

October 15, 2024

A Regular meeting of the Port Austin Township Board was held at the Township Hall at 5:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Ray Boswell, Paul Nienaltowski, Amanda Nienaltowski,

Absent: Deb Hubbard, Lou Schillinger (arrived at 5:34 pm)

Motion by Amanda Nienaltowski , seconded by Ray Boswell to approve the minutes of the Township meeting on September 17, 2024, as presented. Ayes all.

Motion by Ray Boswell, seconded by Amanda Nienaltowski to pay the bills with the addition of the September police bill \$2,365.99 and \$120 for Lynne Lesperance. Ayes all.

Internal Revenue Service	2,127.24
16411 State of Michigan	519.63
16412 Brightspeed	256.43
16413 DTE Energy	697.80
16414 DTE Energy	39.49
16415 Dirty Time Landscaping	1,000.00
16416 Election Source	45.16
16417 Emterra Environmental	14,447.16
16418 John Atwell	590.00
16419 Nietzke & Faupel	2,000.00
16420 Spectrum Printers	349.73
16421 Terry Braun	225.00
16422 Port Austin Fire Department	7,004.49
16423 Amanda Nienaltowski	2,196.20
16424 Debra Hubbard	2,372.52
16425 Louis Schillinger	283.85
16426 Paul Nienaltowski	1,229.63
16427 Ray Boswell	297.98
16428 Christopher Parsons	281.92
16429 Wade Mazure	3,039.25
16430 Mary Jaworski	2,501.19
16431 Sharon Baczynski	220.51
16432 Sheri Nowiski	1,082.95
16433 Theresa Elliott	<u>347.68</u>
	\$43,155.81

Public Comment:

- Martha Babcock, Grindstone – thank you to the Board for their service, a lot has been accomplished. Wish those running for election luck
- Dave Dybowski – need some signs removed, groups that are cleaning the roads are no longer in existence. Whalens, Quarry Road – Ducks, Charter Group
- Jay Laney – thank you to the board for service, asking about the water project. Tried to reach out to the volunteer group numerous times and haven't gotten a response. Many times it has been brought up at a meeting to be talked about after the meeting, would like to see it as an official part of the meeting. Not sure how to take the township board's official position on the water project since the board isn't taking an official position. Paul responded that there has been a lot of misinformation that may have caused some people

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on the board to lose the election. Paul stressed that it needs to come from the public. Jay feels that the township board should be able to (and encourages them to) tell the volunteer group to stop the project. Tyler has been working on an update to the board. Will recommend that the project does not go forward in its current state, since it is too large of a project and too much controversy surrounding it. The new board will need to learn about the actual process and not gossip

- Mike - Echo the sentiment of thanking the board, thank Dave Dybowski for cleaning up the roads all the time, Congratulations to Tyler Pettit on the new addition to your family, asking again about the water project update – does not see it on the agenda again this month. This is how rumors happen, because there are no official answers to any questions so people fill in the information with what little they think they know. New board will hopefully put pressure on the volunteer committee to provide more regular updates. Paul said the transparency on this project has been ultra phenomenal. Paul said he needs to talk to Tyler. Tyler gave another verbal update – He will prepare an update to distribute to Port Austin Township, Village of Port Austin, Pointe Aux Barques Township, HRWA(?), and PAASWA with the full detail of the evidence collected and then leave it up to those boards to make a decision with what to do with it (if anything). Mike said he comes to the PA Township Board to get updates to get information since there has been no official update. Paul appreciates his attendance at the board meetings and he (Mike) will get the information as soon as the board gets the information. Tyler will hopefully have the report for the November meeting, which will be the last board meeting with the current board. New board members can be sworn in November 20th at noon (Darcie Finan).
- Chris Parsons – how long has the public group for the water project been in existence? Tyler about a year and a half – How many people have signed the petition? Tyler – none have signed because there is no legal petition yet. What is the percentage of land mass that have completed the survey? Planning Commission public comment – urge the volunteer group to disband. Cost about \$33,000 per house, can you put a special assessment on a house that is only worth \$100,000.
- Brian – nominate Mike to be the “Blight Guy”
- Chris Parsons – suggest that the board contact the other townships to see what they are doing and see if we can share someone

Correspondence: None

CHAS Report – Deb will present both this month and next month’s report at the November meeting.

Fire Department Report -

Police Report – No Report

Zoning Report - Two (2) site permits were reviewed and file

Board of Review – by the end of this year, the BOR members need to be renewed in December

New Business

- a. Approve election workers
 - a. Motion by Paul Nienaltowski, second by Amanda Nienaltowski to accept the election worker list as presented
- b. Marathon – Hannah November 2, 2025 – putting on a marathon between Caseville and Port Austin. Last year they hosted an Ultra (expected 150 but had 750). The marathon is expecting 450 – 2000.
 - a. Requesting a letter of support from the Township to send to MDOT for rolling road closures between 8 am – 3 pm. How many police officers would we be able to provide – answered with 1 (Kevin)

Lou Schillinger arrived at 5:34 pm

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- b. Motion by Amanda Nienaltowski, second by Ray Boswell to submit a letter of support for the rolling road closures. Ayes all.
- c. Road report
 - a. Richard and Paul have submitted the report and highlighted the work that they believe is necessary. Estimated cost = \$287,000 for roads and \$6,750 for miscellaneous
 - b. Next year at this time, Richard will want to know about Thuemmel Road. The original paving was paid for by the township AND the residents – something to keep in mind for next year. Turning it back to gravel would be even more expensive.
 - c. Question from public (Martha Babcock) re: why would Thuemmel Rd needs to be resurfaced. Answered from Paul that it was the recommendation of the Road Commission and we are following their recommendations and having them do the work so that we wouldn't have to hire our own engineers and workers. Paul mentioned that he spoke with Danny Thuemmel and he didn't want us to do anything.
 - d. Question from Lou – when was Thuemmel Rd paved? Maybe 20 years?
 - e. Motion by Lou Schillinger, support by Ray Boswell to accept the proposed road work for an estimated amount of \$287,000 for roads and \$6,750 for miscellaneous. Ayes all.

Board comments:

Lou – apologized for being late

Ray – Troy Popham came to look at the repairs needed for the office. They will call with a list of supplies needed for the project. It has been delayed.

Motion by Amanda Nienaltowski, Second by Ray Boswell to Adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Viers

Deputy Clerk/Port Austin Township