

APPROVED MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET
AND
PINE TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Drews, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

PRESENT: William Drews, Supervisor; Marla Sprague, Clerk; Misty VanGessel, Treasurer; Darcy Krause, Trustee;
Rodney Palmer, Trustee

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Julie Drews, Deputy Supervisor; Barbara Kaaikala, Deputy Clerk; Steve Buchholz, Zoning
Administrator

BUDGET HEARING

Drews proposed the 2025-2026 budget as follows:

Revenue \$422,200.00 Expenditures \$422,200.00

Sprague moved, supported by VanGessel, to approved the revenue and expenditures for the 2024-2025 budget.

Roll call vote: Krause – Yes; Palmer – Yes; Drews – Yes; VanGessel – Yes; Sprague – Yes. MOTION CARRIED

Millage Rates: Operating Fund 0.7857 Fire Levy 0.9989

VanGessel moved, supported by Sprague, to approved the operating fund and fire levy millage rates.

MOTION CARRIED

Pine Township Board Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Mileage Rate: \$.65 per mile

Hourly Wages: \$18.75 per hour, or per Board approval

Zoning Administrator: \$500.00 per month, plus \$15.00 per Zoning Permit and \$20.00 per Land Division Permit

Sprague moved, supported by VanGessel, to approve the Zoning Administrator salary and permit fees.

Roll call vote: Yes – VanGessel, Drews, Krause, Palmer, Sprague No – (none) MOTION CARRIED

Board Member Salaries:

Supervisor \$14,000.00/year

Clerk \$15,500.00/year

Treasurer \$14,000.00/year

Trustee \$175.00 per meeting

Palmer moved, supported by VanGessel, to approve board member salaries.

Roll call vote: Yes – Krause, Palmer, Drews, Sprague, VanGessel No – (none) MOTION CARRIED

Assessor: \$16.25 per parcel (1458 parcels) = \$23,692.50 per year (check number of parcels), plus land division applications at \$15.00 each.

Sprague moved, supported by VanGessel, to approve the assessor fees.

Roll call vote: Yes - Palmer, Drews, VanGessel, Sprague, Krause MOTION CARRIED

Planning Commission Meeting Dates: 07/14/25 at 5:00 P.M., 10/13/25 at 5:00 P.M., 1/12/26 at 5:00 P.M.,
04/13/26 at 5:00 P.M.

Sprague moved, supported by VanGessel, to approve the planning commission meeting dates.

MOTION CARRIED

Authorize the Clerk and Treasurer to pay utilities and only the bills due before the monthly Board meeting.

Cemetery Sexton is to be paid at the time payment is received for burials.

Election workers are to be paid at the first Board meeting following the election.

VanGessel moved, supported by Sprague, to approve payment of utilities & bills, cemetery sexton, and election workers as outlined.

MOTION CARRIED

Township Depository for 2025-2026 – Community First Federal Credit Union, Lakeview, Michigan

VanGessel moved, supported by Sprague, to approve the township depository.

MOTION CARRIED

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to adopt the proposed 2024-2025 budget

Roll call vote: Yes – Drews, Sprague, VanGessel, Krause, Palmer. No - (none)

MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET HEARING ADJOURNMENT/CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Sprague moved, supported by Palmer, to adjourn the budget hearing at 7:26 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED

The regular Board meeting was called to order at 7:27 P.M.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to approve the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

APPROVAL OF MAY 12, 2025 MINUTES

Krause moved, supported by Palmer, to approve the minutes as written.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

- **Treasurer/Financial Reports/Bank Update (on file)**

Treasurer report was provided. BS&A update to be installed soon.

Palmer moved, supported by Sprague, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Zoning Administrator Report – Steve Buchholz, Zoning Administrator**

4 zoning permits and 1 demolition permit were issued in May.

The court found in favor of the township on 4/21/25 in the Phillips blight issue and authorized the township to initiate cleanup should the property fall into non-compliance. The property currently looks acceptable, but Phillips has appealed the cleanup ruling and a court date will be set to hear the appeal.

- **Road Report – Bill Drews, Township Supervisor**

Bill from Road Commission for chloride application has been received. Additional bills will be received soon so that the remaining funds from the 2024-2025 budget year can be used up.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Fire District Report – Bill Drews, Township Supervisor**

12 runs in May, 2 being in Pine Township. There was 1 fire training graduate. Steve Fisk, Pine Township representative, is recovering from colon surgery. Monthly training was hydrants and irrigation wells. There will be no meeting in July.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Cemetery Report – Marla Sprague, Township Clerk**

Several lots were sold in May. An American Elm tree in Riverside Park has died. Drews will seek bids for removal in the Fall. Sprague requested authorization for Vicki Shindorf and her to attend the June, 2024 MTA cemetery workshop in Mount Pleasant.

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to authorize up to \$500.00 for Sprague and Shindorf to attend the conference and to purchase the cemetery book published by MTA.

Roll call vote: Yes – Palmer, Krause, Drews, VanGessel, Sprague. No – (none)

MOTION CARRIED

- **Library Board Report – Jamie Gorby/Jeremy Korpel**

None

- **Supervisor Report – Bill Drews**

Four Seasons Extermination has requested contract renewal.

West Pine Cemetery pump needs replacement. Drews will look at options for consideration at July meeting.

Will obtain bids on Riverside elm tree removal and south border upkeep

Seeks board volunteer for a parks/recreation committee for planning and development.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause to accept the Supervisor report.

- **Clerk Report – Marla Sprague**

Road Commission storm water workshop August 21, 2025 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Montcalm chapter MTA meets Tuesday, June 17, 2025

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Planning Commission Update – Darcy Krause**

3 chapters of the township ordinances remain to be worked on. Drews shared that the Master Plan will be included when a public hearing on the ordinances is scheduled.

Palmer moved, supported by VanGessel, to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- **SPRING LAKE LOT #1 – letter to lot owners**

Attorney Tim Orlebeek's secretary is on vacation. Drews was unable to obtain an update on the sending of the letter to lot owners.

- **COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE – BLIGHT ORDINANCE UPDATE**

Drews read a letter by Katherine Ginster regarding a proposed enforceable blight ordinance for townships and that Ginster indicated that Sheriff Williams intends to hire a part-time officer whose duty would be enforcement of township ordinances within the county.

- **TACOMA LAKE DRIVE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT REQUEST UPDATE**

Mark Mitchell approached Drews regarding how to request a special assessment for road upkeep on the Tacoma Lake private drive.

NEW BUSINESS

- **HALL RENTAL BY NON-RESIDENTS**

VanGessel suggested authorizing rental of the Township Hall by non-residents of the Township. Sprague will prepare a proposed contract to be discussed at the July meeting.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to table action to the July board meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

- **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING** June 30, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. Drews will notify members.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to pay checks 4106 – 4143 for monthly bills in the amount of \$15,032.78, and Hunter Lake check 549 in the amount of \$1,638.17.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dawn Sweet, Pine Township resident, commented on blight ordinance enforcement and sheriff's department staffing issues.

Leslie Rydahl, Pine Township resident, noted a numerical error for correction on the township website and asked about speed limits on private drives.

BOARD FINAL COMMENTS

Drews noted that Montcalm Sheriff Lieutenant Tom George has retired.

ADJOURNMENT

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sprague
Pine Township Clerk

Minutes typed by Barbara Kaaikala