

**MACKINAW TOWNSHIP
10595 WALLICK RD, MACKINAW CITY
2025/2026 PUBLIC BUDGET AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MARCH 18, 2025**

Supervisor Smydra called the Public Budget Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Board Members present: Brew, Falor, Closs, Darrow, Smydra. Also, present: Timothy MacArthur and Jeff Ostman. No public comments. Smydra declared the Public Budget Meeting closed at 7:02 PM.

The Regular Board Meeting was opened at 7:03PM.

Motion by Falor, supported by Brew to approve the agenda as amended with the addition of Fire Board Representative Report. Motion carried.

Motion by Closs, supported by Darrow to approve the February 18, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Reports

1. Commissioner Jeff Ostman gave the board an update on the 911 agreement. Cheboygan County has approved the tiny home planned unit development. Developers may put 3 homes on a 3 acre+ piece of land and 699 square feet is the maximum size. Cheboygan County is currently negotiating police deputy wages. The county soil conservation is having their annual upcoming tree sale. Dale Clarmont the new Cheboygan County Commissioner for district 5 was appointed.
2. Attorney Timonthy MacArthur gave the board a detailed update on the Tax Tribunal Case. MacArthur had left a voicemail with Marshall Gate the lead attorney listed on the motion to intervene for Clark Hill. Gates associate Sean Fitzgerald returned MacArthurs phone call and is taking over the case for Marshall. Sean Fitzgerald will be the lead counsel for the village, the school district, and the COPESD. About three weeks ago MacArthur received a call from the attorney who had filed the petition in the first place on behalf of Mackinac Bay Properties and they have hired an appraiser to do an appraisal on the property. The appraiser's name is Daniel Tomlinson, and he's out of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. He's an MIA appraiser, meaning he's certified as a commercial appraiser by the Appraisal Institute. Our deadline to get the appraisal done is June 4th. MacArthur will keep us updated as we proceed with this Tax Tribunal Case.
3. Supervisor Smydra attended an MTA meeting on February 27th. At this meeting the sheriff discussed ongoing scams within the county. Under public comments towards the end of the meeting a lady spoke about a vacancy on the County Board of Commissioners and opposed the appointment of former Sheriff Clarmont. The Board of Review Members met in March for their organizational and appeals meetings. Assessor Borowicz complimented Smydra on what an excellent BOR Mackinaw Township has. Dylan Darrow contacted Smydra with the concern of the planned Stimpson Road project being conducted during the same time as US 23 Highway Road construction. Darrow suggested delaying the work on Stimpson Road until after the construction on US 23 Highway is completed because Darrow is concerned that all the heavy truck usage during the US 23 construction will damage the newly paved Stimpson Road. Smydra contacted the Cheboygan County Road Commission to voice the townships concern and they gave us the option to postpone the Stimpson Road Project until 2026 or continue with the scheduled project date. Motion by Brew, supported by Falor to move the Stimpson road project to 2026 due to the US 23 Highway Road construction. Roll call: Ayes: Closs, Smydra, Falor, Brew, Darrow. Nays: None. Motion carried. Smydra will contract the Cheboygan County Road Commission and let them know of the board's decision and about potentially substituting the Stimpson road project with a smaller road project for 2025.
4. Brew the Mackinaw Township Fire Board representative gave the board an update. The new rescue pumper will be finished in the middle of August which is 3 months earlier than expected. The Mackinac Bridge Authority refused to stop charging for mutual aid and a legislative move will be needed to change this. The Mackinac Bridge Authority has required MAC passed on all emergency vehicles. Mackinaw City Fire Department has had more mutual aid calls recently and is expected to grow. They declined to take over the Carp Lake area due to a shortage of staff. The fire department is applying for the DNR grant for a dry hydrant at the Carp River.

New Business

1. Motion by Falor, supported by Brew to approve the 2025/2026 General Budget & Fire Fund Budget.
Roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Darrow, Falor, Closs, Brew. Nays: None. Motion carried.
2. Motion by Darrow, supported by Brew to adopt the 2025/2026 General Appropriations Act.
Roll call vote: Ayes: Closs, Falor, Brew, Darrow, Smydra. Nays: None. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Falor, supported by Darrow to pay the Cheboygan County Humane Society \$400 for their services.
Roll call vote: Ayes: Falor, Brew, Smydra, Darrow, Closs. Nays: None. Motion carried.
4. Renewal of the Michigan Township Participating Plan was discussed in depth. Darrow and Brew will meet to go over this renewal plan and looking at our options for cyber security insurance.
5. Motion by Darrow, supported by Falor to approve the following 2024/2025 budget amendments:

MOVE:

Minus \$1100 101-900-980.00 Capital Control: Contingencies

Plus \$50 101-101-958 Association Dues

Plus \$200 101-215-726 Office Supply Clerk

Plus \$600 101-247-701 BOR Wages

Plus \$250 101-265-921 Utilities-Heat

Roll call vote: Ayes: Falor, Darrow, Closs, Smydra, Brew. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report/ Bills/ Financial Report

1. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.
2. Motion by Brew, supported by Darrow to approve the bills for March.
Roll call vote: Ayes: Smydra, Darrow, Falor, Brew, Closs. Nays: None. Motion carried.
3. The Standard Budget Financial Report was reviewed as presented.

Meeting was adjourned by call of the chair at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Darrow, Clerk

