planned.
6. Check the DNR website for open burning restrictions.
7. Grant opportunity for skid unit that attaches to the brush truck. If awarded will cover 100%.
8. Recertification needed for CPR that expires in April. Community may take class too.
9. If interested in joining the Fire Department, please contact John Clark 906-203-0621.
10. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to approve purchase of the new Turn out gear for approximately \$2400 that has a grant approved for 50% match. Second by Trustee Simpson. Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously**

Straits Area EMS Report: Supervisor Blake-Thomas

1. One ambulance call to Trout Lake since the last meeting.
2. The new EMS building is nearing completion by end of February or early March.
3. Oldest ambulance is scheduled to be replaced later in the summer.
4. **Motion** by Clerk Hillman to accept the EMS report. Seconded by Trustee Simpson Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously**

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## Old Business:

1. All township board positions are up for new terms in the 2024 election cycle.
2. Smoke alarms for the Hall that work to notify app users through Simply Safe. Quantity needed is 12 units for each separate area of the building. **Motion** by Trustee Simpson to purchase the detectors at a cost of approximately \$400. Seconded by Treasurer Sindles Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## New Business:

1. March Board of Review Org Meeting March 5<sup>th</sup>, Protest Meeting March 11<sup>th</sup>, 10 – 5pm and March 12<sup>th</sup> 4 – 9pm.
2. Grants deadlines for Graymont and the Tribe are approaching at the end of March.
3. Federal spending recommendations to the Senators are due now.
4. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas have the Trout Lake Township board express support for the Trout Lake Trail Riders Tribe grant request for a trail maintenance magnet. Second by Clerk Hillman. Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously**
5. **Motion** by Treasurer Sindles to approve the KCI assessment printing and mailing contract as presented. Second by Trustee Simpson. Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously**
6. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to approve Resolution titled "Annual Guidelines Resolution for Poverty Exemption" Seconded by Treasurer Sindles Roll call vote: Supervisor Blake-Thomas 'yes', Treasurer Sindles 'yes', Trustee Simpson 'yes', and Clerk Hillman 'yes', Trustee Loomis absent. All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously with those present.**
7. **Motion** by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to authorize the Board to cover the cost of attendance at the MTA Annual Meeting of any current or prospective board member. Second by Trustee Simpson. Voice vote: All yes with no 'Nay' votes. **Motion carried unanimously**
8. Board Compensation change proposal to separate the statutory from non-statutory duties to allow the compensation to be provided to those providing that service to the township. Last changes were from 13 to 17 years ago. Adjustments will be considered by July 2024.

## Public Comment:

1. Improvements to Molly Gibson was brought up.
2. Veterans memorial for a common area in Trout Lake would be welcome.
3. Proposed bike paths to separate bike riders from the high-speed local roads.

## Board Comments:

Supervisor Blake-Thomas: New recycling unit is not well received. Molly Gibson and Wilwin road improvement discussion may be combined with a more comprehensive road maintenance plan.

Clerk Hillman: Trout Lake pickleball at the Rudyard Elementary School at 1pm on each Sunday. All are welcome to participate.

**Motion** made by Supervisor Blake-Thomas to pay the bills as submitted by Clerk Hillman. Seconded by Trustee Simpson. The motion approved unanimously by the Board Members in attendance with a voice vote.

Supervisor Blake-Thomas motioned to adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



David Hillman

Trout Lake Township Clerk