

**MACKINAW TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**10595 WALLICK RD, MACKINAW CITY, MI**  
**FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

Supervisor Smydra called the meeting to order at 7 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.  
All Board members present: Brew, Closs, Darrow, Falor, Smydra. Also, present Jeff Ostman and Dan Smith.

The agenda was approved as presented.

Motion by Brew, supported by Closs to approve the January 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and January 16, 2024 Special Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Public Comments**

1. Jeff Ostman gave the board an update on what the Cheboygan County Commissioners have been working on. Construction for the juvenile detention center in Cheboygan has started and should be completed in 3-4 months, a tiny home ordinance is in the works, Judge Michael J. Ekdahl was appointed to serve as the District Judge in Cheboygan & Presque Isle Counties and the commissioners renewed the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance for 1 year to see how it benefits the community.

**Reports**

1. Dan Smith who is the townships new CPA will take over for Rick Mahlmeister. Smith introduced himself to the board and provided answers to all the boards questions. He is the owner of Dan Smith & Company, PC and started his own practice in 2004 with 35 years of experience. His company conducts over 20 township audits per year and is experienced with government practices. Smith has a great team of 3 CPAs on his audit team and is looking to hire another as their business has grown. Smith and his team will travel directly to the township hall to conduct fieldwork for audits and work directly with the clerk & treasurer to gather all the needed information. The Township is looking to upgrade the clerk & treasurers accounting system and Smith recommended Quickbooks and can assist with this transition. It was a pleasure meeting Smith and the Township Board looks forward to working with Smith and his team for many years to come. Motion by Falor, supported by Brew to hire Dan Smith & Company, PC. Roll call: Ayes: Smydra, Darrow, Falor, Closs, Brew. Nays: None. Motion carried.  
Motion by Falor, supported by Brew to upgrade the clerk & treasures accounting software with QuickBooks. Roll call: Ayes: Brew, Closs, Falor, Darrow, Smydra. Nays: None. Motion carried.
2. Smydra informed the board that the Board of Review was following through with their training requirements. The advanced training class was canceled in St. Ignace due to not enough participants. Heather Wallace and Roxana Strieby will be the only two taking training this year.
3. Smydra had an update on the proposed Township parking lot project and will be meeting with Michigan State Representative Neil Friske on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at the Mackinaw Township Hall to assist with the driveway permit. Unfortunately, the township did not receive any funds from the state to assist with road projects for 2024. Smydra recommend having a special meeting in December to discuss road projects so the township does not miss out on these funds again. Motion by Falor, supported by Brew to continue to move forward with the Old Mackinaw Road project and the township driveway project with reconsideration of the final bid. Roll call: Ayes: Falor, Brew, Smydra, Closs, Darrow. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business**

4. The 2024/2025 Preliminary Budget was reviewed and discussed in depth.

**Treasurers Report/ Bills/ Financial Report**

1. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented. An update on collection of taxes last year at this time the township had collected 863 receipts and this year we have collected 843 receipts. There were six personal properties that were delinquent and Falor sent out six statements and has resolved two of the six. The Township must have a formal plan on how we spend the ARPA money we received during COVID by April of 2024 and we have to spend these funds by 2026.
2. Motion by Brew, supported by Falor to approve the bills for February.  
Roll call vote: Ayes: Falor, Brew, Darrow, Closs, Smydra. Nays: None. Motion carried.
3. The Standard Budget Financial Report was reviewed.

**Non-Agenda Items**

1. Smydra and Brew will meet at the Township Hall to replace the American Flag, diagnose the front door lock, look at the lights in the treasures office and change the light that is burnt out on the front of the township building.

Meeting was adjourned by call of the chair at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Ashley Darrow, Clerk



