

APPROVED MINUTES
PINE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

APPROVAL OF JULY 13, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

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

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS

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

July Treasurer report was provided.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

4 zoning permits were issued and no land division applications in July. \$120.00 in receipts was turned in.

The individual renting the blight property on Hunter Lake Drive responded to the letter that was sent. Buchholz inspected the property on 8/10/26. Clutter still remains, but the heavy equipment has been removed; the complaint is considered closed.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

Project on Briggs Rd from Johnson Rd. to Youngman Rd. completed. Gravel of Newcomb Rd. completed.

Dickerson Lake Rd. top seal/gravel completed. Monroe Road gravel job is also completed

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

29 runs in June and July, 2 being in Pine Township.

June training was aerial, July training was grain bin rescue.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

4 burials in Riverside Cemetery ; 1_in West Pine Cemetery.

Pitcher Perfect doing cleanup in Riverside Cemetery; West Pine pump still has issues.

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

MOTION CARRIED

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

No representative present

- **Supervisor Report – Bill Drews**

Grant applications for Township improvements must be submitted by September 12, 2026. Brenda Taeter seeking feedback on grants for tree planting and other township grounds improvements.

Drews will not run for Supervisor in 2028, encouraged township citizens to run. Applications must be submitted by April 28, 2028.

MSU Extension presenting a wind/solar seminar in September

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Clerk Report – Marla Sprague**

1481 registered voters in the township, 28% turnout (includes in person & absentee voters, does not include early voting voters); statewide turnout was 35%

19 in-person voters during Early Voting

268 absentee ballots mailed, 203 returned

1 overseas ballot was mailed, was not received back before the deadline

General Election November 3, 2026

The Montcalm MTA meeting will be on Thursday, August 20 at the Road Commission Building in Stanton.

RSVP's are due on Friday 8/14/26.

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

MOTION CARRIED

- **Planning Commission Update – Darcy Krause**

Master Plan survey was mailed, several mail and online responses have been received. Some citizens have reported issues with the survey link on the township website. Krause will seek to have McKenna repair the issue. Once the survey period has ended, McKenna will help the PC with survey analysis (as part of their contract).

The next Planning Commission meeting is Monday, October 12, 2026 at 5:00 PM

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer to approve the report.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- **HALL GROUNDS BASKETBALL HOOP/BACKBOARD**

VanGessel moved, supported by Drews, to approve up to \$150.00 for repair of the hall grounds

hoop/backboard. Roll Call vote: Krauss; Sprague; Palmer; Drews; Vangessel all voted yes, no votes none.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

- **BENJAMIN TYLER – ENCROACHMENT ON NORTH SIDE OF TWP HALL GROUNDS**

Letter has been mailed regarding two small buildings on concrete and propane tank mounted on township property. There has been no response. Drews has checked with the Register of Deeds and there is nothing that allows this use of Township property. He has gone to the house to attempt contact. A certified letter will be sent providing a time limit for response before further action is taken.

- **TAX AUDIT SUMMARY** – Letter received from State of Michigan stating the Twp. has met standards.

- **LOCAL BUSINESS – INTERRUPTIONS DUE TO 2027 ROAD WORK**

M-91 will undergo full repair from 5 Corners to Stanton Road. The entire roadway is expected to be closed. Drews will seek to learn beginning and ending dates and whether access to local businesses will be allowed. Once known, the information will be placed on the township website.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

VanGessel moved, supported by Palmer, to pay checks 4651 – 4692 for monthly bills in the amount of \$131,477.38 plus ACH to US Treasury in the amount of \$880.60.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Graham suggested a pickleball court on the hall grounds; suggested putting the Supervisor opening on the township website; noted that June and a portion of May board minutes are not on the website.

Dawn Sweet commented on the size of the current ball diamond/space not available for regulation size.

James Hohler sought date of next blood drive at Twp. Hall – September 28, 2026

BOARD FINAL COMMENTS

Palmer thanked Sprague and election workers for their work on the election. As a trustee/member of the road committee, has driven every road in the township to learn the conditions/see how to best serve residents.

ADJOURNMENT

Palmer moved, supported by Krause, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sprague
Pine Township Clerk

Minutes typed by Barbara Kaaikala