



PRESQUE ISLE TOWNSHIP
Board of Trustees Minutes - Draft
November 11, 2024 - 4:00 p.m.

Call to Order

4:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge was recited.

Roll Call

Present: Supervisor Stephen Lang, Clerk Cynthia Paavola, Treasurer Jennifer Wiczorkowski, and Trustee Mary O'Neill. Absent: Trustee Mark Devers

Consent Agenda

- a. **Approval of the 10-14-24 Minutes.**
- b. **Treasurers Report – Wiczorkowski** In packet.
- c. **Clerks Report – Paavola** In packet.
- d. **PC Report - Paavola** In packet.
- e. **P&R Report – Wiczorkowski** In packet.
- f. **ZBA Report – O'Neill** No report.
- g. **Zoning Report – Lang** No report.
- h. **Supervisor Report – Lang** No report.
- i. **Assessors Report – Spencer** No report.
- j. **Museum Society Report – Milstein** No report.
- k. **Library Report – Rogers** No report.
- l. **Facilities Report – Bedard** In packet.
- m. **Fire Dept. Report – LaCross** In packet.
- n. **EGLFD Report – Koel** In packet.
- o. **Historian Report** No report.
- p. **Correspondence** In packet

Approval of Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Paavola, supported by O'Neill, to approve the Consent Agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Wiczorkowski, supported by Paavola, to approve the agenda as submitted. All ayes. Motion carried.

Audience Comments: (3-minute limit)

The board heard from two (2) audience members.

1. Presque Isle Fire Department Chief Larry LaCross reported that the PIFD has enrolled in a program run by the Insurance Services Office (ISO). The ISO had notified the department that they were facing a possible downgrade in their rating which could affect insurance rates. LaCross said that the



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department has now completed nearly half of the annual requirements of the program.

LaCross also indicated that there has been an increase in runs in recent months and spoke about PIFD's ambulance services. He also noted that the department has hired two new employees.

In closing, LaCross thanked outgoing Clerk Cynthia Paavola for her many years of service.

2. Vickie Fields discussed plans for the upcoming Community Christmas events scheduled for December 7th, 2024.

Board Comments

Treasurer: A motion was made by Wieczorkowski, supported by Paavola, to approve a payment to KCI of up to \$4,800 for the purpose of printing the township's winter tax bills and newsletters.

A roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Wieczorkowski next discussed a grant which was awarded to the PIFD by The Community Foundation. She indicated that the money will be used to provide reflective address signs to residents in district 2 of Presque Isle Township. Wieczorkowski requested that PIFD Chief Larry LaCross assist her in writing a promotion for the signs which would be published in the upcoming winter newsletter. LaCross agreed.

Clerk: Paavola reported that 1,738 of Presque Isle Township's 1,830 registered voters cast ballots in the November election.

Supervisor: Lang presented outgoing Clerk Cynthia Paavola with a commendation for her 24 years of dedicated service to Presque Isle Township.

Unfinished Business:

a. Lake Street Report

Lang next gave an update on the Lake Street and Fireside Highway special assessments. He was advised by attorney



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Tim Gulding that because the estimate for the repaving had increased, the previously passed resolutions would have to be redone. Lang indicated that the next resolution will be considered at the board meeting on December 9th, 2024.

New Business:

- a. ARPA Resolution**
- b. Assessment Roll Cost**
- c. CAG Meeting Report – Tom Guyer**
- d. Clerk Position**

ARPA Resolution: The board next considered a resolution to allocate the remaining balance of the funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Lang noted that the board had previously passed a resolution which committed \$80,000 of the ARPA funds to a new parking lot at the 1870 Lighthouse. After discussing the lot's progress, Lang indicated that the resolution being considered would designate the remaining balance of \$28,996.96 for a new trail system. The trails would be located on East Grand Lake Road across from the Presque Isle Township Hall. Lang noted that Tim Wiczorkowski of Grand Lake Landscaping & Tree Service has agreed to clear the trails for the price of the diesel fuel required. Lang also said that he is working with Holcim to get gravel for the trail's parking lot.

A motion was made by O'Neill, supported by Paavola, to approve the resolution to obligate \$28,996.46 for the establishment of hiking and walking trails on parcel 120-023-000-005-00 which is owned by Presque Isle Township.

Lang moved for discussion. The board members had no comments.

A roll call vote was taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Assessment Roll Cost: Lang next reported that The Warren Group, a real estate information collection company, had contacted Assessor Laurie Spencer to request 2024 assessment data. Lang noted that Presque Isle County charges \$500 for such information and proposed that the Township should do the same.

A motion was made by Paavola, supported by Wiczorkowski, to charge The Warren Group \$500 for 2024 assessment data with building detail in the BS&A format.



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Lang then moved for discussion.

The board considered the current FOIA schedule which charges per page and per hour. After a brief deliberation, the board determined that \$500 was a reasonable price.

All in favor. Motion carried.

CAG Meeting Report: Planning Commission Chair Tom Guyer provided a summary of the October 30th meeting of the Community Advisory Group. It was reported that:

1. The Bell Bay dredging project has been completed.
2. Holcim is seeking to rezone its land on Lake Esau from Forest and Recreation to Residential. There are plans to subdivide the property into 10 or more parcels if approved.
3. Holcim is also seeking to rezone its land east of Lake Esau from Forest and Recreation to Industrial. They have hired a hydrogeologist to conduct a survey which will begin in the spring of 2025.

Clerk Position: Lang reported that Presque Isle Township Clerk-elect Kate Szydowski has postponed her starting date until January 1st, 2025. Lang indicated that outgoing Clerk Cynthia Paavola has agreed to extend her term until Szydowski is sworn in.

Future Agenda Items:

Lang reported that there will be a meeting on January 16th, 2025, at 4pm which will address the proposed lake level order updates for Lake Esau and Grand Lake and the long-term plan for the lakes.

Audience Comments: (3-minute limit per audience member)

The board heard from two (2) audience members.

1. Resident Stacy Holmen reported that the treatment for phragmites on Lotus Pond has been completed. She also discussed methods for removing dead phragmites (including burning and mechanical removal) and the consideration of ecological responsibility and cost effectiveness. In closing,



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Holmen thanked outgoing Clerk Cynthia Paavola for her service.

2. Presque Isle Township Maintenance employee Bob Doyle discussed recent projects including the winterization and painting of the lighthouses. He also reported that the Christmas tree poles have been installed at the New Lighthouse.

Lang reported that trees for the lighting ceremony would be delivered next week. He asked residents to assist with hanging lights if they have the time.

Adjournment:

4:38pm.

Meeting Reminder: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 9th at 4pm.