

SOO TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Soo Township Hall
June 11, 2025

PRESENT

Larry Perron
Allen Walther

Jim Callon
Don Kucharczyk

ABSENT

Krista Broos-Adams-excused

The June monthly Board Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Larry Perron. Jeff Killips, Shirley Farnquist, Ken Lind and Anna Bonacci-Slater were in attendance.

Public Comment:

-Ms. Farnquist was in attendance to answer any questions in regard to her land division request. The Board discussed the land division and everything looked in order.

A motion was made by J. Callon and supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the land division (Resolution 2025-06) for the parent parcel 17-012-450-013-20. A roll call vote was held and all voted "yes".

-Ken Lind presented the board the insurance policy for the new FY. Everything looked in order. There was a discussion about legal fee coverage. Mr. Lind was thanked for coming by the board.

- Acceptance of Agenda:

-A Motion was made by J. Callon and supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the Agenda as presented for the regular Board Meeting of June 11, 2025. Motion carried.

Board Meeting Minutes:

-The May 14, 2025 regular meeting minutes were discussed.

-A Motion was made by D. Kucharczyk and supported by J. Callon to approve the minutes of the regular Board Meeting minutes of May 14, 2025. Motion carried.

Fire Dept report (Jeff Killips):

- Reporting 4 runs last month and provided a brief on each run.
- Reported that the refurbishment of the fire truck should be complete in the next month or so.
- Thankful for the Sault Tribe 2% funding awarded to the fire department.
- Informed by City of SSM that there were explosives stored in a gravel pit within Soo Twp. Explosives belong to construction company doing work for the city. Discussed the need to know exactly where in case there is a fire nearby.
- Discussed the need for training for NI Fire Dept personnel. It's likely insufficient at this time. L. Perron will contact Phillys Reed to discuss finding new personnel.

Assessors Report (Pam Chipman): Absent

- Clerk gave a brief on the recent Michigan Tax Tribunal case. Twp attorney is handling it in conjunction with the Assessor.

Clerk's Report (Allen Walther):

- Soo Twp Clean-up days are complete.
- Fire Dept awarded 2% funds in the amount of \$12782.49 by the Sault Tribe. Clerk will draft and send a thank you letter on behalf of the board.
- Will be attending the MTA training for the Earned Sick Leave Act/Cemetery training on 6/18.
- Ballots for Aug 5th election should be arriving soon. Will begin mailing out to absentee voters upon receipt.
- NI Improvement Assn. agreed to terminate the ATT landline phone service at the NI Community Center. They currently have Starlink at the center that they have been paying for out of their (NIIA) funds (\$120/mo). They asked that Soo Twp pay for the Starlink service that will be utilized for phone service going forward. The board had no objection, Soo Twp will pay the NIIA \$120/mo starting in July.
- Requested board's permission to pay the EMC Insurance bill of \$19885.00 on 7/1/25 electronically.
- A Motion was made by J. Callon and supported by D. Kucharczyk to allow the Clerk to pay the EMC Insurance bill on 7/1/25 electronically. A roll call vote was held, all voted "yes". Motion carried.**

Clerk's Report (Allen Walther): continued

-Planning Comm. member emailed Clerk about a resident running a auto window tinting business out of a garage on 4 Mile Rd. Board discussed the issue and will keep an eye on the area going forward.

-Ordinance violation letters sent out:

4/16- 5275 S. Riverside Dr.

5/12- 3414 S. Riverside Dr.

-5275 S. Riverside appears to have cleaned up the yard, no further action needed.

-3414 S. Riverside Dr. has gotten worse. Clerk will send another letter informing owner to develop a plan and notify the board of the plan for clean up.

Recommend the following budget adjustments for FY24-25:

-Transfer \$12782.49 from Contingency Fund (899-957) to Fire Dept-Operating Supplies (2% award)

-Transfer \$8000 from Fire Dept-Equip Maint. (336-933) to Fire Dept-Operating Supplies (336-757)

-Transfer \$120 from Deputy Clerk (215-703) to Supervisor (171-702)

-Transfer \$60 from Deputy Clerk (215-703) to Clerk (215-702)

-Transfer \$60 from Deputy Clerk (215-703) to Treasurer (253-702)

-Transfer \$200 from Contingency Fund (899-957) to Electricity-NI (265-921)

-Transfer \$100 from Contingency Fund (899-957) to Telephone- Mainland (265-850)

-Transfer \$1000 from Clerk-Education/Training (215-956) to Clerk-Office Supplies (215-727)

J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve budget adjustments as presented. A roll call vote was held, all voted "yes". Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (Krista Broos-Adams): Presented by Clerk

-The tax account balance as of 31 May was \$10177.69.

-The General Fund balance as of 31 May was \$587970.31.

-Discussed the possibility of putting some of the carryover funds into a CD for better interest. Treasurer will look into it and we can discuss next month.

Planning Commission Report (Jim Callon):

- Planning Comm discussed the ongoing issues with the Pages property. L. Perron will continue to pursue a remedy.
- It was reported that Stan Shunk has purchased a commercial property for his appliance repair shop.
- Based on current issues within Dafter Twp the Planning Comm will move forward as quickly as possible to develop a Data Storage facility ordinance.
- Discussed tiny home issues that are becoming more frequent.

Permit Administrator (Jim Callon):

- 2 permits issued the past month.

Supervisor's Report (Larry Perron):

- Discussed property in the Twp that need to be cleaned up.
- Discussed the issues surrounding the 5 ½ mile lift station. It appears that the city has reached an agreement with the Sault Schools for them to pay the repair bill from 2021. L. Perron will email those concerned to verify that this subject is closed as far as Soo Twp is concerned.
- Parking lot seal coating should be done soon. They will contact Clerk to schedule.
- Brining of NI gravel roads should be schedule by the Cty Road Comm.
- Met with engineer, close to final plans for residing hall and replacing windows.

Payment Approvals:

J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kucharczyk to approve the payment of the May and June (thru 6/11) bills, payroll and payroll taxes as follows:

May Payments as of 5/31:

May checks for bills: Check#'s 13563-13601, 13607-13613 and (1) ET's totaling \$53595.21

May Payroll checks: Check#'s 13549-13562, 13602-13606, 13614-13617 totaling \$15971.23

May Payroll taxes: \$4095.58

Total Expenses as of 5/31: \$73662.02

June Payments as of 6/11:

June checks for bills: Check#'s 13622-13631, 13642-13664 and (3) ET's totaling \$21487.49

June Payroll checks: Check#'s 13618-13621, 13632-13641 totaling \$9155.15

June Payroll taxes withheld: \$5134.77

Total Expenses as of 6/11: \$35777.41

A roll call vote was held and all board members approved, the motion passed to pay the May and June (partial) bills, payroll, and payroll taxes as presented.

J. Callon made a motion and it was supported by D. Kurharczyk to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

Allen Walther, Township Clerk