

**SPALDING TOWNSHIP**

**These minutes are unapproved.**

**POWERS, MI**

**MARCH 19, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by supervisor Moraska at 6:20 p.m. The following members were present: Jim Moraska, Jerry Bartnicki, Connie Wells, Chris LeBoeuf, and Kevin LaBonte. Guests included: Leon Felch, Dan Hammerberg, and Jerry Kleiman.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None given.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES:** Chris made a motion to approve the agenda and minutes with Jerry supporting. Motion carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** All bills are paid and up to date. We have an upcoming virtual meeting with BS & A on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. CST. I received a letter from a third-grade student from Byron Center Christian School in Byron Center, MI inquiring about our Township. I responded with a letter and pictures from our Township.

Jerry Kleiman and I went through our Cemetery burial permits and filed them all in order by year.

I have been updating items from my inbox in QVF (Qualified Voter File). Also, I have purchased a new laptop that meets the specifications to operated epollbook for our elections. I will be working on forms for reimbursement from the State of Michigan.

I have inspected the contents of our Spalding Township safety deposit box and made a detailed list of the contents for the board.

**FINANCIAL/TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jerry presented handouts showing the Township's monthly balances (check register), breaking down accounts, cash summary, and balance sheets. Kevin made a motion to accept the report with Jim supporting. Motion carried.

**LIQUOR REPORT:** None given.

**FIRE REPORT/FIRE CHIEF & FIRE DEPARTMENT:** The department responded to two calls that lasted 1 hour and 42 minutes with 7 members responding.

There was one training meeting on Wildland firefighting training. Seven members were present.

There was one work meeting with seven members present. The members voted to apply for a Hannahville grant for a turn out gear dryer. The grant requested would be for the amount of \$4000.00. There was a motion by Jim with the support of Jerry to approve the submission of this grant. Motion carried.

Equipment repaired and/or improved: A skid unit was installed on rangers 7 & 8.

**CEMETERY/PARK REPORT:** Our Sexton reported that there is an additional burial added to our spring list. There was no report.

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT:** The returns for Notice of Assessment are here and will be filed with the Supervisor. The March Board of Review meetings are completed. Please see OLD BUSINESS for an update on this.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** None given.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**BOARD OF REVIEW REPORT:** The Township held two Board of Review meetings for taxpayers to attend. Fifteen taxpayers logged in. Most concerns were over assessed valuation increases. The majority of those who attended saw an increase of approximately 40%-50%. The Board took great efforts to analyze the residential sale study for our Township. Some selling prices were missing. There were also some questions and/or concerns regarding how the ratios were established. Were all outliers eliminated?

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**INSPECT OUR GRAVEL ROADS:** Jim encouraged all board members and guests to be out and about inspecting our Township gravel roads. This will help us prioritize our Road Plans in the future.

**CONSIDER HIRING NEW PARK PERSONELL:** The Township accepted one application for the position of Park Manager. Chris made a motion to hire Jim Behren as our new Park Supervisor. Kevin supported. Motion carried.

We have two youth interested in lawn mowing and weed whacking for the park and cemeteries.

**CONSIDER MAKING A PICKLE BALL COURT AT THE PARK:** The Board is currently considering and exploring the option of making part of the current basketball court into a Pickle Ball court. A discussion ensued.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None given.

**ANY OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GOOD OF THE TOWNSHIP:** None given.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Connie made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Jerry supporting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Wells, Township Clerk