

SPALDING TOWNSHIP

These minutes are approved.

POWERS, MI

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Moraska at 6:30 p.m. The following members were present: Jim Moraska, Jerry Bartnicki, Connie Wells, Kevin LaBonte, and Chris LeBoeuf. Guests included: Leon Felch, Dan Hammerberg, Chris Fazer, Matt Bouty, and Gerald Kleiman

PUBLIC COMMENT: None given.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Chris made a motion to approve the agenda with Kevin supporting. Motion carried.

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

CLERK'S REPORT: All bills are paid and up to date. There will be a consolidated election for a school bond proposal for the North Central Area Schools held on November 4th. All AV ballots will be mailed out after September 25th. The AV drop box should be installed outside the Township Office the week of September 22-26. I currently have 264 permanent AV voters with more applications coming in. The Bureau of Elections is contemplating having an in-person election QVF training on October 6 & 7 in Escanaba. I will be attending with an invite extended to my Deputy Clerk.

Our next County-wide quarterly clerks meeting is set for October 7 at 4 p.m. at the Stephenson Annex.

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

LIQUOR REPORT: All is well in both taverns. The grocery store was closed at the time of inspection due to a power outage.

FIRE REPORT/FIRE CHIEF & FIRE DEPARTMENT: The department responded to one call that lasted 49 minutes with an average of 7 members responding.

There was one training meeting on apparatus driving. Six members were present.

There was one work meeting with nine members present.

Equipment repaired and/or improved: the batteries were replaced on truck HR 5, spark plugs were installed in the T3 portable pump, and the station was cleaned and swept.

CEMETERY/PARK REPORT: The landfill has been brush-hogged and is complete. There are two flat tires on the back of the tractor. Gerald will be calling to have them repaired. Two burials were completed in September up to the date of our meeting.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Our Assessor is working on updating some property inspections. There is one that needs to be updated from garage to residence and one is a structure that needs to be added to our tax roll. The Township Supervisor will need to meet with the Assessor to review these items.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: None given.

OLD BUSINESS

FIRE TRUCK FINANCE: Chris Leboeuf reviewed the purchase agreement and the five main options for financing our new fire truck. The five options included: First Bank, First National Bank, U.P. State Credit Union, Nicolet Bank, and a USDA loan. After review and discussion of the details of each option, the board decided to vote on the best possibility. Connie made a motion to finance through First Bank with Kevin supporting. Roll Call Voice Vote: Chris Leboeuf, yes, Kevin LaBonte, yes, Jim Moraska, yes, Connie Wells, yes, Jerry Bartnicki, yes. Motion carried.

A purchase agreement will be signed. Connie will provide all the financial documents to First Bank as needed.

NEW BUSINESS

NCA SCHOOL BOND PROPOSAL: Chris Fazer, President of the NCA School Board, submitted a presentation of the School Bond Proposal that will be on the ballot for our November 4th Consolidated Election. In this presentation, he highlighted the history of action/discussion that have taken place over the past five years. He discussed how this Bond Proposal would work in conjunction with the School Consolidation 12d Grant awarded to NCA in April of this year. He noted that the current 1.72 mills that taxpayers are now paying will expire in 2026. The Bond would be an increase of 2.2 mills for the next 22 years. There may be a Homestead Property Tax Credit Claim available to Senior property owners. More information on this is forthcoming.

The next informational meetings for the School Bond are set for September 19th at 4:30 at the High School, September 30th at 5:30 at the Elementary, and October 8th as a virtual meeting at 7 p.m.

PEAR TREE PRUNED: This past month, Derek Kirschner donated his time to prune the pear tree in front of the Township building. We extend a huge **thank you** to Derek for doing this.

REVENUE SHARING INFORMATION: There is currently a House Bill on the floor of the Michigan House of Representatives (HB 4311-4312) that established a "Revenue Sharing Trust Fund" and dedicates a portion of general sales tax revenue to the fund for the purpose of distributing to townships, cities, villages and counties. If passed, through the Senate and is signed by the Governor, this would decrease our Township Revenue Sharing amount by \$1331.00 per year.

ROAD COMMISSION REPAIRS FOR 2026: The Menominee County Road Commission submitted a price quotation for paving our local roads. This quotation included the segment on Pine Avenue from U.S. 2 to U.S. 2 & 41 for a distance of .98 miles. The total cost to our Township would be \$259,137.74. A discussion ensued. Chris made a motion that we proceed with this project with Connie supporting. Roll Call Voice Vote: Chris LeBoeuf, yes, Kevin LaBonte, yes, Jim Moraska, yes, Connie Wells, yes, Jerry Bartnicki, yes. Motion carried. The signed agreement was sent to the Road Commission and they will decide if the project will proceed.

MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS (ROLL CALL VOTE): Chris made a motion to pay the bills with Jim supporting. Roll Call Vote: Chris LeBoeuf, yes, Kevin LaBonte, yes, Jim Moraska, yes, Connie Wells, yes, Jerry Bartnicki, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Supervisor Moraska offered up a reminder that all Townships that are considered a small business must be in compliance with the Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA) as of October 1, 2025.

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chris made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Jerry supporting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Wells, Township Clerk