

LAKE TOWNSHIP
Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2026



LAKE TOWNSHIP

7:00PM Meeting called to order by Mary Pitcher. **Pledge of Allegiance** recited by all.

Present: Treasurer Maryanne Goodman, Trustee Kyle Orr, Trustee Joel Quine, Supervisor Mary Pitcher and Clerk Penny Georgevich.

Motion by Orr to approve Amended Board Meeting Minutes from August 6, 2026 with “as submitted” inserted following Fire Equipment Grant Program under New Business A, supported by Goodman; Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Motion by Goodman to approve agenda, supported by Orr; Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer Report - General Fund presented by Maryanne Goodman. Motion by Goodman to approve the General Fund financial report as read; supported by Georgevich. Roll Call - Ayes: Orr, Pitcher, Quine, Georgevich, Goodman. Motion carried.

Fire Fund presented by Maryanne Goodman. Motion by Goodman to approve the Fire Fund financial report as read; supported by Quine; Roll Call - Ayes: Georgevich, Orr, Pitcher, Goodman, Quine. Motion carried.

General Fund Budget Amendments presented by Maryanne Goodman. Motion by Goodman to approve General Fund Budget Amendments, as presented; supported by Orr; Roll Call – Ayes: Quine, Pitcher, Orr, Goodman, Georgevich. Motion carried.

Fire Fund Budget Amendments presented by Maryanne Goodman. Motion by Goodman to approve Fire Fund Budget Amendments, as presented; supported by Quine; Roll Call – Pitcher, Goodman, Georgevich. Orr, Quine. Motion carried.

Clerk’s Report – General Fund – Motion by Georgevich to approve from the General Fund \$36,512.51 for the payments of township accounts; supported by Goodman; Roll Call – Ayes: Goodman, Orr, Quine, Georgevich, Pitcher; Motion carried.

Fire Fund – Motion by Georgevich to approve the amount of \$78,848.00 from the Fire Fund for the payment of utilities and half of our Fire and EMS contract; supported by Orr; Roll Call – Ayes: Orr, Georgevich, Quine, Pitcher, Goodman; Motion carried.

Guest: John Roth, Michigan State Representative, 104th District – spoke on zoning ordinances townships should have in place: property splits, data centers, solar arrays and wind energy. Working on something to address early voting.

Public comment: none

Committees:

- a) Park Committee: going to swap some trash cans around. Landing is working nicely.

- b) Planning Commission: Public Hearing on Zoning Ordinance text only, on September 17, 6:30pm. New draft coming and will be put on website. Citizen input has been helpful with making better decisions.
- c) Website Committee: something should be available soon.

Staff:

- a) Assessor: written report submitted.
- b) Code Enforcement Officer & Maintenance: written report submitted and highlighted.
- c) Supervisor's report: report submitted and highlighted. Suggestion for park attendant on the Park Committee; attended Ironman meeting; Lakeshore Garden Club disbanding and The Gardeners will continue to maintain our gardens.
 - Motion by Pitcher to appoint Lissa Magel as ZBA member for a three (3) year term, effective September 12; supported by Goodman; Ayes: All. Motion carried.
 - Motion by Pitcher to appoint Mike Tarkington to serve as alternate on the ZBA, effective September 12; supported by Quine; Ayes: All. Motion carried
 - Motion by Pitcher to accept Joann Tarkington's resignation from ZBA, effective September 11, with regrets; supported by Quine; Ayes: All. Motion carried.
- d) Zoning Administrator report: written report submitted and highlighted.

Fire Report: Written report submitted and highlighted. Busiest August ever.

County Updates:

- Commissioner Jeannot, District 2 – written report submitted and highlighted.
- Commissioner Trigg, District 3

New Business:

- A. Motion by Georgevich to increase pay rate for Clerk Assistant from \$20 to \$22.50 per hour to bring it into line with current deputy wages; supported by Orr; Roll Call – Ayes: Quine, Orr, Pitcher, Goodman, Georgevich. Motion carried.
- B. Motion by Georgevich to authorize mid-month payment for Republic Services to keep bill in good standing; supported by Orr; Roll Call – Ayes: Goodman, Pitcher; Orr, Quine, Georgevich. Motion carried.
- C. Future Land Use Map for Master Plan/McKenna Contract – Motion by Pitcher to enter into Phase 1 contract with McKenna, as presented, up to \$5,400; supported by Orr; Roll Call – Ayes: Quine, Georgevich, Orr, Goodman, Pitcher. Motion carried.
- D. L-4029 – Motion by Goodman to approve the L-4029 as presented and signed and delivered to the county; supported by Orr; Roll Call – Ayes: Pitcher, Goodman, Orr, Georgevich, Quine. Motion carried.
- E. Motion by Georgevich to adopt Resolution No 2026-07 Authorizing Participation in Michigan State Fire Equipment Grant Program whereas, the Lake Township Board recognizes the critical importance of firefighter health and safety, and the need to provide new helmets to fire fighter personnel, up to \$10,000, submitted by September 30, 2026; supported by Goodman; Ayes: All. Motion carried. Update provided on the Fire Advisory Board meeting last week: Frankfort Fire and Benzie EMS will work together to provide better service for residents; Chief Cederholm is doing a lot of work to help reduce the ISO rating, which may reduce insurance rates for residents.

- F. When Garden Club disbanded, they contributed \$4,059.91 to the township – Motion, by Goodman, to formally assign \$4,059.91 to be used for landscaping and beautification at the township hall and park; supported by Quine; Roll Call – Ayes: Orr, Pitcher, Goodman, Georgevich, Quine. Motion carried.
- G. Election Training in the High School – Clerk will look into funding options for the supplies to take election training into the high schools.

Unfinished Business:

- A. none.

Correspondence reviewed.

Announcements and General Board Discussion – MTA is coming to Crystal Mountain and the early bird special is still available, if others would like to attend see the clerk.

Public Comment: M. Bitzan-Powell – if damage occurred in transporting election equipment, how would that be handled; Chief Cederholm – Public comment to thank partners in National Park Service sent a paramedic to help a patient in pain with a hip out of place, to south shore; also, they would like to be added to provide Paramedic and EMT assistance from the park. K. Simon – Benzie Sunrise Rotary Club have a foundation that may be able to fund election supplies; G. Magel – is there coordination possible on Zoning Ordinance and Master Plan with Joint West Benzie Planning Commission; Rep. J. Roth – State Certificates for recognition are available;

Question asked to Representative John Roth - K. Orr – are public utilities and other rate increases the result of all the ice storms; D. Blank – Why is Michigan one of the most expensive utility states. J. Manilla – there will be a vote on the Constitutional Convention would you like it to pass.

8:42PM **Motion to adjourn** meeting by Georgevich; supported by Goodman; Ayes: All; Motion carried.

Penny Georgevich, Clerk

Public in Attendance: 14