

**Powell Township Board Meeting**  
**PO Box 319, 101 Bensinger, Big Bay 49808**  
**March 19, 2024**  
**DRAFT – Minutes**

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1. Call to Order 7:05 pm by the Supervisor
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call of Officers – Darlene Turner (Supervisor) present; Kelli Santilli (Treasurer) present; Mitch Walker (Clerk) present; Karen December (Trustee) present; Denise Hudson (Trustee) absent.
4. Approval of Agenda – **Motion** to approve agenda with the following additions (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
  - a. I.b Mike Springer – SPARK grant, Safe Routes to School
  - b. I.c Mitch Walker – High speed internet access
  - c. 9. Budget Amendments
  - d. 10. Closed Session
  - e. Remove item 8.f
5. Approval of Minutes –
  - a. **Motion** to approve February 20, 2024, board meeting minutes as presented (December/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
  - b. **Motion** to approve February 23, 2024, special board meeting minutes as presented (December/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
  - c. **Motion** to approve March 1, 2024, special board meeting minutes as presented (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
6. Revenue & Expenditure Report:
  - a. **Motion** to approve February 29, 2024, report (Santilli/December). Three (3) in favor, One (1) opposed, motion carried.
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Approval of Bills –
  - a. **Motion** to approve Bills to be Paid (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.

Committee & Dept. Reports:

- A. Ambulance Department:
  - a. No report
- B. Emergency Management:
  - a. No report
- C. Fire Department: Chris Sutter, Fire Chief. See report.
- D. Parks and Recreation Department: Heidi Shatz, P&R Chair.

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---

- a. Easter egg hunt 3/23 at 11:00 am, hot chocolate and cookies will be served
  - b. New gravel will be placed on the Thomas Rock path
  - c. A small connector trail to go from Holy Moses to Thomas Rock will be completed this summer
  - d. Burn's Landing work will be completed late April - May
  - e. Committee forming to determine use of LeClair Cabin contact Lauri Shaw to volunteer
  - f. Givebutter is a web-based way to donate money to P&R events, including Fire on the Bay
  - g. Softball reunion scheduled for 7/4
  - h. Wording for mileage for P&R to be presented at next board meeting
- E. Planning Commission:
- a. No updates
- F. Sewer Department:
- a. No problems
- G. Water Department: Joe Santilli, Water Operator:
- a. 300,000 gallons used last month
  - b. Annual report is complete
- H. Correspondence: country lines and community garden magazines
- I. Presentations:
- a. Cody Sorby – proposal for community garden
  - b. Mike Springer – SPARK grant update, Safe Routes to School property owner notification
  - c. Mitch Walker – High Speed Internet

Public Comment: 3 minute rule:

- 1. Mike Springer, please vote on the letter today

Public Hearing:

- 1. Supervisor opened the public hearing at 7:40 pm to discuss the 24/25 budget
- 2. Correction page 6 line 175 should read "Wages"
- 3. Q – Are increases based on a flat percentage?

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---

- a) No, budgeted amounts are based on estimated increases in cost, budgets from departments
- 4. Q – How do you read the columns going across?
  - a) The headings are on the first page
- 5. Q – How do you determine a wage increase for different positions? Why are the percentages different?
  - a) Requests are made, how long each person has gone without an increase is considered, jobs change based on new or increased responsibilities, what is reasonable based on expectations of performance and time commitment, compensation of similar sized townships in our area
- 6. Supervisor closed the public hearing for the budget of the 24/25 year at 7:50 pm

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

- 1) Ambulance:
- 2) Fire Department:
  - a) **Motion** to approve \$700.00 Gas Stove Station 1 (Santilli/none). No Second, motion failed.
  - b) **Motion** to approve \$424 Annual Fire Station Software RMS Renewal (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
- 3) Park and Rec:
  - a) **Motion** to approve Thomas Rock – gravel \$600.00 (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
- 4) **Motion** to approve Fireworks - Total \$15,000 (Santilli/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
  - Spielbauer \$12,000
  - Marquette County Sheriff \$600.00
  - Banner \$25.00

**Powell Township Board Meeting**  
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---

- 5) **Motion** to approve MCRC 2020 Dust Control \$2,741.76 (Santilli/Walker). Three (3) in favor, One (1) opposed, motion carried.
- 6) **Motion** to approve Dash for Trash – BBSC to use Draver Park May 4, Additional hours for transfer attendant (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
- 7) **Motion** to approve Annual Budget Year 24 - 25 (Santilli/Turner). Roll Call Vote,  
i) Turner – Aye  
ii) Santilli – Aye  
iii) Walker – Aye  
iv) December – Nay  
v) Hudson - absent  
, motion carried. The Supervisor declares the budget passed for 24/25.
- 8) Resolutions:
- a) **Motion** to approve General Appropriation Act (Santilli/Walker). Roll Call Vote,  
i) Turner – Aye  
ii) Santilli – Aye  
iii) Walker – Aye  
iv) December – Aye  
v) Hudson – absent  
motion carried. The Supervisor declares the General Appropriation Act Resolution adopted for 24/25.
- b) **Motion** to approve Sale and Purchase of Real Estate (Walker/Santilli). Roll Call Vote,  
i) Turner – Aye  
ii) Santilli – Aye  
iii) Walker – Aye  
iv) December – Aye  
v) Hudson – absent  
motion carried. The Supervisor declares the Sale and Purchase of Real Estate Resolution adopted for 24/25.
- c) **Motion** to approve Establish Officers Salary (Santilli/Walker). Roll Call Vote,

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- i) Turner – Aye
- ii) Santilli – Aye
- iii) Walker – Aye
- iv) December – Nay
- v) Hudson – absent

motion carried. The Supervisor declares the Establish Officers Salary Resolution adopted for 24/25.

- d) **Motion** to approve Summer & Winter Tax Collection (Turner/December). Roll Call Vote,

- i) Turner – Aye
- ii) Santilli – Aye
- iii) Walker – Aye
- iv) December – Aye
- v) Hudson – absent

motion carried. The Supervisor declares the Summer & Winter Tax Collection Resolution adopted for 24/25.

- e) **Motion** to approve Investment & Depository (December/Walker). Roll Call Vote,

- i) Turner – Aye
- ii) Santilli – Aye
- iii) Walker – Aye
- iv) December – Aye
- v) Hudson – absent

motion carried. The Supervisor declares the Investment & Depository Resolution adopted for 24/25.

~~f) Truth & Taxation~~

- 9) **Motion** to approve Budget Amendments (Santilli/Turner). All in favor, motion carried.

10) Closed Session

- a) **Motion** to approve Supervisor to investigate closed session matter (December/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.

- 11) **Motion** to approve the distribution of Mike Springer's letter to go to property owners affected by the Safe Sidewalks to School proposal (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.

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Public Comment

1. J. Gertz – how do you get a permit for dash for trash on May 4? Come to the township to get a no charge permit.

Board Comment

1. Kelli Santilli – read retirement letter from Pete TenEyck
2. Karen December – we need to look into what revenue can be achieved through regulating short term rentals

Next Meeting:

Regular board meeting April 16, 2024, 7:00pm

Adjourn 8:30 pm

Minutes prepared by:

S. Bevins, Recording Secretary