

**Powell Township Board Meeting**  
**PO Box 319, 101 Bensinger, Big Bay MI 49808**  
**October 15, 2024**  
**Minutes - APPROVED**

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1. Call to Order at 7:01 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 (Walker/Hudson). All in favor, motion carried.
  - a. #4 Liaison Policy.
  - b. #5 Backpack Blower (\$571.91) for Buildings and Grounds.
5. Approval of Minutes – **Motion** to approve September 17, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes with revisions (December/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
6. Revenue & Expenditure Report – **Motion** to approve September 30, 2024, Revenue & Expenditure Report (Walker/Santilli). One (1) in favor, four (4) opposed, motion failed.
7. Treasurer’s Report
8. Approval of Bills – **Motion** to approve Bills to be Paid (Hudson/Santilli). All in favor, motion carried.

Committee & Department Reports:

- A. Ambulance Department: D. Turner – no report.
- B. Emergency Management: Prepared by K. Bourgeois/EMS, presented by D. Turner:
  - a. On October 3, 2024, K. Bourgeois met with the Marquette County Emergency Manager, the Red Cross Community Disaster Specialist for Northern Michigan, a Red Cross Volunteer for Marquette County, and the Marquette County Health Department Emergency Preparedness Director, all of whom are working together to survey and assess local emergency shelters in Marquette County. They toured all three township buildings, with the EMS Fire Hall listed as the main shelter, and the Township Office Building listed as the secondary shelter. They also toured the school and both churches. K. Bourgeois is not sure if there will be any official report as a result of their visit, but in their conversation, they felt the main shelters met the criteria and requirements (including backup power, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-assessed restrooms, and kitchen facilities).

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Occupancy numbers were not determined at the time, but each building was measured, and she is assuming she will get the numbers when the survey is completed. That information and other updates will be included in the next Emergency Plan Update, to be done before the end of the year.

- b. If the Board approves, K. Bourgeois would like to open the Food Bank again for Winter, starting in November, at the Halfway Fire Hall. Patty Chapman again has volunteered to open it on the first and third Wednesday of every month. There is food left over, and they will re-stock as needed with the donated funds. If approved, K. Bourgeois will get the dates and information posted. This item was added to today's Agenda as New Business #6.
- C. Fire Department: Prepared by B. Roell/Asst. Fire Chief, presented by M. Walker:
- a. 2 Runs: ATV accident on Goldmine Road (Matt and Brian) and wildland fire off Northwestern Road (Matt, Josh, and Brian)
  - b. Truck Grant: Hault Fire is going to submit drawings for the proposed truck with an upgraded pump. I reminded them that we did have a lot of wiggle room with the budget since this type of pump is better but more expensive.
  - c. Recall Notice: We are on Minocqua Trucks list, just waiting for scheduling.
  - d. Monthly Meeting: Business meeting and then we flushed hydrants and cut weeds around them so that they were visible from the street (Matt, Josh, John, and Brian). Note: Hydrant at the cemetery was not working.
  - e. Station Duty: Station 1 – nothing major to report. I am not sure who did station duty. Station 2 – 2102: Was good and the go light seems to be working better. 2105: When started, a lot of elbow macaroni came out of the passenger side exhaust. Mice must be getting into the food in the pantry next door. Brian did station duty.
- D. Parks and Recreation Department: H. Shatz/Chairperson, M. Springer/Volunteer:
- a. Draver Park SPARK Grant Funding Gap - Sven Gonstead submitted a proposal to Eagle Mine, and they have covered the entire gap for us. They are donating \$200,000 to cover the costs that we did not have funding for.

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- b. Safe Routes to School Grant – We are re-submitting the application. The Road Commission did not have the plans ready.
  - c. Fire on the Bay Fundraiser, Christmas Tree Lighting, and Easter Egg Hunt – We advertised for volunteers and have had zero interest from the public to chair at these events.
  - d. Fall Festival Parks & Recreation Table – Were able to talk with community and signed up over twenty-five people for our newsletter, and we got two volunteers.
  - e. BBSC Kiosks – BBSC asked the Recreation Department for placement of new kiosks with suggestions for Draver Park, the different trailheads, and the native garden.
  - f. Information Boards (outside post office and at Halfway location) – They need attention. This has typically been on the Parks & Recreation budget. Seeing that it is a community board and not just Parks & Recreation, we are asking the Township to maintain these going forward, and request this item be added to the next Agenda.
  - g. Draver Park Snack Shack – The current one will be taken down for renovations. There was a roll call vote on this.
  - h. Draver Park signage – There will no longer be signage stating no pets allowed. There will be pets allowed under certain well-behavior guidelines.
  - i. Dog Waste Stations – We are requesting new signage; this is later in tonight's Agenda.
  - j. Five-Year Powell Township Recreation Plan – We are working on it and brought sample survey hardcopies. Please contact Heidi or Mike Springer (volunteer) with any draft survey input or revision recommendations. The surveys are an integral part of plan development. We are hoping to have the Plan completed by January 1, 2025. The survey and efforts to get it to the public are in the works to include discussions on placing it in the Township Hall, on websites, in the Mining Journal, on boards, and at meetings. We would first like feedback on the draft survey to make sure we cover everything before finalizing it and presenting it to the public.
- E. Planning Commission: D. Hudson/Trustee.
- a. Met last month.
  - b. Went over some ordinances to be issued.

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- c. We are looking for a Recording Secretary.
- d. Meeting tomorrow evening, 7 P.M. Chairperson will not be in attendance due to travel for hurricane damage assessment.
  
- F. Sewer Department: D. Turner – No problems.
- G. Water Department: D. Turner – No report (C. Sorby working on Eagle paperwork).
- H. Correspondence: Bay Cliff Health Camp will have their Open House Christmas, December 6, 4-8 P.M.
- I. Presentations: Auditor Anderson & Tackman will be here on Friday afternoon.

Public Comment:

J. Gertz: Asked about the propane issue and the related Zoning Board of Appeals decision. Per the Supervisor, the Board of Appeals decision is the final decision, unless for some reason it goes to Circuit Court.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- 1. Ambulance: None.
  
- 2. Fire Department: None.
  
- 3. Parks and Recreation:
  - a. **Motion** to approve \$750 for two (2) Dog Waste Stations (Santilli/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
  
  - b. **Motion** to approve \$500 for Christmas Tree Lighting (Santilli/Walker). All in favor, motion carried.
  
  - c. **Motion** for Wolverine winterized and Tracks. Details in progress with department. Tabled.

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4. Liaison Policy: **Motion** to approve Board Liaison Policy (December/Santilli). Roll call vote: Turner – Aye, Santilli – Aye, Walker – Aye, December – Aye, Hudson – Aye, motion carried.
  
5. Buildings and Grounds: **Motion** to approve Backpack Blower (\$571.99) for Buildings and Grounds (Santilli/December). All in favor, motion carried.
  
6. Food Bank: **Motion** to open the Food Bank in November (Santilli/Hudson). All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment:

C. Reed: Caden Reed is a newer resident running for office. Regardless of election results, he plans to be an integral part of the community.

Board Comment:

1. D. Turner: Eagle Mine will be at the Township Hall October 29, 2024, at 5:30 P.M. for a Mining Forum.
2. K. Santilli: Thank you to Sven for putting in the time to put together a proposal for Eagle Mine, and to Parks and Recreation for the continued hours and effort put into raising money to better our community.

Next Meeting: Regular Board Meeting November 19, 2024, 7:00pm

Adjourn 7:32 P.M.

Minutes prepared by: M. Mramor, Deputy Clerk