

SPALDING TOWNSHIP
POWERS, MICHIGAN

These minutes are approved.

OCTOBER 15, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Moraska. The following board members were present: Jim Moraska, Jerry Bartnicki, Connie Wells, and Kevin LaBonte. Chris LeBoeuf (excused absence). Guests included: Dan Hammerberg, James Nowack, Leon Felch, Randy Viau, John Raab, and Jodi Peterson

PUBLIC COMMENT: None given.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Kevin made a motion to approve the minutes with Jerry supporting. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: The November Consolidated Election is set for November 4th. Jodi Peterson and I performed a preliminary accuracy test of the VAT and tabulator today (October 15th) at 9:15 a.m. The VAT machine and tabulator are set to go for the Public Accuracy Test on October 28th at 4:00 p.m. 266 AV ballots have been mailed out since September 27th. So far, 103 ballots have been returned.

I thanked Randy Viau for donating countless hours working on placing our Township Ordinances into PDF format so that they may be displayed on our Township website.

FINANCIAL/TREASURER'S REPORT: Jerry presented handouts showing the Township's monthly balances (check register) and briefly explained monthly spending. Connie made a motion to approve the report with Kevin supporting. Motion carried.

LIQUOR REPORT: All is well in both taverns and the grocery store for the month of June.

FIRE REPORT/FIRE CHIEF & FIRE DEPARTMENT: The department responded to four calls that lasted a total of 4 hours and 20 minutes with the average number of members responding being 6. It cost \$0.

There was one regular meeting with 7 members present.

There was one training meeting on driver policies and safe response. 10 members were present.

Equipment repaired and/or improved: Lubed the pump panel valves for Engine 1 & 2, Lubed doors on Truck 5, checked water fill valve in the Station, added elbow to new T3 portable pump, switched T3 portable pump to new pump, replace generator battery on Truck 5, worked on remounting T3 portable pump.

There are no changes with the AFG Grant application.

The Fire Department Membership recommended to the Township Board hiring Travis Kleiman as a Volunteer Firefighter. Jim made a motion to hire Travis with Kevin supporting. Motion carried.

CEMETERY/PARK REPORT: Jim Moraska gave the Cemetery/Park report on behalf of Jim Behrend and Jerry Kleiman. Jim Behrend expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to work for the Township this past summer. He will be cleaning the campground in the upcoming days and the water and septic systems will be winterized. The Park will be closing by the weekend of October 25-26.

Future projects include: fixing the floor and replacing toilet paper dispensers in the restroom, staining the deck by the river, updating the memorial by the ORV Trail and planting shrubs.

There are still many things to be picked up in the Spalding Township Cemetery. There is a burial set for Tuesday, October 21st. Jim Moraska plans on emptying the garbage barrels on Thursday, October 16th.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Building permits were completed on October 10th. Winter tax bills will be sent out November 10th. We continue to wait on the Appraisal and Sales Study for Equalization.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: None given.

OLD BUSINESS

FIRE TRUCK: The Fire Chief met with officials from Midwest Fire to discuss details of the purchase of the new fire truck. The initial deposit has been sent to Midwest Fire in lieu of the purchase agreement.

Jim made a motion that the Board transfer of funds in the amount of \$125,000 from the Fire Department Savings to Fire Truck Transfer In line item. Kevin supported. Roll call vote was taken. Chris, absent, Kevin, yes, Jim, yes, Connie, yes, Jerry, yes. Motion carried.

BS & A: We currently use a software program called BS & A for our Taxes, General Ledger, Payroll and Accounts Payable. BS & A will be upgrading their software and services from .net programming to Cloud programming. We have been given a proposal for this upgrade. This upgrade will not become mandatory until possibly 2027. A discussion ensued. Jim made a motion that we accept their proposal upgrade with an up-front cost of \$33,855.00 with the annual fee being \$9625.00 with Kevin supporting. Motion carried.

REVENUE SHARING: With the adoption of the new State Budget, there will be cuts made in revenue sharing. This will directly affect every Township across that State of Michigan. As a Board, we are hoping that the money allocated for Roads (in lieu of Revenue Sharing) will positively impact our Township. The approximate cost to Spalding Township is projected to be \$1,300.00 per year.

ROAD COMMISSION 2026 PLAN: The Township is currently committed to fixing Pine Ave. It will cost \$259,137.74. We are waiting to see if the County Road Commission will be helping to offset the cost of this project. This can be better determined after the money promised to each county in Michigan has been dispersed.

NEW BUSINESS

SNOW PLOW BIDS: We received one bid from Gerald Kleiman to plow the parking lot of the Spalding Township Hall and the Spalding Township Cemetery at a cost of \$150.00 per plowing when the snow is two inches or more. Jim made a motion to accept this bid with Kevin supporting. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION FOR LICENSE FOR WRESTLING CLUB: John Raab, with U.P. Power Wrestling Club, brought forth a request that his club be recognized as a nonprofit organization with the intent to sell raffle tickets in fundraising efforts. Kevin made a motion to grant this request with Jerry supporting. Roll call vote: Chris, absent, Kevin, yes, Jim, yes, Connie, yes, Jerry, yes. Motion carried.

LANGE ENTERPRISES: The Township received notification from Lange Enterprises that they will no longer be assigning house numbers effective January 1, 2026. A discussion ensued about how we will proceed in officially assigning house number within the Township. We will be looking further into finding an individual or organization to provide this service.

EARNED SICK TIME ACT: As of October 1, 2025, all Michigan employers will be required to provide paid sick time. The Township drafted a resolution that is in compliance with this act. Connie made a motion that we adopt our resolution with Jim supporting. Motion carried.

MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS: Jerry made a motion to pay the bills with Kevin supporting. Roll call vote: Chris, absent, Kevin, yes, Jim, yes, Connie, yes, Jerry, yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jim Nowack stated that he had contacted Gerald Kleiman about the burial that will happen on Tuesday, October 22nd.

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Kevin made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Jerry supporting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM CST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Wells, Township Clerk

POWERS, MICHIGAN

OCTOBER 15 – 7:35 PM CST

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Moraska. Connie reviewed the budget line items where the Township is currently over budget. The board agreed on amounts to adjust each line item. Please see attached report from BS & A Adjustments.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Kevin made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Jerry supporting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM CST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Wells, Township Clerk