

Powell Township Board Meeting
PO Box 319, 101 Bensinger, Big Bay 49808
May 21, 2024
Minutes - DRAFT

1. Call to Order 7:00 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) present.
4. Approval of Agenda – **Motion** to approve agenda with the following additions (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
 - a. #9 Fire on the Bay Sheriff
 - b. #10 Solid Waste Building letter of support/not support
 - c. #11 Budget Amendment
 - d. #2e Repair of Lights
 - e. #I Karl Bohnak presentation
5. Approval of Minutes –
 - a. **Motion** to approve April 16, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes as presented (Santilli/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
 - b. **Motion** to approve April 19, 2024, Special Board Meeting Minutes as presented (Santilli/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
6. Revenue & Expenditure Report - **Motion** to approve April 30, 2024, report (Santilli/Hudson). All in favor, motion carried.
7. Treasurer’s Report
8. Approval of Bills – **Motion** to approve Bills to be Paid (December/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.

Committee & Dept. Reports:

- A. Ambulance Department: No report.
- B. Emergency Management: No report.
- C. Fire Department: No report.
- D. Parks and Recreation Department: See report.
- E. Planning Commission: meet this month, discussion regarding outstanding ordinances, voted to have a public hearing at the next meeting, next meeting June 19, 2024.
- F. Sewer Department: water operator attended training to learn about the system
- G. Water Department: annual report was published
- H. Correspondence:

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- a. Eagle mine forum June 4th at the township hall, please do the survey, they are hiring
 - b. Marquette county has a home repair program
 - c. Michigan Planner magazine
 - d. Letter from the Citizens of a Safe and Clean Lake Superior
 - e. Marquette county's rec plan is online, please complete the survey
- I. Presentations: Karl Bohnak

Public Comment: None

Unfinished Business:

- a) Wages for 2024 / 2025 Fiscal Year: **Motion** to approve \$16.00 consistent hourly wage for Parks & Rec Trail Manager (Coty Sorby) (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

1) Ambulance:

- a) **Motion** to approve investigation of upgrades for technology (Turner/December). All in favor, motion carried.

2) Fire Department:

- a) **Motion** to table Fire Department Service Charges Ordinance (Turner/December). All in favor, motion carried.
- b) **Motion** to approve \$1060 Biennial SCBA Quantitative Floe Testing (Walker/December). None in favor, motion failed. Motion passed at the last board meeting.
- c) **Motion** to not accept Retirement Letter from Fire Chief Chris Sutter in lieu of request for letter of resignation (Walker/Santilli). 4 in favor, 1 opposed, motion carried.
- d) MTA Compensating Fire Chief. Discussion, no action.
- e) **Motion** to approve repair of lights on 2104 not to exceed \$1,000 (Walker/Turner). All in favor, motion carried.

3) Park and Rec:

- a) **Motion** to approve applying for \$50K T Mobile Grant additional funding for Draver Park (Hudson/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
- b) **Motion** to approve Music Concert – donated funds, startup \$740.00, (December/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.

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- c) **Motion** to approve \$100.00 Spring Maintenance Paint & Misc (December/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
 - d) **Motion** to approve \$100.00 4th of July parade candy and decoration from donated funds (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
 - e) **Motion** to approve \$1,000.00 for community garden from donated funds (December/Hudson). All in favor, motion carried.
 - f) **Motion** to approve \$3,500.00 for 5-year rec plan (Hudson/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
- 4) Election Training: **Motion** to approve \$100 each for clerk and deputy clerk (December/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.
- 5) Cemetery Sexton: **Motion** to table Joe Biglecki as cemetery sexton (Santilli/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
- 6) UP SET Funding: **Motion** to approve \$600 donation for UP SET Funding (Hudson/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
- 7) County of Marquette ORV Ordinance: **Motion** to table county of Marquette ORV ordinance (Walker/Turner). All in favor, motion carried.
- 8) Water Department: **Motion** to approve \$960.94 for tools for repairs on fire hydrants (December/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
- 9) Fire on the Bay: **Motion** to approve sheriff agreement for \$610.30 for five hours Fire on the Bay coverage (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried
- 10) **Motion** to approve letter of not supporting due to extreme financial difficulties for Solid Waste building (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried
- 11) Budget Amendments:
- a) **Motion** to approve March 31, 2024, budget amendment for \$250.00 (Walker/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Ann Beauchaine – doesn't consider Parks and Rec an essential service, concerned about additional mileage from other departments. Approving to be brought to vote sets a precedence.

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Phil Bakken – agrees with the decision regarding the fire chief to request a resignation rather than accept the retirement and should be easier to find a replacement with a comparatively high salary.

Board Comment:

1. K. Santilli, Treasurer – the mileage was never intended to fund a community building, the amount of the mileage will not fund a community building and grants require that we can show that we can fund the maintenance of the building.
2. M. Walker, Clerk – has a hard time with the fire chief's resignation and is disappointed with the outcome. Shout out to Coty and Scott for organizing the yard behind the township hall.

Next Meeting: Regular board meeting June 18, 2024, 7:00pm

Adjourn 8:28 pm

Minutes prepared by:
S. Bevins, Deputy Clerk