

APPROVED MINUTES
PINE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Drews requested the addition of 14 A Blight Ordinance to the agenda.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the amended agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Dawn Sweet asked the Board to pass the CREO recommendations from the Planning Commission.

Vinnie Trierweiler supports keeping control at the township level and adopting the CREO recommendation

Leslie Rydahl supports local control and adoption of CREO

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 13, 2025 Regular Board Meeting; October 28, 2025 Special Meeting, Tacoma Lake Special Assessment Request; October 28, 2025 Special Meeting, Newell PA 116 Application

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to approve the minutes from all three meetings.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

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

Treasurer report was provided. CD's have been updated to the higher rate.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

3 zoning permits were issued and 2 land division applications were received in October. \$220.00 in receipts was turned in. No communication has been received from the Moore's Lake cabin owner. A second violation letter will be mailed. Will send a second letter to Gordon Cross regarding the blight and fowl on his property.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

Will meet with county road commission in December to plan 2026 Township road work.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

12 runs in October, none being in Pine Township. Training was extrication.

Sprague moved, supported by VanGessel to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

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

The meeting needs to be rescheduled to view Montcalm Township's cemetery software.

Drews will meet with Jordan Selesky to build the well house in West Pine Cemetery.

Bunker Tree service has finished the tree/stump work in Riverside Cemetery

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Library Board Report (Jamie Gorby/Jeremy Korpai)**

No representative present

- **Supervisor Report – Bill Drews**

Will meet regarding the siren. A new modem will be installed for the new fiberoptic installation.

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Clerk Report – Marla Sprague**

Funds from Local Stabilization Department can be used for public safety.

Local MTA meeting will be held December 9, 2025 at Douglas Township.

New election equipment will be required before the 2028 elections. Cost estimate \$15,000.00

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Planning Commission Update – Darcy Krause**

Krause presented the PC recommendations for wind, solar, and battery CREO ordinance approval.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to adopt ordinance 2025-11-10A (wind), ordinance 2025-11-10B (solar), and ordinance 2025-11-10C (battery storage).

Roll call vote: Yes – Palmer, Drews, Sprague, Krause, VanGessel

No - None

MOTION CARRIED

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- **Spring Lake Lot #1 Update**

Drews contacted Tom Smith of Cenaire Title as recommended by attorney Tim Orlebeke. Smith expects to complete the deeds by the end of this week.

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Township Website ADA Compliance**

James Hohler reported that the Pine Township website must be ADA compliant by April, 2027. The website is 59% compliant at this time. He reported quotes from two companies to bring the website into compliance.

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

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

- **Public Comment Protocol During Board Meetings**

Drews presented proposed policy for public comment during Board meetings.

Sprague moved, supported by Palmer, to adopt the proposed Public Voice Rules and Decorum and that the document be displayed in the Hall.

MOTION CARRIED

- **County Junk Ordinance**

Drews reported on the recent meeting at the Montcalm County Sheriff's Department informing townships of the County junk ordinance and the County request that townships adopt the ordinance.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to pay checks 4319 – 4347 for monthly bills in the amount of \$11,092.77.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Hohler supports public comment protocol

Steve Buchholz supports public comment protocol

Dawn Sweet commented on blight ordinance and enforcement

Leslie Rydahl noted (in regard to public comment) that the public doesn't know the agenda prior to the meetings, grace should be given when citizens are not prepared with their comments

Vinnie Trierweiler asked whether public safety funds could be used toward the ADA compliant website

BOARD FINAL COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sprague
Pine Township Clerk

Minutes typed by Barbara Kaaikala