

BLISS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

May 13, 2025

- I. Lechowicz called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
- II. All board members were present.
- III. The regular board meeting minutes for April 2025 were presented. Lechowicz moved, with Eby supporting, to approve the minutes as read. All yes.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Byard presented the treasurer's report. The total of our bank accounts on April 30, 2025, was \$285,769.28.
- V. Payment of Bills - Prout presented the bills to be paid, totaling \$31,074.84. Lechowicz moved, with Holt supporting, to approve payment of the bills presented. All yes.
- VI. Correspondence: 1) Lechowicz received a call about a gravel pit; 2) Prout received a letter from FEMA about Risk MAP; 3) Prout received a flyer about clerk training sessions for ESTA and cemetery management. Holt moved, with Eby supporting, to approve the \$125 payment for Prout to attend; 4) Prout received a notice from LARA about modification to the building code; 5) Prout received an email from the Bureau of Elections explaining the bill from the Mackinaw Post Office; 6) the board received a thank you card for having the fire hall open during the ice storm power outages. Eby announced that the Alcona Health Center has offered to hold a wellness clinic at the township hall, tentatively on the second Thursday of each month.
- VII. Set/Amend Agenda: Under New Business add "L-4029" and "Cemetery."
- VIII. Public Comment – Josh Gladly from the Sheriff's office was present to ask for input about any issues in our area.
- IX. Appearances – None
- X. Library Report – Kent presented a library report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- I. Fire Hall Upgrades - There is no new progress to report.
- II. New Hall Door - Nothing new has happened.
- III. Well - Lechowicz received a bid from Northern Drilling for a new well at the fire hall at an estimated cost of \$8,877.50. They will not be able to drill until fall and require half as a down payment. The permit fee is \$283. Prout moved, with Holt supporting, to accept the bid at an estimated total cost of \$10,000 including the permit. The permit application and fee are to be submitted immediately, and half of the bid will be paid as a down payment upon receipt of the permit. All yes.
- IV. Other Outage Problems - We are working on issues that were raised.
- V. FEMA - There are reports that reimbursement for expenses related to the power outages might be available. We can check with Mike Keiser for accurate information about this.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. Memorial Day Picnic - Elizabeth Paquet requested use of the pavilion and fire hall for a picnic after the Memorial Day service. This is fine.
- II. Supplies - Lechowicz ordered paper towels for the hall and fire hall. Prout will get toilet paper for the fire hall.
- III. Use of Fire Hall for Funerals and Farmer's Market - The board discussed making the fire hall available for use in connection with funerals and the farmer's market and if so, whether to charge a fee to cover supplies and cleaning. It was suggested to charge \$50 for funerals, perhaps free for the farmers' market. There are many details to be worked out. We will discuss it more next month.

- IV. M-119 Rest Stop - The Readmond Township Planning Commission sent a request for our township to help cover the cost of a rest stop on the Tunnel of Trees. They anticipate that we could contribute \$6,000. The board agreed we are not interested in this.
- V. Road Wedging - The Emmet County Road Commission submitted wedging estimates for four sections of road. After discussion, the board selected Pleasantview Road going east from Sturgeon Bay Trail around the first curve, at an estimated cost of \$31,900. That would leave about \$48,000 available for Gill Road, starting at Munger and going east as far as possible.
- VI. Porta-Potti - The Porta-Potti will be serviced to get it ready for summer.
- VII. Library Board Appointment - Lechowicz moved, with Eby supporting, to appoint Kelly Kent to another term as our library board representative.
- VIII. L-4029 Form - Lechowicz moved, with Eby supporting, to accept and submit the L-4029 form as prepared, requesting a total millage of 1.9818. All yes.
- IX. Cemetery - Prout moved, with Byard supporting, to adopt a resolution to increase the pay for full burial grave digging from \$450 to \$475. By roll call vote, all said yes.

FYI - none

Public Comment - none

Adjournment - Holt moved, with Eby supporting, to adjourn. All yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:51.