

APPROVED MINUTES
PINE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Drews, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, moment of silence in recognition of the passing of former Trustee Lynwood Cannon, and prayer.

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

ABSENT: None

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

VanGessel moved, supported by , to approve the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Laura Pullen Johnson – Conservation District and 4-H millage renewal is on the August Primary ballot. Drews and Sprague noted that Fire District and Commission on Aging millages are also on the ballot.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 8, 2026 BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Drews requested correction on page 3, the Winfield Township contract is for 10 years, not 3.

VanGessel moved, supported by Krause, to approve the minutes as corrected.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

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

Treasurer report was provided.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

3 zoning permits were issued and one land division application received in June. \$130.00 in receipts was turned in.

Drews & Buchholz met with the Phillips on Friday, July 10 to inspect for compliance. As of that date the property was in compliance.

A letter was mailed today to the owners of the Stauffer property on Hunter Lake to address a blight issue. The new computer software was very helpful in drafting the letter.

The billboard frame at the corner of Johnson Rd/Stanton Rd has not been addressed.

Drews noted that the cabin on Moore Lake has been removed and the area cleaned up.

The Township has 3 zoning districts, each having different rules. Buchholz suggests that blight regulations specific to each district may need to be compiled.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

Second chloride application has been applied.

Sprague explained the projects for which the remaining 2025-2026 road funds were used.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

No meeting in July. Palmer donated several mannequins to the fire department.

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

3 burials in Riverside Cemetery in June; 2 burials in West Pine Cemetery.

Drews and Jordan Selesky replumbed the pump In West Pine Cemetery and the pump is now working.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

Krause read Gorby's report. The bookmobile is under construction. Annual budget has been passed. Library

Director is undergoing the periodic evaluation. Fence has undergone repair. Privacy partitions and lockers will be installed for employee use.

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

- **Supervisor Report – Bill Drews**

MDOT has submitted an offer to pay Pine Township \$1,300.00 for a drain easement on Hall grounds along M-91 in anticipation of the 2027 road work.

Sprague moved, supported by VanGessel, to authorize the agreement.

MOTION CARRIED

Hall fire extinguishers have been inspected and brought up to date.

Pitcher Perfect will do some trimming in the cemetery to make mowing easier.

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Clerk Report – Marla Sprague**

Public notices of board salary and 2026-2027 monthly board meeting dates were published in the Daily News.

Explained budget adjustments due to high road repair and attorney expenses in June.

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Planning Commission Update – Darcy Krause**

VanGessel is compiling a list of addresses of residents and property owners for the mailing of the community survey. Kent Communications, Inc (KCI) will mail at a lower cost than McKenna.

Drews will check with the County and confirm that the County junk ordinance and enforcement contract documents are current. The planning commission voted that, if the documents are current, the Board adopt the ordinance and enforcement contract.

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- **Emergency Siren** - Report with fees and photos delivered to Brenda Tater
- **DTE Natural Gas Installation**- Meter set and hookup has been completed
- **West Pine Cemetery Water Pump** – is now working

NEW BUSINESS

- **Election Preparation**

Preliminary Accuracy Test was performed. The Public Accuracy Test will be performed July 14, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. Immediately following the Board meeting tonight will be the meeting to appoint election inspectors for the August 4, 2026 Primary Election. All election inspectors are either already trained or on schedule to be trained.

Ballots have been mailed to voters on the permanent ballot list. Voters on the permanent application list were mailed a letter with their application informing them that the list will be discontinued and they can either join the permanent ballot list or make application without automatic mailing prior to each election for which they desire an absentee ballot.

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Hall Grounds - Broken Basketball Hoops**

Palmer will research cost-effective replacements.

VanGessel moved, supported by Sprague, to table action to the August, 2026 meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to pay checks 4601 – 4650 for monthly bills in the amount of \$91,150.22.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Kaaikala asked the Board to consider expanding the Hall parking lot in the future.

BOARD FINAL COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sprague
Pine Township Clerk

Minutes typed by Barbara Kaaikala