MASTODON TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2025

Supervisor Chad Skinner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Mastodon Township Hall. He asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board Members present: Supervisor Chad Skinner, Clerk Jan Lemke, Treasurer Stacey Watters, Trustees Dave Smith and Mike Bjork. Trustee Dave Smith left during the meeting due to a fire call.

Attendees: Joe Brozak, Tammy Hendrickson, Stu Creel, Lisa Durr, Mary Kudwa, Lydia Novitsky, Dan Kurtz, and Peter LaPin.

Changes to the agenda: None. Mike made a motion to approve the agenda with a second by Chad. All in favor.

December Meeting Minutes – Stacey made a motion to accept the minutes with a second from Mike. All in favor.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Review: Mike reviewed checks 32051 - 32105 issued from the General Fund; checks 1860 – 1861 from the Dunn Mine Water Fund and payroll direct deposits #1135-1147. Mike made a motion to accept the payables and payroll. A second was made from Stacey. All in favor.

Treasurer Report: Written and submitted.

Clerk's Report: Submitted

Supervisor's Report: Chad attended the Supervisor training put on by MTA.

Road Commission Report: Dave was unavailable due to fire call

Assessor Report: Written and submitted.

Fire Department Report: Written and submitted.

Planning Commission Report: Next meeting scheduled is February 28th.

Zoning Admin. Report: Written and submitted.

Recreation Committee Report: The committee is working on a list for the Supervisor in preparation of the March budget meeting.

Village of Alpha: Aaron Anderson and Pat Thoreson are now on the Board of the Village of Alpha

Maintenance Report: Written and Submitted

Unfinished Business:
None

New Business:

Marihuana Grow License Renewal – MC3: Chad made a motion to accept their renewal application. The motion was seconded by Jan. All in favor.

Expired Term for Planning Commission: Chad recommended Paul Mallon to fill the term of February 2025 – January 2028. Chad made a motion to appoint Paul which was seconded by Mike. All in favor.

Other Business:

Public Comments: Public comment made and heard.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 5:50pm. by Mike and seconded by Stacey. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Lemke, Mastodon Township Clerk

MASTODON TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2025

Supervisor Chad Skinner called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m. at the Mastodon Township Hall. He asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board Members present: Supervisor Chad Skinner, Clerk Jan Lemke, Treasurer Stacey Watters, and Trustee Dave Smith. Trustee Mike Bjork was absent.

Attendees: Paul Dalpra, Joanne Burns, Tammy Hendrickson, Stu Creel, Summer Olson, Mary Kudwa, Mike Webb, Mark Taylor, Gregg Schiavo, and Rick Herman.

Changes to the agenda: None. Chad made a motion to approve the agenda with a second by Stacey. All in favor.

January Meeting Minutes – Stacey made a motion to accept the minutes with a second from Dave. All in favor.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Review: Dave reviewed checks 32106 - 32164 issued from the General Fund; checks 1862 from the Dunn Mine Water Fund and payroll direct deposits #1148-1160. Stacey made a motion to accept the payables and payroll. A second was made from Dave. All in favor.

Treasurer Report: Written and submitted.

Clerk's Report: Written and submitted

Supervisor's Report: No Updates

Road Commission Report: Road Commission does not plow side roads on weekends.

Assessor Report: Written and submitted.

Fire Department Report: Written and submitted.

Planning Commission Report: Next meeting scheduled is Wednesday, February 26th.

Zoning Admin. Report: Written and submitted.

Recreation Committee Report: The committee is working on a list for the March budget meeting.

Village of Alpha:

Maintenance Report: Written and Submitted

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Dunn Mine: Chad made a motion to increase the monthly water fee to $50/month. The motion was seconded by Jan and all were in favor.

New Business – con't:
UPSET - Donation: After discussion, it was decided that no donation would be made at this time.
Board of Review Resolution: Resolution number 2025-0211A "To Set An Alternate Date for the March Board of Review" was presented by Jan. Chad made a motion to accept the resolution and it was seconded by Stacey. Roll call vote: Dave – Yes; Jan – Yes; Chad – Yes; and Stacey – Yes.
Poverty Exemption Resolution: Resolution number 2025-0211B "To Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines" was presented by Jan. Stacey made a motion to accept the resolution and it was seconded by Chad. Roll call vote: Jan – Yes; Chad – Yes; Stacey – Yes; and Dave – Yes. Resolution 2025-0211C "To Adopt Poverty Exemption Asset Test" was presented by Jan. Stacey made a motion to accept the resolution and it was seconded by Chad. Roll call vote: Chad – Yes; Stacey – Yes; Dave – Yes; and Jan – Yes.
FOIA Resolution: : Resolution number 2025-0211D "Freedom of Information Act Fee Schedule" was presented by Jan. Chad made a motion to accept the resolution and it was seconded by Dave.
Roll call vote: Stacey – Yes; Dave – Yes; Jan – Yes; and Chad – Yes.
Policy Changes: Jan presented changes that needed to be made to the Mastodon Township Policy Manual. Chad made a motion to accept the changes and the motion was seconded by Stacey. All were in favor.
Miss Mary Marihuana Licenses Renewal: Miss Mary filed two renewal applications – one for their Grow Facility and one for their Recreational Retail Facility. Chad made a motion to accept their Grow application. The motion was seconded by Stacey and all were in favor. Stacey made a motion to accept their Recreational Retail Facility application. The motion was seconded by Chad and all were in favor.
Special Assessment – Lake Mary: Chad indicated that he would prefer the entire board be present to discuss this issue. The item was tabled until the March meeting.
Upgrade Camp 5 Security: After discussion, it was determined that the township would proceed in upgrading the security. A motion was made by Chad to make the upgrades and the motion was seconded by Dave. All were in favor.

Other Business:

Public Comments: Public comment made and heard.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:09pm by Dave and seconded by Stacey. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Lemke, Mastodon Township Clerk

MASTODON TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2025

Supervisor Chad Skinner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Mastodon Township Hall. He asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board Members present: Supervisor Chad Skinner, Clerk Jan Lemke, Trustees Dave Smith and Trustee Mike Bjork. Treasurer Stacey Watters was absent.

Attendees: Karen Mallon, Paul Dalpra, Joanne Burns, Stu Creel, Summer Olson, Mark Taylor, Gregg Schiavo, and Molly Cameron and Charyl McCole.

Changes to the agenda: None. Chad made a motion to approve the agenda with a second by Dave. All in favor.

February Meeting Minutes – Dave made a motion to accept the minutes with a second from Mike. All in favor.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Review: Mike reviewed checks 32165 - 32219 issued from the General Fund; checks 1863 from the Dunn Mine Water Fund and payroll direct deposits #1161-1176. Dave made a motion to accept the payables and payroll. A second was made from Mike. All in favor.

Treasurer Report: Written and submitted.

Clerk's Report: Written and submitted

Supervisor's Report: Report Presented

Road Commission Report: Report Presented. Weight limits are now on the roads.

Assessor Report: Written and submitted.

Fire Department Report: Written and submitted.

Planning Commission Report: Planning Meeting Minutes Received

Zoning Admin. Report: Written and submitted.

Recreation Committee Report: No Report Received

Village of Alpha: 5 Grants Submitted; Checking into future of the Senior Center

Maintenance Report: Written and Submitted

Guest: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:
Computers for the Office: Chad made a motion to purchase 3 new laptops needed for the office. The motion was seconded by Jan. All were in favor.
Annual Resolutions: Jan presented a resolution to maintain the township meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm. The Camp 5 meeting will be held on September 13, 2025 at 10:00am. It was seconded by Chad with the following roll call vote: Dave – yes, Mike – yes, Jan – yes, and Chad – yes. The new dates will be posted on our website for reference.
The next resolution that was presented by Jan was to cover legal representation for the Township. Two legal entities were presented and supported by Chad – Ryan Lynch and Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC to be used on an "as needed" basis. The resolution roll call was as follows: Mike – yes, Jan – yes, Chad – yes, and Dave – yes.
Budget Meeting Date & Time: The annual Budget Meeting will be held on March 25th at 4:00.
Annual Budget Changes: A review of budget changes that needed to be made. Chad made a motion to accept the changes to the 2024-2025 budget. Mike seconded the motion and all were in favor.
Spring Newsletter: After discussion, it was agreed that a newsletter would be sent with the new garbage vouchers for budget year 2025-2026.
Special Assessment: After discussion, it was determined that Mastodon Township will proceed to the next step of doing a special assessment for Lake Mary residents. It was determined that the request for an aquatic assessment would cover 3 years with contract work done by the Lake Mary Association and the bills themselves would be presented to Mastodon Township to pay out of the assessment account. Jan made a motion to move forward with these stipulations. Mike seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Other Business:

Public Comments: Public comment made and heard.

Board Comments:

Details of Next Meeting: April 8, 2025 at 5:30

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made at 6:14pm by Mike and seconded by Chad. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Lemke, Mastodon Township Clerk

March 25, 2025

BUDGET HEARING MINUTES OF THE MASTODON TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor Chad Skinner called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Board members present: Supervisor Chad Skinner, Clerk Jan Lemke, Treasurer Stacey Watters, Trustee Dave Smith and Trustee Mike Bjork. Absent: None. Public Attendance: Karen Mallon – Deputy Clerk, Dan Kurtz – Township Maintenance, Andy Fleming – Fire Chief, Jon Pickart – Fire Chief; Kathy Miller, Maureen Elson.

New Business:
Budget Review and Approval: The following was approved as 2025/26 budgeted numbers for each cost center: Revenue total projected: $511,022.00
Individual cost centers were reviewed and total annual costs projected were as follows:

- Supervisor - $27,475; Trustees - $13,492; Elections - $2,000; Township Office - $57,966; Assessor - $29,875; Clerk - $31,839; Deputy Clerk - $2,282; Board of Review - $2,375; Treasurer - $29,275 and Deputy Treasurer - $500; Township Hall - $54,630; Garage - $8,950; Cemetery - $3,625; Garbage Program - $47,450; Library Program - $1,000; Fire Department: $144,745; Zoning/Planning - $26,850; Street Lighting - $3,300; Buck Lake Park -$7,621; Stager Lake Park - $13,073; Recreation - $5,100; Anderson Ball Park - $6,414; Alpha Upper Park - $5,177; Partala Park - $609; Camp 5 Community Center - $2,141; Recreational - $10,500; Employee Benefits - $7,700.
- A review of payroll took place. The Fire Department Secretary salary would increase to $75.00/month. The fire call hourly rate for level I firefighters would be $20/hour and for level II firefighters, the rate covering fire calls would be $25/hour.

The 2025/26 budget for the General Fund had expenditures at $545,964.00

In regards to the current 2024/25 budget, two budget changes were requested. The Garbage Program account budget was set at $38,000 and Jan requested that it be increased to $43,000 to cover all requests currently made for reimbursement. Chad made a motion to make the change and Mike seconded the motion. All were in favor. The second request that Jan presented was to cover the Wage expense covering Camp 5 Community Center. Jan requested that the amount be increased from $1000 to $1100 to cover current expenses. Chad made a motion to make the change and Mike seconded the motion. All were in favor.

It was determined that we would transfer $40,000 from our Recreational Fund back to the State of Michigan Marihuana Funds Account; transfer $20,000 from our General Fund Savings to the Fire Department Fund and $5,000 from our General Fund Savings to the Future Capitol Savings Fund.

The Road Fund shows $160,703 in revenue and $222,155 projected for expenditures.

Water Utility fund shows $3,630 in revenue and $1,500 projected in expenses.

The Mastodon Township General Appropriations Act resolution was put on the table. A motion was made by Mike Bjork to accept the Resolution and seconded by Stacey Watters. The roll call vote was as follows: Mike Bjork– yes; Jan Lemke – yes; Chad Skinner – yes; Stacey Watters - yes; Dave Smith – Yes;

Mike Made a motion to adjourn at 6:26p.m. The motion was seconded by Dave and all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Lemke
Mastodon Township Clerk

Approved

MASTODON TOWNSHIP BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2025

Supervisor Chad Skinner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Mastodon Township Hall. He asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board Members present: Supervisor Chad Skinner, Clerk Jan Lemke, Treasurer Stacey Watters, and Trustee Mike Bjork. Trustee Dave Smith was absent.

Attendees: Karen and Paul Mallon, Mark Leonhardt, Peter LaPin, Brian Clancey, Lydia Novitsky, Joyce Degleffetti, Diane Brazeau, Stu Creel, Summer Olson, Mike Webb, Teresa Sawyer, Mark Taylor, Brian Schiavo, and Charyl McCole.

Changes to the agenda: None. Mike made a motion to approve the agenda with a second by Stacey. All in favor.

March Meeting Minutes – Chad made a motion to accept the minutes with a second from Stacey. All in favor. Stacey made a motion to accept the Budget meeting minutes with a second from Mike. All in favor.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Review: Mike reviewed checks 32220 - 32286 issued from the General Fund; checks 1864-1865 from the Dunn Mine Water Fund and payroll direct deposits #1177-1191. Chad made a motion to accept the payables and payroll. A second was made from Stacey. All in favor.

Treasurer Report: Written and submitted.

Clerk's Report: Written and submitted

Supervisor's Report: Report Presented

Road Commission Report: Meeting rescheduled to 4/15/25

Assessor Report: Written and submitted.

Fire Department Report: Written and submitted.

Planning Commission Report: Next meeting April 30, 2025

Zoning Admin. Report: Written and submitted.

Recreation Committee Report: Lydia presented their report

Village of Alpha: Waiting for grant on roads

Maintenance Report: Written and Submitted

Guest: None

Public Comment Agenda Items: None

Unfinished Business:
Lake Mary Assessment - No Update

New Business:
Forest Park Senior Night Donation – A donation of $100 was budgeted for this fiscal year.
Planning Commission Resignation – John Bjork has resigned from the Planning Commission. Jan will put a notice on the website.
Alpha Road Discussion: Peter LaPin has given the board a letter to review requesting funds for Alpha Roads.

Other Business:

Public Comments: Public Comments made and heard.

Board Comments:

Details of Next Meeting: May 13, 2025 at 5:30

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made at 5:51pm by Mike and seconded by Stacey. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Lemke, Mastodon Township Clerk

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 5:30pm

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:30pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT: Chad Skinner, Jan Lemke, Stacey Watters, Dave Smith and Mike Bjork
Others Present: Fire Chief, Andy Fleming; Zoning Administrator, Stu Creel; Assessor, Tammy Henderickson; Dan Kurtz, Maintenance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Request by Skinner to remove approval of the Budget Minutes as they were approved at the April meeting. Motion by Watters to approve agenda with change. Support: Smith. Call to Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Bjork to approve the April 8, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes. Support: Skinner. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed the payables (including April 2025 payroll) for checks numbered: General Fund: 32287 to 32389; Water Fund: 1866 to 1867; Road Fund: 1401 to 1402, noting that the payments included: the annual cemetery agreement, the 2025 Township Insurance premium, the deposit for road work on Kalla Walla Road; the chloride for road work, and envelopes and stamps from CJ graphics.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Written and submitted.

Clerk: Written and submitted. Clerk requested status on the purchase of a kiosk style sign to be placed outside of the township building stating she would like to see one in place prior to the cleanup day scheduled for June 16, 2025. Dan Kurtz and Skinner are handling this project

Supervisor: Nothing to report at this time.

Road Commission Report: Smith updated the Board with ICRC projects scheduled for summer. Several projects are slated including work on culverts and paving within the township. Smith reported that load restrictions have been lifted and that he would like to see a better plan from the road commission regarding the lifting of restrictions in the Spring. He advised that the tree line lawsuit will begin in September. Work on fiber optics has started up again.

Smith advised the Board he would like to donate his time and equipment to address gravel and sod problems on the various road shoulders. He believes he can level out the gravel build up along the road ways.

Assessor: Written and submitted.

Fire Chief: Written and submitted. Fire Chief Fleming reported that Jim Chick has been promoted to 2nd Lieutenant to oversee Camp 5 Station.

Planning Commission: No meeting. No quorum. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 5:00pm. This meeting is the annual Organizational meeting. Following the Organizational meeting is the Regular Planning Commission meeting scheduled at 5:30pm

Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted. ZA Creel asked for a status update on the Zoning Ordinance review that is being handled by the Township Attorneys. Clerk to call attorneys to request status update. Creel advises that the Master Plan review is slated to happen following the Zoning Ordinance update and this review is time sensitive.

Creel advised the Board that there is no update on the Jacobs lawsuit.

Recreational Committee: No meeting held.

Village of Alpha: Village Clerk, Sedwick, reported that the village received a grant for a back hoe.

Maintenance: Written and submitted. Dan Kurtz advised the Board that he has scheduled the tanker truck for the chloride application for June 2 – June 6, 2025.

GUEST: None

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lake Mary Special Assessment District (SAD): Lemke reported that the Township did receive a quote for weed eradication on Lake Mary, but the quote stated it was a "best guess" quote and a more accurate quote would not be available until a Fall survey of the lake could be done. Lemke advised that her office has reached out to the company, Cason Land & Water Management, LLC, to get a better understanding of when they plan to survey the lake. Until that happens progress on the Lake Mary SAD is on hold.

Alpha Road Discussion: Skinner advised that he contacted MTA and was told that the Township cannot legally give money to the village for road work. Because it is unlawful to give tax payer dollars to other municipalities for road work, the Township will not be donating money to the Village of Alpha for work on their roads.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clerk Resignation: Lemke advised the Board that she is retiring. She submitted a letter of resignation to the Board effective immediately on May 13, 2025. Motion by Skinner to accept Lemke's letter of resignation. Support: Watters. Call for vote: All ayes. Motion passed.

New Clerk Appointment: Motion by Skinner to nominate Karen Mallon as Clerk to complete the term of office of the Clerk. Support: Watters. Roll call: Watters – yes; Smith – yes; Bjork – yes; Skinner – yes. Motion passed.

Skinner read the Oath of Office of the Clerk to Mallon. Mallon was sworn in as Clerk and assumed the position immediately.

Office Manager Position: Lemke who has been working as the Township Office Manager has resigned from this position as well. Skinner requests that the position be posted on the Township's website and the local paper. The position will be open until Tuesday, May 27, 2025. Interviews will be scheduled after a review of applicants who submitted a letter of interest and/or a resume.

Zoning Board of Appeal: One letter of interest was received for the open Zoning Board of Appeals position. Motion by Skinner to appoint Michael Wheeler to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Support: Bjork. Call for vote: All ayes. Motion passed.

Maintenance Quotes: Kurtz provided quotes on for tools needed to complete work for the Township. Motion by Skinner to approve purchase of masonry tools in the amount of $2,700.00. Support: Mallon. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion by Bjork to approve the purchase of ADA picnic tables for installation at Stager Lake in the amount of $3,700.00. Support: Skinner. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Skinner to approve $2,500.00 to tile the Stager Lake bathrooms. Support: Smith. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Skinner to approve $1,900.00 for work to be completed at Alpha Park and the ballfield. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion passed.

Recreation Position: Skinner advised the Board that he has appointed Dan Kurtz as a member of the Recreation Committee.

Fire Department Radios: Fleming presented a quote for 800 radios from Nielson Communications Inc. in the amount of $23,641.40. This quote is higher the what was budgeted ($20,000.00). Motion by Bjork to approve the purchase of 10 Kenwood Viking VP5000 Single Band Radios for the fire department not to exceed $25,000.00. Support: Skinner. Call for vote: All ayes. Motion passed.

Other Business: None

Public Comments: Appreciation was extended by the public to Jan Lemke for all her hard work through the years as Township Clerk. ZA Creel advised the Board that Michigan Legislation may have passed a bill, HB43.20 that may address financial relationships between townships and villages.

Board Comments: Skinner extends a hearty appreciation to Jan Lemke for the tremendous service and support she provided, especially all the help she gave him when he first became Supervisor. There will be an appreciation dinner in the fire hall for Jan to celebrate her 17 years as Mastodon Township Clerk. Food has been donated and provided by friends of Jan Lemke.

Details of Next Meeting: Next Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the Township Hall.

Adjournment: Motion by Bjork to Adjourn Regular Board Meeting at 6:15pm. Support: Watters. All ayes. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the May 13, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 10th day of June, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted:

Karen Mallon, Karen Mallon, Clerk

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 5:30pm

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:30pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Chad Skinner, Stacey Watters and Dave Smith. Others Present: Fire Chief, Andy Fleming; Zoning Administrator, Stu Creel; Dan Kurtz, Maintenance.
Public Present: Lisa Durr, Cheryl McCabe, Kathy Anderson-Guzowski, Ray Guzowski, Mary Kudwa, Peter LaPin, Joanne Burns, Tom Lesandini, Paul Dalpra, David Shearin.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Request by Mallon to add West Iron County Robotics Boster Club Charitable Gaming Resolution to the agenda under Other Business. Motion by Bjork to approve the agenda with stated addition. Support: Watters. Call to Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Smith to approve the May 13, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Support: Skinner. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Bjork to approve the June 5, 2025 Special Board meeting minutes with addition of worded motion to hire Karen Mallon as Office Manager. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed the payables (including May 2025 payroll) for checks numbered: General Fund: 32347 to 32376. Motion by Smith to approve accounts payables and payroll for May 2025. Support: Skinner. Call to Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Written and submitted. Watters reported that she will be combining two tax bank accounts, the Summer and Winter accounts, as the Summer Tax account is not needed, and there is a high cost to keep it open with the need for check. Both accounts will be combined into the Winter Tax Account.

Clerk: Written and submitted. Mallon reported to the Board and attendees that there has been an ongoing issue with email service since the conversion to the new computers. She is working on regenerating the email groups for those wishing to receive minutes and agendas.

Supervisor: Skinner reported that he received from the Village of Alpha a listing of parcels for public sale. The auction is scheduled for August 9th at 11:00am. He reported that there is a parcel between township property and the roadway which the Township might be interested in. Minimum bids start at $300.00.

Smith stated he is in favor of bidding on that parcel and Bjork agreed. Skinner will look into the process to bid.

Skinner reported that he looked into House Bill 42-30 (Road Funds) and reported that the bill has not been signed. He further stated that there is no language in that bill that speaks of municipalities sharing funds.

Road Commission Report: Smith reported that the salt sheds are full and ready for winter. Funding is slated for work on 424 - Blue Lake to Rysberg, but more work on 424 could happen. Pavement markings on Tobin Alpha will be done, and the work on Kalla Wall is set for late August or beginning September. Garvel work on Armstrong Lake Rd. was discussed. The Road Commission is discussing purchasing a skid steer mower to do roadside cleanup. Fiber optics work is starting back up for our township. The tree line lawsuit is scheduled for September 30 through October 3, 2025.

Smith advised the Board that the Road Commission was opposed to him using personal equipment to address gravel and sod problems on the various road shoulders.

Assessor: Written and submitted.

Fire Chief: Written and submitted. Fire Chief Fleming reported that two firefighters have completed course work and are promoted to firefighter position.

Planning Commission: No meeting. No quorum. Next meeting is scheduled for July 2, 2025

Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted.

Recreational Committee: Report submitted. Looking to purchase trash cans, dog waste stations and 6 picnic tables.

Motion by Skinners to buy five (5) trash cans, two (2) dog waste stations and six (6) picnic tables. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Village of Alpha: None.

Maintenance: Written and submitted. Dan Kurtz reported that he will start the brining work the end of this week. Kurtz reminds everyone that the Spring Clean is scheduled for this Saturday, June 14th.

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS: MC Botanicals representative is present and available to answer questions if need be. Neil (?) reported that the Tractor Club met regarding the Thrasher and there are 10 members willing to help do construction work and will coordinate with Dan Kurtz.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lake Mary Special Assessment District (SAD): Mallon reported that a new estimate came in from Cason Land & Water. The new estimate is based on previous years' work, but still not on projected work which is subject to increase after a fall survey. The estimate is $55,878 for a three year period, 2026-2028. Mallon asked the Board if they are willing to move forward with the Special Assessment District process for Lake Mary. Smith agreed. All members agreed to move forward. Mallon will work on the necessary timeline and resolution need to begin the process and present it to the Board at the July regular Board meeting.

Thrasher Building: Kurtz is working on obtaining quotes for the cost of construction and will be working with the Recreation Committee to get the community involved. The cost to construct the building will be funded by the township and any donations received. The Alpha Museum is unable to help fund the project but can accept donations to the thrasher building on behalf of the township.

Motion by Skinner to approve $40,000.00 to the construction of the Thrasher Building. Support: Smith. Roll Call Vote: Mallon – yes; Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – yes; Bjork – yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Gravel Quotes: .6 miles of Armstrong Lake Road is to be graveled. Gravel quotes presented. Motion by Bjork to accept Payne & Dolan bid of $59,010.25 for needed work. Support: Smith. Roll Call Vote: Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – yes; Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes. Motion carried. This work will begin the end of August to the beginning of September.

MC3 Botanicals – Outdoor Growing:

MC3 Botanicals is requesting the Board to consider an amendment to the Marijuana Ordinance that would allow outdoor growing. Discussion by the Board was held regarding to the process required by the State to change the ordinance, the need for public hearings and what CRA regulations must be followed. This item is tabled until more information can be gathered. Mallon will reach out to attorneys for information.

Office Manager Pay Rate: Motion by Skinner to continue the payrate of the Office Manager position at $20.00 per hour with a 12 hour work week. Support: Bjork. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Electric Supply in Alpha: Motion by Skinner to pay Hurley $395.00 to add electric supply in Alpha. Support: Bjork. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

West Iron County Robotics Booter Club Charitable Gaming License Resolution: Raymond Guzowski, Treasurer of WICRBC requested consideration of the Board to adopt a resolution that would allow his group to hold a fund raiser raffle to assist the group in funding for projects and events. Motion by Skinner to recognize the West Iron County Robotics Booster Club as a nonprofit organization operating in the community for the purpose of obtaining charitable gaming licenses. Support: Bjork. Roll Call: Mallon – yes; Skinner – yes; Watters -yes; Smith – yes; Bjork -yes. Resolution adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Question raised regarding the status of the Dunn Mine Resolution. Skinner advised it is being working on and will be presented once completed. Cheryl from the Village of Alpha advised the Board that she is upset regarding the process of being placed on the meeting agenda. Neil spoke on the road work on Tobin Alpha Road.

BOARD COMMENTS: None

DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING: Next Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 8 , 2025 at 5:30 pm at the Township Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjork to Adjourn Regular Board Meeting at 6:23pm. Support: Watters. All ayes. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the June 10, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 11th day of July, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted:

Karen Mallon ______________________, Karen Mallon, Clerk

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 8, 2025

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:30pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Chad Skinner, Dave Smith. Absent: Stacey Watters.

Department members present: Dan Kurtz, Andy Fleming and Stu Creel. Absent: Tammy Hendrickson.
Public in attendance: Cheryl McCabe, Joanne Burns, Peter LaPin, Mike Webb, Mark Taylor, Gordon Marcinak, Paula Jacobs, Summer Olson, S. Stiles, Steven Ellingsen, Lydia Novitsky, Paul Dalpra, Catherine Shearin.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Skinner to approve agenda as presented. Support: Bjork. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Bjork to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2025 minutes with the addition of adding a section listing all members of the public in attendance. Support: Smith. All ayes; no nays. Motin Carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed payables and payroll for checks numbers 32377-32503. Motion by Bjork to approve payables and payroll as submitted. Support: Smith. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Not Submitted. Watters is absent and excused.

Clerk: Written and submitted. Mallon advised the Board of issues with recently upgraded computers and printers. If problem is not resolved will look into other IT sources.

Supervisor: Report on new software for ZA and will be meeting on July 10, 2025 at 3:45 pm and all are welcome. Skinner and Watters are looking at the Water ordinance and cost for water meters.

Road Commission Report: Smith reported the next Road Commission meeting is July 15, 2025. He will ask the Road Commission about the 33-feet right away on the roadways and why this hasn't been maintained on our roads.

Assessor: Written and submitted.

Fire Chief: Written and submitted. Waiting on radios delivery could take to one year; expects it be within three months.

Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted.

Planning Commission: Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

Recreational Committee: Kurtz reported that they would like to purchase paint to be used for a tennis court lines. Novitsky advised they would like to purchase a free-standing tennis net to be placed on the basketball court to use either as a pickle ball court or tennis court. Skinner requested quotes on prices for the net and paint to be brought to the August Board meeting.

Village of Alpha: Lapin reports that the 4th of July celebration was a success. Water tower is back up there are no water restrictions regarding boiling water in place. Issues with fire hydrants have been identified. Fleming stated that five (5) hydrants are in various states of disrepair.

Maintenance: Written and submitted. Kurtz reported that there are tree roots in the septic tank at Stager Lake. Motion by Bjork to spend no more than $1,000.00 to make necessary repairs. Support: Smith. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

Smith advised that he had received a phone call complimenting how beautiful Stager Lake Park was kept. He offered compliments to Dan Kurtz and Mary Kurtz for their work.

Motion by Skinner to accept reports as presented. Support: Bjork. Call to vote. All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lake Mary SAD: Motion by Mallon to adopt Resolution 2025-0708-001 Lake Mary SAD as presented with a three year cost of $1,153.76 per parcel and a public hearing to be held on August 2, 2025 at 10:00 am at the township hall. Support: Skinner. Call to vote: Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes; Skinner – yes; Smith – yes. Absent: Watters. Motion carried. Resolution 2025-0708-001 adopted.

Marijuana Ordinance: Office Manager to contact attorneys to review Marijuana Ordinances. Tabled until further notice.

NEW BUSINESS:

Recreation Committee Position: Skinner advised he is appointing Sherrie Courchaine to the Recreation Committee unless there are objections from the Board. Hearing none, Skinner appointed Courchaine to the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Cheryl McCabe of the Village of Alpha stated she is upset that Mastodon Township will not give tax dollars to the Village of Alpha for Village of Alpha road repairs. Gordon Marcinak read a letter to the Board from Mark Taylor requesting Noise, Blight and Small Container ordinances and asked the Board to direct the Planning Commission to look into drafting these ordinances.

BOARD COMMENTS: None

DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING: August 12, 2025

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 pm. Support: Bjork. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the July 8, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 12th day of August, 2025.

____, *Karen Mallon, Clerk*

Mastodon Township Public Hearing
Lake Mary Special Assessment District Meeting Minutes
Saturday, August 2, 2025

A Public Hearing was held by the Mastodon Township Board to address objections, concerns, and to review the assessment role and proposed cost of the Lake Mary – Lake Improvement Special Assessment District. The public hearing was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Chad Skinner, Dave Smith, and Stacey Watters.

RECORDED PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Name	Address
Beaudoin, Jackie	217 South Shore Road
Cleary, Fred	157 South Shore Road
Cleary, Nelson	201 South Shore Road
Dalpra, Paul	144 Mary Wood Lane
Gerou, Al	261 South Shore Road
Gerst, Rick	256 Bara Road
Hemphill, Alice	231 South Shore Road
Hemphill, John	231 South Shore Road
Jacobs, Paula	137 Jacobs Drive
Jacobson Burns, Joanne	135 South Shore Road
Kovach, Bill	150 Mary Wood Lane
Kovach, Carol	150 Mary Wood Lane
Kroll, Nick	183 South Shore Road
Marcinak, Gordon	140 Mary Wood Lane
Mitchell, Brian	279 South Shore Road
Mitchell, Stephanie	279 South Shore Road
Schiavo, Gregg	122 Mary Wood Lane
Sider, Denise	269 South Shore Road
Spear, Jen	164 Mary Wood
Swider, Don	269 South Shore Road
Taylor, Mark	180 Mary Wood Lane
Webb, Mike	209 South Shore Road

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Watters to approve agenda as presented. Support: Smith. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN FOR COMMENTS: Supervisor Skinner called for any interested property owner in attendance that wished to be heard by the Board regarding any matter of the proposed Lake Mary – Lake Improvement Special Assessment make themselves known to the Board, and time was given for any such property owner to be heard in full.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Brian Mitchell – 279 South Shore Road: Mr. Mitchell stated his objection to the special assessment being managed by the township. Mr. Mitchell further stated that Lake Mary is open to the public and believes it is waters of the State of Michigan not just the lake property owners.

Discussion was offered regarding possible grants available to make lake improvements.

John Hemphill – 231 South Shore Road: Mr. Hemphill stated his objection to the special assessment. He further stated that lake access rights are not just for the property owners but the public has rights. He stated that lake improvments should not be a burden on the homeowners. He opposes raising his property taxes to benefit the public.

Discussion by the group was made regarding a state fee for all boaters to use public lakes that could then assist inland lake improvements. Board members advised this is something to take to State Representatives.

Alice Hemphill – 231 South Shjore Road: Mrs. Hemphill stated her objection to the the special assessment. She indicated that one year ago the costs were substantially lower.

Nick Kroll – 183 South Shore: Mr. Kroll stated his support for the special assessment. He indicated that he is speaking as a property owner but is also representing the Lake Mary Lake Association's memebership support of the special assessment. He believes that the Lake Mary Lake Association would be highly unlikely to secure any grants that could be used for lake improvements. He opposes that proposed cost of the assessment and believes because it is so high, some property owners are opposed to the special assessment.

Mallon indicated that the estimated annual costs of the special assessment presented by the township are probably high. However, because this special assessment is new, it is hard for the township to foresee any possible cost that the special assessement could incur on the township. Mallon indicated that to date actual costs to the township are approximately $1,100.00. These costs include wages for work performed by the clerk, attorney fees, notice and publication fees, and costs to mail notices to property owners. Costs associated with the special assessment is the annual fee set out by Cason which amounts to $18,585 for year one and increases by 10% each subsequent year, publication and notice fees, administrative costs including supplies and wages.

Mallon also offered that the township must advise property owners of the potential costs of late payments which include interest fees and penalty charges. Mallon further indicated that because any unpaid special assessment on a property tax bill has the same implications that unpaid property taxes have to a potential loss of property, the township must advise property owners in full. Unpaid special assessment costs can lead to a lien on property.

Mark Taylor – 180 Mary Wood Lane: Mr. Taylor cited MCL 324.30914, which states that the township can waive the interest charges.

Paula Jacobs – 137 Jacobs Drive: Mrs. Jacobs asked if the actual costs are lower, what happens to any over paid amounts.

Skinner advised that any balance collected from the special assessment would carry over to the next year, or would be returned to the property owners who paid.

Roy Carlson – 338 Buck Lake Park Road: Mr. Carlson asked if the township contracts with the weed eradication company. (Mr. Carlson is not a property owner at Lake Mary, but interested in the discussions because of a proposed Buck Lake Special Assessment).

Paul Dalpra – 144 Mary Wood Lane: Mr. Dalpra advised that the Lake Mary Association would contract with Cason for weed eradication not the township.

Joanne Jacobson Burns – 135 South Shore Road: Ms. Burns asked if the Lake Mary Lake Associate would have acess to the transactions made by the township on behalf of the Lake Mary Lake Improvement Special Assessment District.

Mallon advised that any interested party would have access to these public records.

Al Gerou – 261 South Shore Road: Mr. Gerou stated he had three questions he wanted answers to.

1. Are there delineation maps that show which properties will be affected by the special assessment?
2. What improvements will be included? Will algae control be included?
3. Is there a “boiler proof” letter from the attorney regarding the costs?

Skinner advised that there is a GIS map on the township website that indicate properties around Lake Mary.

Mallon stated that the contract that Lake Mary Lake Association enters into would detail which treatments would be included.

Mallon stated that attorney fees associated with the Lake Mary Lake Improvement Special Assessment District are an unknown at this time. Actual attorney fees exist today for work done, but any further attorney fees are unknown at this particular time. For example, if the special assessment goes through, and if any property owner disputes this the Michigan’s Tax Tribunal, the supervisor is required to represent the township in such a hearing. It would be expected that the supervisor would request that the township’s attorney be present for such a hearing. At this particular time, the township cannot anticipate what costs it will incur in the matter of legal fees. Mallon futher stated that this special assessment is a Citizen’s Petition brought before the Mastodon Township Board, and no other property owner in the township other than the Lake Mary property owners who would have a direct benefit to their property value can bear the burden of any cost associated with the Lake Mary Lake Improvement Special Assessment. These costs cannot be paid for through the general fund.

Jackie Beaudoin – 217 South Shore Road: Mrs. Beaudoin asked if this is a per parcel fee, wondering if “you” own 2 (two) parcels then “you” would pay twice? Mrs. Beaudoin also wondered if there were better costs for this work as she remembers in years past the fees were not so high.

Mallon stated that this special assessment district is a per parcel payment structure.

Joanne Jacobson Burns – 135 South Shore Road: Ms. Burns stated that Jackie Beaudoin’s concerns are valued. She advised that she spoke with Lance from Cason, and he stated to her that he agrees the figures are high. She advised that the true costs should be around $9,600 annually and not $18,500 as was quoted. She further advised that the actual cost will not be known until the lake survey in August is completed. Ms. Burns also stated her concerns about how quickly the milfoil spreads, and a new spot has been noticed and they want to get ahead of that.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Skinner stated there has been a lot of information shared today. He would like to take a closer look at the costs. He indicated at this time it is unknown how the fees paid by the township for this Special Assessment would be reimbursed if the special assessment does not go through.

Watters stated she has concerns regarding the incoming bills that would need to be paid if there is not enough money collected.

Smith stated he does not like the idea of the township forcing property owners to pay for a service. He further stated that any time the government is involved more costs are incurred. He also stated looking at the numbers here today, some could donate work and money to keep the costs down. He stated he understands that everybody loves the lake and wants it taken care of. He stated he believes it would be better if the Lake Association took care of their lake and not involve the government.

Bjork reminded the group that some of the fees added to the special assessment do not even cover the costs to treat the milfoil. He agreed with Smith that costs increase when the government is involved. He stated that the township is an administrative burden to the lake noting that 40% of the costs are administrative costs. He wondered if the Lake Mary Lake Association could administer the process to treat the lake thereby keeping costs to the property owners down. He added government bureacratic layers are not good for the end goal. He stated he agrees with the idea of a special fee to cover lake improvements at the State level.

Mallon stated she had nothing else to offer.

FURTHER PUBLIC OPEN DISCUSSION:

Nick Kroll – 183 South Shore Road: Advised that at the Lake Association level it is an uphill climb. He stated that after this year, the Lake Association does not have the funds to cover the costs. Not all property owners are paying an equal amount to cover improvement costs. He further stated that there are a number of property owners who do not voluntarily pay for the improvements, so only a fixed percentage of the property owners carry the cost to do the treatment.

Gregg Schaivo – 122 Mary Wood Lane: Wondered if there is a surplus, how does this get paid?

Skinner offered if any over payment made, than those funds would go back to paying property owners.

John Hemphill – 231 South Shore: Asked if additional costs are incurred, who gets billed.

Skinner stated additional costs would go to the Lake Mary property owners. He further stated that he understands that a special assessment is a hard burden for some property owners who would be forced to pay the costs, but he also understands where the lake association is.

Nick Kroll – 183 South Shore Road: Mr. Kroll stated that the lake association did not come to this lightly, but it ran out of funds.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES DECISION:

Skinner asked for movement on the Lake Mary Lake Improvement Special Assessment.

Bjork and Watters stated that do not want to make a motion to move forward. Mallon agreed.

The matter is tabled until Cason completes its lake survey in late August 2025 so that more accurate costs can be determined.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Carol Kovach – 150 Mary Wood Lane: Stated that the government, the State of Michigan, isn't going to help. The general public doesn't help. A lot of Lake Mary lake residnets don't join the lake association, so they don't contribute to the health of the lake. The lake association is out of money, and she agrees with Nick Kroll's statement that the lake association is not taking this lightly.

She further stated that Camp Christine doesn't contribute, Runkle Lake is bad without treatment. She stated it is a small price to pay to keep the lake viable for generations.

The group again discussed state fees for boater particularly a DNR launch fee.

Nick Kroll – 183 South Shore Road: Advised the Board that the Lake Mary association did take a membership vote, and 68% of the property owners approved taking this step towards a special assessment fee.

Denise Swider – 269 South Shore Road: Stated that this has been a 19-year journey to treat the lake. Treatment has always laid on the shoulders of property owners, and not all property owners have done so. In 2023 the lake wasn't treated but should have been.

Skinner called for any further discussion or public comment. Hearing none the Lake Mary Lake Improvement Special Assessment Public Hearing of August 2, 2025 was closed by adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 am. Support: Smith. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried. Public Hearing closed at 11:10 am.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the August 2, 2025 Public Hearing on the proposed Lake Mary – Lake Improvement Special Assessment District. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 12th of August, 2025.

____, *Karen Mallon, Clerk*

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 12, 2025

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:30pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Dave Smith, Stacey Watters, Chad Skinner, Karen Mallon, Mike Bjork.

Department members present: Dan Kurtz, Andy Fleming and Stu Creel and Tammy Hendrickson.
Public in attendance: Jackie Beaudoin, Susan Lucas, Samantha Lucas, Neil Adank, Sherie Courchaine.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Bjork to approve agenda as presented. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Waters to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Support: Smith. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Bjork to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2025 Lake Mary Special Assessment Public Hearing. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed payables for General Fund checks 32504-32583 (including 2 voided checks), Road Account checks 1403-1404, Water Account checks 1869-1870, and payroll for checks numbers 32532 through 32543, and direct deposits DD1236-DD1253. Motion by Smith to approve payables and payroll as submitted. Support: Bjork. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Written and submitted.

Clerk: Written and submitted. Mallon advised the Board that Deputy Clerk Lemke has resigned, and Sherie Courchaine has been sworn in as Deputy Clerk effective August 11, 2025.

Supervisor: Reported that he has spoken to Iron County Road Commission, and they would like a 3-year road plan from the township. Discussion was held. Skinner will work with the Road Commission to get a list of priority work for township roads.

Road Commission Report: Smith reported he attended two Road Commission meetings: July 15, 2025 and August 12, 2025. At the July Road Commission meeting, it was reported that work on 424 will be starting soon, pavement markers have been completed on Tobin-Alpha Road, and Kalla Walla road work is set to go on August 25, 2025. Smith also reported that he offered traffic control assistance to the Road Commission from the fire department when needed. This stemmed from the tree clearing work done with the recent windstorm. Road Commission is looking into the Greenbelt Ordinance.

At the August Road Commission meeting it was reported Armstrong Lake Road work will begin August 25, 2025. Highland fiber optics is still working on installing lines. The Road Commission is working with the federal government by paying $150 annually towards protection of monarch butterflies. Culvert work will begin in September near Rainbow Trail and Buck Lake Road, culvert work on Armstrong Lake Road, and work on Tobin Alpha Road has been coordinated. The Road Commission reported that the rocks on Kalla Walla will remain in place to avoid potential sink hole if removed.

Assessor: Written and submitted.

Fire Chief: Written and submitted.

Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted. Creel reported that the Paul and Paula Jacobs lawsuit regarding moving of their illegally placed gazebo has been presented with a settlement offer by the Jacobs. The Jacobs offered to move the gazebo at their expense if the township dismisses the lawsuit and not subject the Jacobs to paying the legal fees the township has incurred due to this lawsuit.

Board discussion took place regarding the settlement offer. Mallon reported that invoicing on legal work done has been submitted, but the invoice includes work done on the Perry and Denise Jacobs lawsuit. Mallon will separate the costs associated with the Paul and Paula Jacobs lawsuit and report that figure to the board by August 13, 2025.

Skinner offered if the accumulated legal fees in this matter is under $4,000, the Township would counter offer that the legal fees be split equally between the Jacobs and the Township.

Motion by Smith to counter offer the Jacobs to settle the lawsuit in that the Township and the Jacobs would split the cost of the legal fees up to $2,000.00 each. Support: Mallon. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried. Creel or Skinner will contact Township's attorneys regarding the counter offer.

Planning Commission: Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, ~~July 10, 2025~~ at 5:00 pm. Correction: September 3, 2025.

Recreational Committee: Report submitted. Smith asked about retractable netting for the court. Kurtz advised that he was unable to find netting that would fit the court. Smith would like the Recreation Committee to move forward and purchase netting and paint to get the work completed. Skinner advised that the Township needs quotes before purchases can be made. Watters stated that she has seen volley ball nets and soccer nets in Alpha and doesn't believe that nets will be taken. Skinner advised he can approve up to $1,000.00 for work to complete a pickleball court set up. He will work with Kurtz to get supplies needed.

Kurtz advised that the Recreation Committee would like to replace the signs at the park. Kurtz stated there are funds in the budget for the signs. He will get pricing on wooden signs for the parks and present it to the Board.

Village of Alpha: No report submitted.

Maintenance: Written and submitted. Kurtz reported that all new road signs are up. He will present the next set of road signs. Kurtz reported he found the missing picnic tables.

Discussion was held regarding the donated park bench. Kurtz advised that a concrete foundation needs to be laid before the bench can be set. Smith, Watters and Bjork would like Kurtz to find the place for the bench.

Motion by Skinner to accept reports as presented. Support: Bjork. Call to vote. All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Thrasher Project Update: Smith reported that there is date set to present the thrasher to the public and begin the cleaning of the trasher. Saturday August 23, 2025 at Dave Smith's farm. Sunday August 24, 2025 cleaning work will begin. Mallon offered the Clerk's Office to help keep this project moving and will ensure that the Township's website is updated with the progress.

Lake Mary SAD Update: The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter regarding the Lake Mary Special Assessment District from the Lake Mary Association Board dated August 7, 2025. The Board will move forward on this once the Lake Mary lake survey is completed in late August.

Adult Use Marijuana Ordinance: Mallon informed the Board that per legal advice, if the Township decides to move forward with amending the Adult Use Marijuana Ordinance, then the Township is obligated to hold public hearings and abide by the rules and regulations of notification to the public for any public hearing in this matter. After Board discussion was held, the Board opted not to pursue amending the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Surveillance Cameras: Kurtz presented a quote for the purchase of four (4) new solar cameras to be placed at township parks. Motion by Bjork to purchase four (4) cameras including a subscription to monitor each camera up to $1,000.00. Support: Smith. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Appointment: The Board received a letter of interest from Sherie Courchaine to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission. Skinner advised the Board he would like to appoint her unless there is an objection. Hearing no objection, Courchaine was appointed to serve on the Planning Commission.

Evergreen Memorial Park Veteran's Flag Display Project: The City of Crystal Falls has presented a letter seeking financial support from the Township to purchase 24 flag poles which will serve to recognize those who served our country. Motion by Skinner to request that the City of Crystal Falls submit an invoice to Mastodon Township for the purchase of two (2) flag poles up to $1200.00. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

iWORQ Service Agreement: iWORQ is a zoning software that will assist ZA Creel in the field and allow the Assessor to access it as well. It is a tool in record keeping of matters of zoning. Creel commented on the benefits this would bring future zoning and planning personnel. The setup cost is $4,000.00 and each subsequent subscription year is $3,000.00

Motion by Skinner to purchase iWORQ. Support: Watters. Roll call vote: Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes; Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – yes. Motion carried.

AT&T Upgrade Proposal: After discussion regarding the phone and internet service provided by AT&T; the Board declined to pursue an upgrade. The Board has requested information on Starlink service and information on fiber optics.

Public Comment: Neil Adank stated he is from the Iron County Antique Farm club, and the club would like to be acknowledge publicly for its work in the restoring the Thrasher. There will be approximately nine (9) club members who have volunteer to help clean the Thrasher on August 24, 2025 from noon until 4:00pm. Smith advised that the 23rd of August is not written in stone for the public announcement of the Thrasher and will coordinate with the cleaning on the 24th to hold the public announcement.

Board Comments: Mallon advised the Board she will be out of town from Augusts 14, 2025 until August 25, 2025 to attend her daughter's wedding out of state. She stated that Deputy Clerk Courchaine will cover office hours during that time.

Details of Next Meeting: Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 10:00am at the Camp 5 Hall.

Adjournment: Motion by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 6:40pm. Support: Skinner. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the August 12, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 17th day of September, 2025.

Karen Mallon, *Karen Mallon, Clerk*

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting
Saturday, September ~~13~~ 14, 2025 at 10:00am

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 10:00 am by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Chad Skinner, Stacey Watters and Dave Smith.

Others Present: Tammy Hendrickson, Assessor, Dan Kurtz, Maintenance.
Public Present: Daryl Greene, Lynn Johnson Greene, Jackie Beaudoin, Vicki Browne, Paul Dalpra, Gregg Schiavo, Mark Leonhardt, Angie Luft, Adam Luft, Courtney and Millie Franz, Bill Jennings and Mike Web

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Request by Mallon make corrections on the agenda including correction to the minutes meeting date to August 12, 2025 and the details of the next meeting to list October 14, 2025 at 5:30pm. Smith requested that a Moment of Silence for James "Jim" Cichanofsky be added to the agenda. Motion by Mallon to approve the agenda with corrections and addition. Support: Smith. Call to Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

A moment of silence was offered by all to honor James Cichanofsky who served on the Mastodon Township Fire Department and passed away on September 3, 2025.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Bjork to approve the August 12, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes with correction made to the listed Planning Commission date to list August 13, 2025. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed the payables, including August 2025 payroll, for checks numbered: General Fund: 32584 to 32630, Road Account: 1405-1406, and Water Account: 1871. Motion by Watters to approve accounts payables and payroll for August 2025. Support: Skinner. Call to Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Written and submitted. Watters reported that Monday, September 15, 2025 is the last day to pay taxes without penalties.

Clerk: Written and submitted. Mallon reported to the Board that she provided a written copy of the FY2024-2025 Financial Statement and Supplementary Information provided by CLA audit. Mallon inquired if the Board would like Scott Sternhagen from CLA to provide a statement of the audit to the Board. Board would like Sternhagen to come to the October Regular Board meeting to provide a financial statement.

Supervisor: None

Road Commission Report: Smith reported that he was not able to attend the September Road Commission meeting. He stated he will be riding the roads, including Camp 5 Road and will give an update at the next meeting.

Assessor: Written and submitted.

Fire Chief: Written and submitted.

Planning Commission: No meeting. No quorum. Next meeting is scheduled for July 2, 2025

Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted.

Recreational Committee: None, no meeting.

Village of Alpha: None.

Maintenance: Written and submitted. Dan Kurtz reported that he has two projects that he would like approval on. He is requesting funds to reroute the rain gutter off the gable at the Township Hall. Two gutters are needed for this. The cost is $1,000.00. Kurtz advised he would like place stone at the site at the Township Hall. The cost for stone is $800.00.

Motion by Bjork to provide $2,000.00 for gutters and stone to divert water from the Township Hall. Support: Smith. Call to vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEMS: Paul Mallon representing the Recreation Committee updated the Board that a Survey has been completed to be used when updating the Recreation Plan. The Rec Committee is requesting $100 per month for 3 months to post the survey through Survey Monkey. Mallon advised that the Rec Committee expects that the survey will be completed by the end of November, an updated Recreation Plan will be submitted to the Planning Commission for review in December. Skinner approved funds to be used for the survey through Survey Monkey.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Evergreen Memorial Cemetery – Veterans Flag Display Project: Skinner advised the Board that the flag project costs were higher than what the Board approved in August. Motion by Skinner to adjust approved financial support for the Evergreen Memorial Cemetery Veterans Flag project from $1,200.00 to $1,420.00. Support: Bjork. Call to Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.

Jacobs Lawsuit Settlement Update: No update provided. Tabled to October 2025 Board Meeting.

Lake Mary Special Assessment District (SAD): Discussion held on the status of the Lake Mary Special Assessment District. Mallon advised the Board that a Three-Year Treatment Cost was provided by Cason Land & Water Management, LLC. Total cost for the three-year project is $28,422.63. Mallon also noted that the three-year plan indicated that treatment for 2027 and 2028 was an estimate only and if costs did increase that these costs would be passed onto the property owners. Mallon also advised that the Township's attorney advised that the Township could expect legal fees to range from $4,500.00 to $5,500.00 for the three-year project.

Mallon further advised that she reached out to Roy Carlson who had indicated that he had experience in aquatic plant management, and Carlson stated he had no experience in the administrative side of aquatic plant management; he only had experience in product application and surveys. Mallon stated that administrative costs in the amount of $1,500.00 per year is a set fee annually and could be potentially be lower for years 2 and 3. Notices and mailing fees in the amount of $55.00 - $65.00 could be an expected annual cost. The legal fees and publication of notices fees could be controlled subsequent years, as notices in the paper could be limited in years two and three, and legal fees could be set at $1,500.00 for each subsequent year totaling $4,500.00 for the three-year project.

Watters advised she reached out to the county for information on a Special Assessment software program that is used for Indian Lakes special assessments. The County advised Watters that that software program is supported by BS&A is exclusive to that project. Watters indicated that the software program from BS&A that she uses for tax payments doesn't support a SAD project like the Special Assessment program would. She would like to reach out to BS&A for information on the cost of the software program. Hendrickson advised that she had information that the cost for the BS&A software could be as high as $40,000.00 because BS&A is pushing their Cloud version of their software products. Watters will contact BS&A and get cost information for the Board.

Mallon advised that the Lake Mary SAD District will need to be certified by the Supervisor and Assessor by resolution. She will have that resolution prepared once the initial certification is done by the Assessor. This resolution will include the costs per parcels.

Watters advised that she would need all costs for the Lake Mary special assessment to her by early November 2025 if this special assessment is to be included on the Winter 2025 tax bills.

Motion by Bjork to move forward with the Lake Mary Weed Eradication Special Assessment. Support: Skinner. Roll call vote: Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – no, Bjork – yes; Mallon – no. Motion passed to move forward with the Lake Mary Weed Eradication Special Assessment.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OTHER BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Vickie Browne of Iron County Lakes and Stream Partnership advised the board that they will be hosting a Zoom meeting on Wednesday September 17, 2025 in the early afternoon that give input on special assessment districts and how other townships are managing the special assessment districts. She will send the link to Skinner who will then send it out to the other Board members.

Mark Leonhardt who lives in the village had questions regarding property assessments. He was advised to speak to the assessor.

Courtney Franz advised the Board that the Iron Amateur Hockey Association will be doing a fundraiser and would like to use the power outlet in Alpha. There will be no gambling. Skinner advised her the club could use the power for the fund raiser.

Gregg Schaivo advised the Board that there was a special assessment in the 80's for fire services.

Bill Jennings requested that the Board lean on the Road Commission to work on roads in the Camp 5 area.

Dave Smith stated that losing Lt. Cichanofsky leaves a vacancy in the Fire Department at the Camp 5 fire hall. Smith also stated that work will be done on the Trasher Tuesday, September 16, 2025 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at his place.

Mike Bjork advised all in attendance that it is National Bald Head Day! Enjoy the day!

BOARD COMMENTS: None

DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING: Next Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the Township Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjork to Adjourn Regular Board Meeting at 10:48am. Support: Watters. All ayes. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the September 14,2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 14th day of October, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted:

Karen Mallon ____________________________, Karen Mallon, Clerk

*********DRAFT**********

September 17, 2025 - Hematite Township Board Special Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Hoenig at 1pm.   Pledge of Allegiance recited.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Hoenig, Clerk Warren, Treasurer Haag, Trustee Raduechel & Trustee Richardson present.

REVIEW OF PERSONNEL COMPLAINT: Supervisor Hoenig opened the meeting with a statement to address the concerns of Hematite Township residents about a personnel matter regarding Fire Chief Schumacher's recent Facebook post.

A resolution to put Wesley Schumacher on immediate administrative leave was unanimously decided upon by the Hematite Township Board. Assistant Fire Chief Jason Maki is to assume all Fire Chief responsibilities effective immediately. Schumacher accepted this decision and will surrender his badge and radio until further notice.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Two members of the public made statements on this matter.

Trustee Richardson made a motion to adjourn at 1:15pm, supported by Trustee Raduechel.

______________________________ ______________________________

Joseph Hoenig, Township Supervisor   Vanessa Warren, Township Clerk

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 14, 2025

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:30pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Chad Skinner, Dave Smith~~. Absent:~~ Stacey Watters.

Department members present: Andy Fleming and Stu Creel. Absent: Tammy Hendrickson, Dan Kurtz
Public in attendance: Joanne Burns, Pat Marcinak, Gordon Marcinak, Mark Taylor, Janet Taylor, Paul Dalpra, Arlene Dalpra, Mike Webb, Gene Dziubinski, Bob Flood, Al Ginarasi, Brian Schiavo, Frederic Cleary, Charyl McCole.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Bjork to approve agenda as presented. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Smith to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2025 minutes with the correction of the listed date September 13, 2025 to September 14, 2025. Support: Mallon. All ayes; no nays. Motin Carried.

AUDIT REPORT: CLA representative Scott Sternhaghen was present to report on the 2024-2025 Audit. Sternhagen reported that the Township is in good financial position and was given the highest opinion a township can receive, stating that the township not only meets but exceeds expectations. (The budget report is available for public review at the Township Hall in the Clerk's office.)

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed payables and payroll for checks numbers 32361 to 32644 noting that check number 32672 in the amount of $23,641.40 was for the purchase of the fire departments new 800mhz radios. Motion by Smith to approve payables and payroll as submitted. Support: Mallon. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Not Submitted.

Clerk: Written and submitted. Mallon advised the Board that Terry Skinner has entered her resignation as Hall Cleaner. Mallon further advised as the Office Manager that she will clean the hall as part of the Office Manager duties unless the Board wanted to hire the position out. Hall will be cleaned by the Office Manager.

Supervisor: Skinner advised nothing to report from his office.

Road Commission Report: Smith reported he attended the October 14, 2025 Road Commission meeting. Smith reported the Road Commission is working on paving projects, mowing along roadways, grating roads. Work on the 424 washout is planned and should be done before winter. Completed road projects in Mastodon Township include: Kalla Walla Road, Armstrong Road. ICRC Manager Toivonen will be reporting on the Treeline lawsuit and sending information to Skinner.

Assessor: Written and submitted.

Fire Chief: Written and submitted. Fleming reported that the new radios are in hand and programmed.

Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted.

Planning Commission: Next meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2025 at 5:00 pm. The Recreation Plan survey is completed and online on the website. A QR code and paper survey are available at the Township Hall. All are encouraged to complete the survey. Work on the Zoning Ordinance continues. This will roll into the Recreation Plan and the Master Plan.

Recreational Committee: Written draft minutes have been submitted.

Village of Alpha: No report offered.

Maintenance: Written and submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Agenda Items. Joanne Burns of Lake Mary questioned why the Lake Mary SAD resolution or motion to move forward was not done as presented in the minutes of the September, 14, 2025 regular board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Jacobs Lawsuit Settlement: Motion by Skinner to agree to move forward with settlement as recommended by Attorney Pete Ryan and not collect any attorney fees from defendant Jacobs. Support Bjork. Call to vote: Mallon – yes; Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – yes; Bjork – yes. Motion carried.

Thrasher Update: Smith reported that the Thrasher has been cleaned up. Work on the thrasher has been done by the tractor club and volunteers. Smith requested permission to move the Thrasher to the township pole building.

Lake Mary SAD: Discussion held regarding the township's role administering the Lake Mary SAD. Watters reported that a new software program from BS&A would be cost prohibitive. The special assessment will be placed on the regular tax bill; there will be no separate bill. Mallon reported that Exhibit A as presented to the board itemizes expected costs for the three-year period. Based on conversations that Mallon has had with other government units and the township attorney, she believes that the costs presented could be receptive to all property owners. Mallon indicated that if the costs for the treatment of the lake came in higher then reported, she expects that the Lake Mary Association will pay for the difference as they have indicated numerous times to the Township Board. For 81 parcels, Mallon reported that the cost per parcel would be $474.35.

Motion by Bjork to approve Lake Mary Aquatic Weeds – Special Assessment District Resolution 2025-1014-001. Support: Mallon. Call to vote. Roll call: Skinner – yes; Watters – no; Smith – no; Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes. Motion carried. Resolution 2025-1014-001 adopted.

Resolution 2025-1014-002 was presented to the Board. Discussion held regarding the Supervisor and the Assessor certifying the Lake Mary SAD roll. Having certified them, discussion was held on when a public hearing could take based on proper notification to the parcel owners. It was determined that a public hearing would be held on Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the township hall to present the certified roll to the Lake Mary parcel owners and the public.

Motion by Mallon to approve Lake Mary Aquatic Weeds – Special Assessment District Resolution 2025-1014-002. Support: Bjork. Call to vote: Skinner – yes; Watters – No, Smith – yes; Bjork – yes; Mallon – yes. Motion carried. Resolution 2025-1014-002 adopted. Mallon will make proper notice in the paper, on the website and to the parcel owners.

NEW BUSINESS:

Inter Local Assessor Agreement from Iron County was presented by Skinner at the request of the Iron County Board of Commissioners. This agreement allows for Iron County to opt out of a designated county assessor which would then place the burden of each unit of local government in Iron County to designate an assessor in the event the assessor of record could not perform his/her duties for the particular local unit.

Motion by Skinner to enter into the Local Assessor Agreement with Iron County. Support: Smith. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Joanne Burns of Lake Mary thanked the Board for passing the Lake Mary SAD resolutions. Charyl McCole of the Village of Alpha would like information on how she can be placed on the agenda. GEI Representative informed the Board that the State of Michigan DNR Trust Fund Grant system has funding available for recreation projects. It is a 25% match by the township. The recreation plan must be adopted by Feburary 1, 2026 and the application completed by April 1, 2026 in order to be consider for grant funding. Bjork advised that the recreation survey is availabe and on hand here tonight either by paper survey or by QR code and asked that everyone take the time and complete a survey.

BOARD COMMENTS: None

DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING: November 11, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the Township Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 pm. Support: Smith. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the draft minutes of the October 14, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 12th day of November, 2025.

Karen Mallon

______________________________, *Karen Mallon, Clerk*

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday November 6, 2025

A Public Hearing for the Lake Mary Special Assessment District held by the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:31pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Chad Skinner, Dave Smith~~. Absent:~~ Stacey Watters.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Skinner requested that a second Public Comment item be added to the agenda. Motion by Bjork to approve agenda as presented. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING TO PUBLIC COMMENT: Skinner annoucned that the public hearing was open to allow property owners to voice their objections to the Special Assessment. No public comments were made.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL AND ANNUAL COST: Assessment roll and annual cost was presented to the Board. The Lake Mary Special Assessment for Weed Eradication will be $180.00 annually for a three-year term beginning 2026 and ending 2028. Assessments will be collected beginning with the Winter 2025 tax season. There are 81 parcels to be assessed. The Assessment Roll has been certified by both the Supervisor and Assessor.

FURTHER BOARD DISCUSSION: Members of the Board discussed the costs associated with the Lake Mary Special Assessment. Mallon advised the Board that in contacting other government units that administer special assessments, most use a flat fee for the administrative costs which include wages and materials which would be $1,500.00 for the first year and $500.00 for both the second and third years. Smith inquired why the subsequent years would only be $500.00. Mallon stated the lower cost is tied to work that would be done, and most work on the SAD was done during the first year. She further advised that the costs will be adjusted to true and real costs as necessary.

Mallon advised that the one cost that is a true unknown variable is the cost for weed management by Cason.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2025-1106-001: Motion by Mallon to adopt the Lake Mary Aquatic Weeds – Special Assessment District Resolution 2025-1106-001. Support: Skinner. Roll Call: Mallon – yes; Skinner – yes; Watters – yes; Smith – No; Bjork – yes. Motion carried. Resoluiton 2025-1106-001 adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Joanne Burns of Lake Mary Associaton advised the Board that if there is a increase fee from Cason, the Lake Association would pay the difference.

Public discussion was made regarding the Mastodon Township Zoning Ordinance and short term rentals. Bjork advised that the Planning Commission is currently working on amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and is looking at Short Term Rentals.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 pm. Support: Watters. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the draft minutes of the November 6, 2025, Lake Mary Special Assessment Public Hearing. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the12 th day of November, 2025

Karen Mallon ______________________, *Karen Mallon, Clerk*

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 11, 2025

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:30pm by Supervisor Chad Skinner.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Chad Skinner, Stacey Watters, Dave Smith.

Department members present: Andy Fleming, Dan Kurtz, Stu Creel, Paul Mallon PC Chair. Absent: Tammy Hendrickson
Public in attendance: Mark Taylor, Mike Webb, Krystal Sedwick.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Bjork to approve agenda as presented. Support: Watters. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Watters to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2025 minutes with the correction of the listed absence of Treasurer Stacey Watters who was present for the Board Meeting. Support: Smith. All ayes; no nays. Motion Carried.

Motion by Bjork to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2025 minutes of the Lake Mary SAD Public Hearing with the correction of the listed absence of Treasurer Stacey Watters who was present for the Board Meeting. Support: Watters. All ayes; no nays. Motion Carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that he reviewed payables and payroll for checks numbers 32691 to 32690 for General Fund in the amount of $17,790.13, and check number 1407 in the amount of $133,354.39, noting that the Road Account check was for the road work done on Armstrong Lake Road and Kalla Walla Road. Motion by Bjork to approve payables and payroll as submitted. Support: Skinner. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Written and Submitted.
Clerk: Written and submitted.
Supervisor: Skinner advised nothing to report from his office.
Road Commission Report: Smith reported he attended the November 11, 2025 Road Commission meeting. Smith reported the Road Commission work that has been completed in Mastodon Township along with projected projects, noting that the 424 road project will be halted until 2027. Fiber optic work is ongoing, but will end for the season. Damage done to the culvert from fiber optic installation will be repaired at the expense of the company.
Assessor: Written and submitted.
Fire Chief: Written and submitted. Fleming reported that certain state regulations are in place regarding truck maintenance, and he intends to present better maintenance tracking information to the Board as well.
Planning Commission: Written and submitted via minutes.
Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted. Presented information to the Clerk regarding proposed fee structure changes. Clerk reported that that information has been presented to the Board in their packet.
Recreational Committee: No meeting held in October. Skinner advised the Board that Jan Lemke resigned from the Rec Committee. Paul Mallon advised the Board that the survey results are in.
Village of Alpha: No report offered.
Maintenance: Written and submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Agenda Items. None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Zoning Ordinance Amendments: Bjork advised the Board that the Planning Commission reviewed the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance that were made public. A letter of recommendation to accept these changes is presented by PC Chair P. Mallon; however, members of the Planning Commission would like to do a further review of the Zoning Ordinance because certain changes were not made public. Bjork requests that the Board requests the Planning Commission to do further review of proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance without accepting any recommended changes at this time. Bjork will advise the Planning Commission that further review is requested by the Board.

Office Telephones: Mallon advised the Board that ATT&T has given notice to the township that they will not support service to current phones/phone system beginning early 2026. Mallon requests to look into new phone system for the township. Board directs Mallon to look into new phone system.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Wagner Creek Culvert Project: Skinner advised Board that he will sign a letter of support to be included in a grant application that is being completed by the Chicaugon Lake Property Owners Association.

- Fire Hydrant Quote: A second quote for new hydrants for the placement in the Village of Alpha was presented. Skinner advised that the 2025-2026 budget does not support new hydrants, but can be added to the 2026-2027 budget if approved by the Board. At this time, the township can offer to purchase repair kits to fix the two (2) hydrants in question. Smith asked for clarification that the township would purchase repair kits for these hydrants. Skinner advised that the township can purchase repair kits at this time.

- Employee Appreciation: Motion by Skinner to offer a $30.00 gift card to active 2025 employees as approved with the 2025-2026 budget. Support: Smith. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Smith offered gratitude to all Veterans on this the Veterans Day.

BOARD COMMENTS: None

DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING: December 9, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the Township Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 pm. Support: Watters. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the November 11, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 10th day of December, 2025.

Karen Mallon ________________________________, *Karen Mallon, Clerk*

Mastodon Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 09, 2025

A regular meeting of the Mastodon Township Board was called to order at 5:37 pm by Clerk Karen Mallon.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL: Mike Bjork, Karen Mallon, Stacey Watters, Dave Smith.
Not Present: Chad Skinner (absence excused).

Department members present: Andy Fleming, Dan Kurtz, Paul Mallon PC Chair, Tammy Hendrickson
Public in attendance: Brian Schiavo.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Smith to approve agenda as presented. Support: Bjork. Call to vote: All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Watters to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2025 minutes. Support: Smith. All ayes; no nays. Motion Carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL REVIEW: Bjork reported to the Board that according to Township policy, the Board does have to approved payables prior to paying invoices unless the invoice is for a utility bill or if there is a possible penalty for late payment. He stated he will include invoices reviewed for payment. Bjork reviewed payables and payroll for checks numbers 32738 to 32762 for General fund in the amount of $5,755.18, and check number 1873 for the Water account in the amount of $23.90. Payroll review included checks 32751 to 32759 and direct deposits 1305-1318 totaling $13,772.68. Invoices for review include 14216-14239 in the amount of $6,765.84 for General Fund and $26.07 for the Water account. Bjork noted that an invoice in the amount $2,095.79 for CLA for post audit review work is slated for payment.

Motion by Bjork to approve payables, invoices and payroll as submitted. Support: Mallon. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Written and submitted.
Clerk: Written and submitted. Reported that 2026 there will be elections. If election happens in February, the Board will have to approved election wages. Clerk also reported that the two township millages are up for renewal. These millages will have to be approved by the Board and attorney for approval by April 2026.
Supervisor: No report.
Road Commission Report: Smith reported he was unable to attend Road Commission meeting. The Road Commission Chair will email the report to Skinner.
Assessor: Written and submitted.
Fire Chief: Written and submitted. Dave Smith reported that the Fire Department is in need of volunteer firemen at the Camp 5 location and requested that the Board make the public aware.
Planning Commission: Bjork reported that the commission reviewed the survey submitted by the Rec Committee. The Zoning Ordinance review has been tabled as they will be working on the Master Plan updates so that the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance are in sync. Bjork reported that the 2022 version of the Zoning Ordinance was not approved and there are changes in that version that are not in compliance per the State of Michigan. Bjork reported that approval has been given for three of the commission members to enroll in the MSU Extension online class, Citizen Planner. Clerk reported funds are available for this training. Smith requested that the Planning Commission look into the Greenbelt and removing the restrictions because it causes confusion to people. He stated that the Road Commission is not interested in this restriction and stated that CR 424 is not a scenic road.

Zoning Administrator: Written report submitted. Clerk reported to the Board that there are three zoning violations written and are time sensitive. Demand letters are written and there has been no follow up.
Recreational Committee: Written and submitted. Kurtz stated that the Rec Committee will continue to send reports to the Board monthly as they meet. Kurtz stated that the Rec Committee is seeking approval from the Board for projects. He also wondered once projects are slated and pricing and is approved, who does the work? Bjork stated that the Planning Commission and Rec Committee will meet at the Planning Commission meeting in February 2026 for budget recommendations. Bjork stated that the Planning Commission is in favor of several ideas presented through the survey, but funding at budget time needs to be approved. Bjork offered that at budget time projects could be presented for 2026 work. If the DNR grant is awarded it might not be until 2027.

Maintenance: Written and submitted. Smith offered accolades for work done with the drain project. Discussion regarding work done on the pickup truck. Both Smith and Bjork wondered about the warranty. Kurtz stated the warranty has expired and the work is completed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Agenda Items. None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Fire Hydrant Replacement/Review Status: Clerk advised Board that she is researching information regarding any agreement between the Village of Alp(h)a and the Township regarding fire hydrants. A sample Fire Hydrant Memorandum of Agreement was presented for the Board to review, modify and consider for a future date. Bjork will check with the Village about any information of quotes for replacement of fire hydrants received this past summer. Fleming stated that the Township needs a Fire Service agreement with the Village that offers mutual support. The Village does not pay for any fire services, and the only known agreement may be from the 1980's.

Bjork would like a drafted agreement to be done by the Fire Department and presented to legal for approval. Smith would like the Supervisor and Clerk to have review and input as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Amendment and Adjustments: Tabled
Election and Millage Renewal Update: Clerk reported on these with her Clerk report.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Paul Mallon asked for clarificiation about Planning Commission member training.

BOARD COMMENTS: None

DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING: January 13, 2026 at 5:30 pm at the Township Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 6:16pm. Support: Smith. Call to vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the minutes contained herein are the approved minutes of the December 9, 2025, Regular Board meeting. Signed herein by the Mastodon Township Clerk, Karen Mallon on this the 14th day of January, 2026.

Karen Mallon ________________________________, *Karen Mallon, Clerk*