

Powell Township Board
Board Meeting
PO Box 319, 101 Bensinger, Big Bay 49808
February 15th, 2022 7PM
~~**Draft Minutes**~~
Approved 3/15/2022

1. Call to Order at 7pm by Supervisor
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call of Officers: Darlene Turner (Supervisor); Mitch Walker (Clerk); Kelli Santilli (Treasurer); Karen December (Trustee); Denise Hudson (Trustee)
4. Approval of Agenda: motion to approve agenda with additions *listed below* (Hudson/Santilli) All yes, motion carried.
 - a. New Business 10. Budget Amendment Sewer Wages
 - b. New Business 11. Board of Review Dates
5. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve January 18th, 2022, Minutes (Santilli/Walker) 4 yes, 1 no.
6. Revenue & Expenditure Report: Motion to approve (Walker/Santilli) All yes, motion carried.
7. Treasurer's Report: No questions. Thank you to the Treasurer
8. Approval of Bills: Motion to approve Bills to be Paid (Hudson/December) All yes, motion carried.

Committee & Department Reports

1. Ambulance Dept: T. Vargo, ambulance coordinator, gives report; 5 calls; 1 going through EMT school, everything is going well
2. Emergency Management: K. Bourgeois, emergency manager, gives report via Supervisor Turner; nothing is coming up
3. Fire Department: C. Sutter, Fire Chief gives report; 2 calls; generator install complete; Thanks to Peter TenEyck
4. Parks & Rec: S. Gonstead, Parks and Recreation Chair gives report; Thomas Rock looking great; Thanks to Peter TenEyck and Daryl Wilcox for plowing; recruiting for concert series sub committee
5. Planning & Zoning: meetings starting @ 7pm on February 16th, 2022; waiting for Master Plan to be approved by Board
6. Sewer Department: P. TenEyck, Township Custodian gives report; everything good
7. Water Department: D. Wilcox, Water Operator gives report; it's going all right; "let run" is continuing; water use for "Let Run" is no bigger than pencil lead or fast drip; ask D. Wilcox or P. TenEyck for further let run questions
8. Correspondence:
 - a. Letter of opposition to Spaceport; *See attachment*
 - b. Letter of appreciation to Pete TenEyck for duties at Powell Township transfer station by JR Root, transfer station attendant, which have aided in smooth running of the transfer station *See attachment*
9. Presentations:
 - a. Thomas Tarkleson and Drew Juntila delivered a presentation on Recreational Marihuana (see *attached slides*).
 - i. Both are looking for support from Powell Township Board to change the Opt-out Ordinance so that they could apply for permits for Marihuana growing operations near Big Bay. They are looking to obtain class B (500 plants) recreational grow licenses.
 - ii. Presentation covered current state laws, security of property, State regulations and licensing, and common concerns
 - iii. Suggested Township Board use Municipal Guide created by MRA (Marijuana Regulatory Agency) for further information

iv. Q&A:

- (1). Trustee Hudson: visibility concerns for school busses
- (2). Trustee December: growing vs. selling discussion
- (3). P. Bakken (from public): tax advantages from sale taxes discussion
- (4). J. Gertz (from public): current neighbors of D. Juntilla and T. Tarkleson discussion
- (5). C. Sutter (Fire Chief): preplan sprinkler system, fire plan, and State vs. Local fire inspection concerns and discussion
- (6). T. Vargo (Ambulance Coordinator): odor mandates discussion
- (7). Clerk Walker: energy requirements discussion
- (8). Trustee Hudson: well water ratio discussion
- (9). P. Bakken: what are options to those who are petitioning Township Board to change to Opt-in discussion

Public Comment: None

Virtual Comment: None

Unfinished Business:

1. HMC Donation Record Management: Motion to approve HMC Donation for Record Management *after discussion* (Hudson/December) 4 yes, 1 no, motion passed.
 - a. Treasurer Santilli: two years could be covered by grant by verbal agreement; estimated \$1,000 - \$1,200 per year further cost to township
 - b. Discussion between Supervisor Turner and Trustee December about additional costs to township; spending wisely; pre-approval of grants by Township Board; and Board management of fire department expenditures.
 - c. Clerk Walker: integrating with dispatch; communication benefits; GPS capabilities importance
2. HMC donation Tablets/County CAD & Mapping: Motion to approve for four tablets using HMC donation *after discussion* (Santilli/December) 4 yes, 1 no, motion passed.
 - a. Estimated \$480 additional cost each year with \$40 for Verizon data and \$150 County CAD & Mapping fee per year

New Business:

1. Ambulance Department: Motion to approve side by side purchase for total of \$28,500 with majority from donated funds and \$5000 from Township General funds *after discussion* (December/Santilli). All yes, motion carried.
 - a. Discussed in 2021-2022 Budget Planning
 - b. ARPA designation discussion
 - c. Selling old side by side discussion - possible \$5000 to \$8000 to go back to donated funds or reimburse the Township General Fund for \$5,000 used to purchase the side by side.
2. Fire Dept
 - a. Motion to approve retirement of Dustin Taylor (Hudson/Walker). Motion amended by Hudson to: Motion to approve retirement and to give helmet to Dustin Taylor (Hudson/December). All yes, motion carried.
 - b. Motion to approve Extrication Hose for \$1250 *after discussion* (Santilli/Hudson) 3 yes, 2 no, motion passed.
 - i. Budgeted funds discussion; short on funds concerns
 - c. Motion to approve replacement AED for \$1470 *after discussion* (December/Walker) 2 yes, 3 no, motion failed
 - i. Grant Coverage discussion

- ii. Budget concerns; wait till the new budget year (April 1st) discussion
 - d. Motion to table Fire Corps Auxiliary Pilot Program till next month for pros & cons *after discussion* (Turner/Santilli) 3 yes, 2 no, motion passed
 - i. Clerk Walker- excellent way to develop community strength
 - e. Motion to approve Chainsaw Safety Gear for \$680 *after discussion* (Hudson/Santilli). 4 yes, 1 no, motion passed.
 - i. Number of trees cut discussion
 - ii. Further expenses from donated funds discussion
- 3. Parks n Rec
 - a. Approval to apply for Grants:
 - i. Motion to approve application for MNRTF Historical Trail Easement's with 25% match from Township *after discussion* Grant (Hudson/Santilli). All yes, motion carried.
 - 1. Two volunteers not costing township for the application process
 - ii. Motion to approve application for KBIC 2% help for storage equipment building with no match ~~from Township~~ (Hudson/Santilli) All yes, motion carried.
 - iii. Motion to approve application for Community Foundation Grant for help for storage equipment building with no match (Santilli/Hudson) All yes, motion carried.
- 4. Powell Township Cross Connection Program - Approved January 18th, 2022; verified with minutes
- 5. Powell Township Water Emergency Response Plan- Approved January 18th, 2022; verified with minutes
- 6. Motion to approve Poverty Guidelines for 2022 Resolution increasing base 1 person eligibility to \$15,000 (Santilli/Walker) Roll Call Vote: Hudson, yes; December, yes; Santilli, yes; Turner, yes; Walker, yes
- 7. Motion to approve Letter of support to Marquette County Road Commission for the BBSC Signage *after discussion* (Hudson/Walker). 4 yes, 1 opposed, motion passed
 - a. Trustee December- Concern over fairness of approving this motion as the Township Board did not approve motion for Township support for residents of County Road KB to apply for Scenic Road designation
 - b. Clerk Walker - two good presentations; pros and cons discussion
- 8. Motion to approve one person to attend "Mastering Microsoft Suite 365" NMPSA Class at \$40 (Hudson/Santilli) All yes, motion carried.
- 9. Introduction New Assessor- Dylan Jurasin
 - a. Office Hours Thursday 9am to noon
 - b. Available by cell Monday through Saturday 8am to 7pm
- 10. Motion for budget amendment of \$500 from Sewer Repair and Maintenance to Sewer Wages *after discussion* (Turner/Hudson). All yes, motion carried.
 - a. Clerk Walker asked for details of why this account will be over budget without this transfer and requested a review of the sewer wages expenditures from General Ledger
 - b. Supervisor Turner stated that this is not something that usually occurs
- 11. Motion to approve Board of Review Dates *listed below* (Santilli/Hudson). All yes, motion carried.
 - a. March 8th, 2022: 2:10pm Organizational Meeting
 - b. March 16th, 2022: 3pm to 9pm
 - c. March 18th, 2022: 9am to 3pm

Public Comment:

- 1. M. Anderson- Fighting over fire department spending requests versus other departments having no fighting; fire department requests are thought out; feels disappointed; gives example of the AED from fire department being important for life saving in EMS
- 2. T. Tarkelson- Thanks the Board for being able to present; accepts suggestion to delivery his presentation at Planning Commission meeting
- 3. M. Springer- Thanks the Board for support of BBSC signage

Virtual Comment: None

Board Comment:

1. Supervisor Turner: Personal Statement. Concerned for Fire Department overspending; keeping to the budget concerns; future budget concern
2. Clerk Walker: Election Announcements; No May 2022 Election in Powell Township, but there will be a primary election in August 2022 and general election in November 2022; Looking for volunteers with training available in August; Clerk's office will be contacting previous volunteers soon for the upcoming election.

Next Meeting Regular Board Meeting March 15th, 2022 7:00 pm and will include a 2022 – 2023 Budget Public Hearing

Adjourn 8:35pm

Minutes prepared by
Samantha Morin
Powell Township Recording Secretary

Final approval/edit
Mitch Walker
Powell Township Clerk