

Laird Township Board
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Supervisor Spencer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Supervisor Patricia Spencer, Treasurer Nicole Krajnak, Trustee John Juntunen, Trustee Sarah Hiltunen, and Clerk Robin Henry.

Supervisor Spencer notified everyone that individuals will no longer be put on the agenda, per advice of MTA (Michigan Township's Association). Public Comment is open for people to speak, and they were asked to raise their hands, be recognized, and stand so that everyone can hear.

The January 8, 2025 meeting minutes were reviewed, as well as the special meetings from January 23, 2025 and February 5, 2025. A motion was made by Trustee Juntunen, supported by Trustee Hiltunen, to accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting and both of the Special Meetings. With all in favor, motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. A motion was made by Clerk Henry and supported by Trustee Juntunen to accept the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of the bills. With all in favor, motion carried.

Clerk's Report:

- There will be an election on May 6, 2025 for Meals on Wheels.
- Earned Sick Time Act was discussed.
- A summary of the Public Comment section of the meetings will no longer be included in the minutes.

Fire Department Report: There was one call out on January 11, 2025. It was an iPhone app alert on S. Laird Road.

Constable Report: The monthly liquor license inspection for the Church in the Valley was done. Also, someone pushed snow into the ice rink driveway, so Constable Peterson removed it.

Recreation Committee Report:

- C. McKim donated a cross-county ski groomer.
- Open skate on Tuesdays is going well.
- There was a Sweetheart Skate on Sunday, February 9th.
- The next Recreation Committee Meeting is Monday, February 17th at 6:30 p.m.
- The Copper Shores Grant for the ice rink is looking good. The total will be approximately \$40,000, and thank you to D. Vandeville for writing the original grant. Asphalt will be replaced with cement, siding and windows will be upgraded, sheeting will be replaced, and a ramp will be added to help those with mobility issues. Supervisor Spencer talked to M. Munch and the township's original matching funds of \$10,000 will be adequate.
- Bathrooms are needed for the ice rink and recreation area. Options of using the fire hall bathrooms or renting a portable unit will be considered.
- If grant funds are available for safety equipment, the ball field could use break-away bases.

Assessor's Report: All Board of Review members are now trained. March 4, 2025 will be an organizational meeting. The appeals will be heard March 11, 2025 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and March 12, 2025 from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Ambulance Committee Report:

- The January 22, 2025 meeting was cut short due to an accident.

- Baraga County Memorial Hospital is working with Bay Ambulance to provide a dedicated ambulance for long distance transfers.

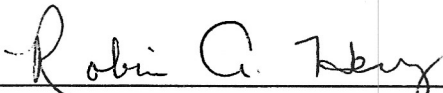
Old Business:

- The Copper Shores grant for the ice rink is moving forward.
- A special board meeting was held January 23, 2025 to approve legal fees to respond to the demand letter the township board received. Another special board meeting was held February 5, 2025 to approve legal correspondence to be sent. No response has been received at this point and, since it is being handled by an attorney, no comment can be made at this time.

New Business:

- A grant was awarded by the Superior Health Foundation for an AED (defibrillator) for the town hall.
- The 2025 Contract between Laird Township and Bay Ambulance was received in the amount of \$29,707. Each municipality was billed at a rate of \$61 per person for the year.
 - A motion was made by Supervisor Spencer, supported by Trustee Juntunen, to sign the contract and approve payments in 2025. A roll call vote was taken:
Aye: Spencer, Henry, Krajnak, Juntunen, Hiltunen
No: None
With all in favor, motion carried.
- The Budget Hearing will be before the Regular Meeting in March, 2025. Some ideas to include are rain barrels for the St. Henry's Cemetery, funds to repair the back fence around the ballfield, and sand for the ball field.
- Keweenaw Fire came and recharged the fire extinguishers. Supervisor Spencer will look into having them come and recharge any for township residents at a later date. The cost to do this will be paid by the people bringing their extinguishers and not the township.

A motion was made by Treasurer Krajnak and seconded by Clerk Henry to adjourn the meeting. With all in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.



Robin A. Henry, Laird Township Clerk