

**Powell Township Board**  
**Board Meeting**  
**PO Box 319, 101 Bensinger, Big Bay 49808**  
**January 18th, 2022 7PM**  
**~~Draft Minutes~~**  
**Approved February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

1. Call to Order at 7pm by Supervisor
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call of Officers: Darlene Turner (Supervisor); Kelli Santilli (Treasurer); Karen December (Trustee); Mitch Walker (Clerk); Absent: Denise Hudson (Trustee)
4. Approval of Agenda: motion to approve agenda with additions *listed below* (Santilli/December) All yes, motion carried.
  - a. New Business: Ambulance \$372 for batteries for EMS Polaris Ranger from Marquette Powersports
5. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Motion to approve December 21st, 2021 Minutes *after corrections* (Walker/Santilli) 4 yes, 1 opposed, motion passed.
    - i. Clerk Walker Fire Department Meeting correction to last "Sunday" of month.
    - ii. Trustee December requested that she be more accurately quoted in future minutes - feels that she is not fully heard.
6. Revenue & Expenditure Report: Motion to approve Revenue & Expenditure Report *after discussion* (Santilli/December). All yes, motion carried.
  - a. Supervisor Turner: ARPA not in expense; questions with Auditor
  - b. Treasurer Santilli: requested Clerk review of Treasurer Office Supplies expense account.
7. Treasurer's Report: Thank you to the Treasurer
8. Approval of Bills: Motion to approve Bills to be Paid (Santilli/Turner). All yes, motion carried
  - a. Turner thanks Clerk for description of each check in the Bills to be Paid report.

**Committee & Department Reports**

1. Ambulance Dept: T. Vargo, ambulance coordinator, gives report virtually; 3 calls; 1 student still going through EMT school; 1 vehicle out of service, the side by side; looking to upgrade side by side this year; will want to present at next board meeting.
2. Emergency Management: K. Bourgeois, emergency manager gives report; All is good; Thank you to Joanne Fortin for volunteering.
3. Fire Department: C. Sutter, Fire Chief gives report; zero calls since last meeting; 2021 had 33 calls - a 250% increase from last year; 4 grants recently awarded.
4. Parks & Rec: S. Gonstead, Parks and Recreation Chair gives report; nothing much to report; presenting matching 550 grant
5. Planning & Zoning: D. Turner, Supervisor, gives report; with new schedule of meetings there will not be a January Planning Commission Meeting; the committee will meet at regular schedule time in February
6. Sewer Department: P. TenEyck, Powell Township Custodian, gives report by paper; All is good
7. Water Department: D. Turner, Supervisor, gave report.
8. Correspondence:
  - a. 1 letter of opposition to Spaceport; See attachment
9. Presentations: Mike Springer presenting for Big Bay Stewardship. sign presentation look and location
  - a. Clerk M. Walker- discussion on how this brings people to the area
  - b. Clerk M. Walker- discussion on placing on new posts
  - c. Trustee December- cost to township discussion
  - d. J. Gertz- Should Big Bay Lighthouse, also a tourist attraction, be included in signage?

- i. M. Springer- would have to consider all private businesses but at this time focusing on natural, county or township owned landmarks

**Public Comment:**

1. J. Gertz- Spaceport information on website hasn't been discussed because last meeting of Spaceport Committee was canceled
2. J. Baumann (virtual) – requests spaceport committee information on website

**In-person Comment:**

1. Gertz- compliments fire Chief for approved grants

**Unfinished Business:**

1. Spaceport Advisory info on township website
  - a. Motion to approve Spaceport Advisory info on township website *after discussion* (December/Walker). All yes, motion carried.
    - i. Clerk M. Walker: met with member of Spaceport Advisory - Phil Bakken
      1. Information will be located on website Resources Page with 4 or 5 links to different websites that aren't maintained by township and 4 or 5 document links
    - ii. Treasurer K. Santilli: disclaimer needed that information posted to the website is not Board opinion and/or Township official position.

**New Business:**

1. Ambulance Department: Motion to approve \$372 total for batteries for EMS Polaris Ranger from Marquette Powersports (December/Santilli). All yes, motion carried.
2. Fire Dept –
  - a. Motion to approve backpack mount for \$130.00 (Santilli/December). All yes, motion carried.
  - b. Motion to approve two Gas Detectors for total of \$5,000.00 (Walker/Turner). All yes, motion carried.
  - c. Motion to approve Fire Danger sign for \$1,658.00 (Santilli/Walker). All yes, motion carried.
  - d. Motion to approve fifteen pairs of Wildland FF Boots for \$3,675 *after discussion* (December/Walker). All yes, motion carried.
    - i. Grant Coverage Discussion: the cost for the Fire Danger sign and boots above is the total amount to be approved and represents the Townships 50% share of the total cost while the DNR grant covers the remaining 50%.
  - e. Record Management Software \$1,354.00
  - f. Tablets/County CAD & Mapping \$7,146.00
    - i. Supervisor Turner- recommends tabling issues. States these feels like the rescue boat situation that ended up costing township monies after the grant was awarded without board prior approval
    - ii. Trustee December- feels there have been issues tabled and never solved. Requests that these items be placed on next month's agenda
    - iii. Clerk Walker- further information is needed
    - iv. Supervisor Turner- these grants were not approved by the Board prior to the acceptance
    - v. Motion to table New Business Fire Department e. & f. above until next month's meeting *after discussion* (Santilli/Turner). Roll call vote: Turner, yes; Santilli, yes; December, no; Walker, yes; Hudson, absent Supervisor declares the motion passed.
3. Parks n Rec

- a. Motion to approve \$400 for Port-a john at Draver Park Trailhead/ parking lot *after discussion* (Santilli/Walker). All yes, motion carried
      - i. Donated vs. General Fund Discussion
        1. not specified so out of General Fund
4. Resolution for **Board Members wages 2022-2023**
  - a. Motion to approve Supervisor yearly salary for 2022-2023 at \$10,000 with no increase (December/Santilli). All yes, motion carried.
  - b. Motion to approve Clerk yearly salary for 2022-2023 at \$12,0000 with no increase (Santilli/December). All yes, motion carried.
  - c. Motion to approve Treasurer yearly salary for 2022-2023 at \$10,000 with no increase (December/Walker) All yes, motion carried.
  - d. Motion to approve Trustees per meeting rate at \$65 with no increase for two trustees, Denise Hudson and Karen December (Santilli/Walker). All yes, motion carried.
5. Motion to approve **Resolution for Summer and Winter Tax Collection** *after discussion* (Walker/December) Roll call vote: Turner, yes; Santilli, yes; December, no; Walker, yes; Hudson, absent Supervisor declares the resolution passed.
  - a. Annual resolution that has to be passed but no changes from last year.
6. Motion to approve **Resolution for Treasurer to Invest Funds** (Walker/December) Roll call vote: Turner, yes; Santilli, yes; December, no; Walker, yes; Hudson, absent Supervisor declares the resolution passed
7. Motion to approve **Powell Township Cross Connection Program** *after discussion* (Santilli/Walker).
  - a. Required renewal
8. Motion to approve **Resolution to adopt Powell Township Cross Connection Ordinance** (Santilli/Walker) Roll call vote: Turner, yes; Santilli, yes; December, no; Walker, yes; Hudson, absent Supervisor declares the resolution passed.
9. Motion to approve **Powell Township Water Emergency Response plan** *after discussion* (Santilli/December). Roll call vote: Turner, yes; Santilli, yes; December, no; Walker, yes; Hudson, absent Supervisor declares the resolution passed
  - a. Prepared by Emergency Manager and available in Township office for public
10. Motion to approve **lawyer, Roger Zappa, rate increase** from \$114.00 to \$120.00 an hr. Set for three years *after discussion* (Walker/Santilli)
  - a. Employed for 16 years by township
  - b. Trustee December: Lawyer usage discussion
11. MTA Spring Conference Jan25 lodging opens, early bird rates by March 25th Discussion
  - a. Trustee December- not joining
  - b. Supervisor Turner would like to join virtually
  - c. Clerk Walker would like to attend - will have to check with schedule to determine in person or virtual.
  - d. Treasurer Santilli would be okay with virtually

**Public Comment:**

1. K. Bourgeois: free at-home covid tests through United States Postal Service to order online through covidtests.gov
2. J. Gertz- Blight Concerns and Blight Ordinance Concern
  - a. Supervisor Turner clarified that there is a procedure that exists to follow for Blights
  - b. Trustee December feels workshop for Township Ordinance updates is needed
    - i. Wants further enforcement

**Board Comment:**

- Treasurer Santilli- MTA Marihuana Opt-in after opt-out rules not as simple
- Supervisor Turner- Marihuana Opt-in was tabled for further discussion; lawyer should be drafting legal side of ordinance; hopefully they will be ready at next meeting in February 2022

**Next Meeting Regular Board Meeting February 15th, 2022 7:00 pm**

**Adjourn 8:09pm**

Minutes prepared by  
Samantha Morin  
Powell Township Recording Secretary

Final approval/edit  
Mitch Walker  
Powell Township Clerk