

Clerk, Tami Hillis  
Treasurer, Marsha McBride

Supervisor,  
Julia Leake

Trustee, Trudy Seppanen  
Trustee, John Gregg

**Michigamme Township**  
**PO Box 220, 202 W Main**  
**Michigamme, MI 49861**  
**Phone: 906-323-6608**  
**Fax: 906-323-6344**  
[clerk@michigammetownship.gov](mailto:clerk@michigammetownship.gov)

**Michigamme Township Board Meeting**  
**Location: Community Building**  
**Date & Time: January 13, 2024, at 6:00 PM**  
**Minutes**

Guests: Laura Mattson, Beth Koenig, Carla Skytta, Debbie Kinnunen, Bill Seppanen, Kathi Hanson, Brad DeLongchamp, Joan Carlisle, Paul Olson, Virginia Olson, Irene DeRoche, Donald DeRoche, Scott Gravedoni.

- I. Call To Order – The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Leake at 6:03 p.m.
- II. Pledge Of Allegiance – Recited.
- III. Roll Call – Present: Trustee Gregg, Treasurer McBride. Supervisor Leake, Trustee Seppanen, Clerk Hillis.
- IV. Approval of Agenda -- Gregg made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Seppanen. All in favor, 5 Ayes. Motion carried.
- V. Approval Of Minutes from December 9, 2024 – Motion by McBride to approve the minutes with typo corrections, seconded by Gregg. All in favor, 5 Ayes. Motion carried.
- VI. Treasurer’s Report – McBride said she has been meeting with banks and investment companies to help determine where the best place is for the Township’s money and what accounts can be condensed. Hillis made the motion to approve the Treasurer’s report, seconded by Seppanen. Roll Call Vote – Seppanen – Aye, Gregg – Aye, McBride – Aye, Leake – Aye, Hillis – Aye. Motion carried.
- VII. Bills To Be Paid – Hillis asked to add 2 bills – 1 from OPG and 1 for Gregg’s MTA training mileage. Gregg made the motion to approve all the bills, seconded by Leake. Roll Call Vote – Gregg – Aye, McBride – Aye, Leake – Aye, Seppanen – Aye, Hillis – Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Hillis to approve the payroll item detail bills to be paid to the general fund (and DDA wages be covered by the general account), seconded by McBride. Roll Call Vote – Gregg – Aye, McBride – Aye, Leake – Aye, Seppanen – Aye, Hillis – Aye. Motion carried. Motion made by Gregg to amend the budgets of the General Fund, Sewer Fund, and Fire and EMS Fund as presented in Resolution 2025-01-13 #1,

seconded by McBride. Roll Call Vote – Gregg – Aye, McBride – Aye, Seppanen – Aye, Leake – Aye, Hillis – Aye. Motion carried.

- VIII. Guest Speaker – Accessor Justin Murawski spoke about what he’s currently working on, his completed projects, and training opportunities/requirements for him and Board of Review members. He also answered board and community members’ questions.
- IX. Public Comment – Two community members.
- X. Board Comment – Leake and Gregg
- XI. Correspondence – Three correspondences.
- XII. Committee Reports  
1-Fire Board – Seppanen said there were no fire runs in December and the new fire truck should be here in May.  
2-Planning Commission – Gregg gave an update on the master plan approval process and what they are working on.  
3-DDA – S. Gravedoni said they worked on their budget at the January meeting, the LED sign is working, and the car show and artisan market are set for June 22.  
4-DPW – No report.  
5-Michigamme Area Seniors – No report.
- XIII. Old Business  
1-Business Accounts Security – Motion by Gregg to accept the business account security pay services, seconded by Hillis. Roll Call Vote – Gregg – Aye, McBride – Aye, Leake – Aye, Seppanen – Aye, Hillis – Aye. Motion carried.  
2-Auditors Report and Recommendation – Board gave consent to Leake to research and find an accountant.  
3- Fourth of July Activities – The fireworks cost will be the same amount (\$12,100) as last year. McBride made the motion for the Township to fund the fireworks, seconded by Hillis. Roll Call Vote – Seppanen – Aye, Gregg – Aye, McBride – Aye, Leake – Aye, Hillis – Aye. Motion carried.
- XIV. New Business  
1-Board of Review Appointments – Received 5 applications. 1 applicant is willing to drop out. Remaining applicants are: Irene DeRoche, Alan Dausman, Elizabeth Koenig, and Carol Watts. Leake made the motion for the board to accept the 4 applicants, Hillis seconded. All in favor, 5 Ayes. Motion carried.  
2-Planning Commission Appointments – Received 3 applications. Currently, Irene DeRoche and John Gregg are members of the PC. The 3 applicants are: Kay Frisk, Laura Mattson, and William Seppanen. Julia made the motion for the board to accept the 3 applicants, Gregg seconded. All in favor, 5 Ayes. Motion carried.

Clerk, Tami Hillis  
Treasurer, Marsha McBride

Supervisor,  
Julia Leake

Trustee, Trudy Seppanen  
Trustee, John Gregg

3-DDA Appointment – Received 1 applicant. Leake made the motion for the board to accept Laura Mattson to the DDA, Gregg seconded. All in favor, 5 Ayes. Motion carried.

4-Recommendation for Hiring Receptionist with Wages and Hours – Leake made the recommendation to hire Keesha Perry, with a starting wage of \$17 an hour, and work an extra hour—winter hours (16 hours) would be 9:45 to 1:45 and summer hours (24 hours) would be 9:45 to 3:45. Seppanen made the motion to accept Keesha Perry, seconded by Hillis. Roll Call Vote – Seppanen – Aye, McBride – Aye, Gregg – Aye, Leake – Aye, Hillis – Aye. Motion carried.

5-Bensinger, Cotant & Menkes, P.C. Requested Rate Increase – Received a letter requesting a rate change from \$125 to \$135. Gregg made the motion to accept the rate change, seconded by Leake. Roll Call Vote – Gregg – Aye, Leake – Aye, McBride – Aye, Seppanen – Aye, Hillis – Aye. Motion carried.

6-Employment Benefit Language Change – Motion by Hillis to change the PTO language on the employee benefits sheet, seconded by Gregg. All in favor, 5 Ayes. Motion carried.

7-Legal Update decision – Motion by Gregg to use Zoom for the court case, seconded by Seppanen. All in favor, 5 Ayes. Motion carried.

8-CIP Scoring dates for February – February 17 at 9 a.m. is first choice and February 12 at 9 a.m. is second choice.

9-Training – All members of the board and the deputy treasurer all attended MTA training, which was very informative and gave an overview of board members' statutory duties. The main MTA conference is April 1-3 in Grand Rapids.

10-Statutory Duties of Board Members – We need to go back to when the board members were responsible for their own statutory duties. It doesn't mean they can't be delegated down to the administrative assistant and/or receptionist. We are in the process of identifying who is supposed to be doing the different duties/tasks.

11-Employee Office Duties – There was back and forth discussion between board members in which they gave their opinion/view on some of the administrative duties and who should be doing them.

XV. Public Comment – Seven community members.

XVI. Board Comment – Leake, McBride, Gregg, Hillis.

XVII. Adjournment – Gregg made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Seppanen. All in favor, 5 Ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.