

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 14TH, 2025 – 7:30 pm
In Office at 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI. 494404
www.wrighttownshipottawami.gov

[Approved at June 11, 2025 Board Meeting](#)

Supervisor VanTimmeren called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Board members present include Supervisor VanTimmeren, Clerk Theresa Frank, Trustee Rick Schoenborn, and Trustee Brad Anderson. Treasurer Sharyl Dietrich was absent. The meeting was held at the Township Office, 2024 Cleveland St. E. Coopersville, MI. 49404.

APPROVE AGENDA and ADDITIONS

- Motion made by Schoenborn supported by Anderson to approve the Agenda with the contingency to change 7e, to 7f, and put Approve or Deny Resolution 2025-05-06 in 7e. Four (4) ayes, motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVE

- Motion made by Frank supported by Anderson to approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$89,434.52, for April 2025 expenditures, and to accept as information the Treasurer's report as written. Four (4) ayes, motion carries,
- Motion made by VanTimmeren, supported by Frank to approve Board meeting minutes from April 09, 2025, and Election Commission meeting minutes from April 21, 2025. Four (4) ayes, motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Dennis Umlor asked the Board if we knew what all the activity with power lines in the area was about. The Board did not have an answer.
- Deb Ruegsegger offered comment regarding the Ax MI. tax group. Reporting that Karla Wagner will have a meeting with the public at Tallmadge Township on June 11, 2025, opening doors at 6:00 p.m., with speaker Wagner starting at 6:30 p.m.
- R.J. Graftema asked questions regarding his property that is connected to the township's property. He requested information on fencing for his yard, he feels excavation has made his property pool more water, and he said that the setback between his property and the parking lot is not 15'. The fencing will be discussed at the next meeting with the Committee on Township Owned Land. The rest will be looked into.
- Patrick Brechting was looking for more information on the Farm Labor Amendment that is being looked at by the Planning Commission. Supervisor let him know there will be a public hearing on that subject at the next Planning Commission meeting on Monday May 19, 2025.

REPORTS

- Ottawa County Commissioner District 11 – Allison Miedema was not at the meeting to give a report.
- Fire report was given by Fire Chief Mike Gavin. He reported; April had somewhat of a lower call volume, 20 calls for Wright, 48 for Talmadge, and 6 assistance calls. May has been

extremely busy with significant calls. Everything from shootings to cars hitting houses. We have four (4) Cadets at the Fire Academy that will be graduating in June, 2025.

- The new Town Hall Committee report was given by Steve Quirk. He reported that a survey would be going out with the taxes for residents' input. The committee would like to make a masterplan for the future of the property. With this in place they would be able to take advantage of Grants for the property. Quirk spoke about getting the quotes for the property privacy fence needed to separate Mr. Graftema property from the Township property. The Township sign was then discussed. Supervisor and some of the residents felt the price was too high. Supervisor suggested a sign much like the Fire Station's sign.
- Under the Committees report Supervisor brought up the easement drive on the Township property. It needs to be wider, and more gravel needs to be put down.
- Senior Services; no report.
- Planning Commission report was given by Anderson. He reported there is a public hearing for work being done on an amendment to the Farm Labor Housing Ordinance. And another public hearing for a Special Use for an applicant from Lakeshore Concrete Pumping. Both are on Monday, May 19th, 2025,
- Election Report was given by Frank. She reported the May Election went well, and that there will be no more elections in 2025. Frank thanked the Election Inspectors for the long hours and for the challenging work they provided. Starting in 2026 the Township will be holding the nine days of early voting at the Township Hall. Many more Inspectors will be needed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Structural report from Prein & Newhof for the Fire Station was discussed. There are repairs that need to be made, but the building is sound.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ordinance 2025-05-01, regarding an amendment to the Township cemeteries, was tabled to June Board Meeting due to a correction needed.
- Ordinance 2025-05-02 regarding fencing in the Township is tabled to June Board Meeting due to a request from the Fire Chief to have a second look to possibly adding language for pool fencing.
- Schoenborn moved to approve Resolution 2025-05-03, regarding REU adjustment for Comerica property with the contingency that it be changed to 1 REU instead of 0 REU. Anderson supported, Four (4) ayes, motion carried.
- Cheryl Clark, Ottawa County Treasurer, was at the meeting to talk about Resolution 2025-05-05, regarding Tax Foreclosure Avoidance Payment Reduction Program. Frank motioned to approve Resolution 2025-05-05, and VanTimmeren supported this motion. Four (4) ayes, motion carried.
- Schoenborn motioned to approve Resolution 2025-05-06, regarding waiving penalties under Section 27b(1)(c)(d) of the General Property Tax Act. This was supported by Anderson. Roll Call; four (4) ayes, no nays, and one (1) absent. Motion carried.
- Board discussions. Handling expenditures for the Fire Department. After much discussion with Chief Gavin and several Fire Department members, it was decided that the Fire Department will purchase a new Lawn Mower for that building's mowing. It has also been agreed that the Fire Department will receive an agreed upon amount from the Township budget, which they will use for the building needs, to spend without board approval. Receipts for these purchases will be

turned into the Clerk. For larger projects, the Board and the Fire Department will work together.

- Frank motioned to approve AAA Lawn Care to apply three (3) applications of fertilizer on the Cleveland St. lawn. Anderson supported this motion, four (4) ayes, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

- None

BOARD COMMENTS

- Anderson and Frank commented that they appreciate that the Supervisor is extremely cautious when approving the taxpayer's money being spent.

ADJOURN MEETING

- Supervisor adjourned meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully prepared by Theresa Frank, Wright Township Clerk.

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(Any documents referenced in these minutes are on file in the Clerk's office)