

TUSCARORA TOWNSHIP  
3546 S. Straits Hwy, Indian River, MI 49749  
February 11, 2025 - 7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING  
Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor, Maves. Pledge of Allegiance led by Maves.

Roll Call: Maves, Smith, Hutchison, Fisher, and Decker were in attendance. There was a quorum present.

Board member conflict of interest statement (if applicable) Hutchinson on chief of police contract. Maves on parks commission appointment.

Public comment on agenda items (3 minutes per individual) – None

Approval of meeting agenda – Maves add sewer report update by Steve at Performance Engineers. Hutchison under old business add A to extend legal to April 1<sup>st</sup> and add F under new business to separate the two police contracts.

Motion by Fisher to accept agenda changes. Support: Decker Approved: All in favor.

Approval of previous minutes for regular meeting January 14, 2025.

Motion: Decker Support: Smith Approved: All in favor.

Approval of previous minutes for special meeting January 30, 2025.

Motion: Fisher Support: Hutchison Approved: All in favor.

Reports: Sewer update – Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion still looking at June date for startup. Most work is on hold for cold weather. Hope the frost will be out of the ground to start working again around April 21. Preconstruction meeting for Phase II contractor next week. They have been told not to work the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend and August 9 and 10 (boat races).

Reports from DDA, Library, Parks, and Police.

Bills – none.

Annual Audit Report – Gabridge will be here at the March board meeting to go over the audit report. Please submit questions in advance to someone at the township.

Treasurer Report – Currently we have over 5.6 million in all our funds. Some disbursements still need to be made. Smith is recommending that if your taxes are paid by a mortgage company we no longer send the homeowners a copy of the tax bill. Smith showed how many tax bills are returned for bad addresses. Smith is also recommending that we only send out tax receipts to the people that request a receipt.

Correspondence – none.

Airport report – regarding the pipes that burst due to cold weather, the insurance company will pay for the repairs needed.

DDA report – the last pole has been taken down, the DDA continues to work on a trail plan with the school.

FOIA – four requests.

Library – Kelsey Rutkowski, Director – gave an update on upcoming classes, events and the award they received.

Parks – Beth Henderson – working on applications for grants with the DNR, Awakon, and Consumers Energy. Schofield will be going on medical leave. Renaud has come back to work during this time frame. Parks approve Allen Maves to be appointed to the parks commission. Parks is looking for letters of support or donations for the grant pertaining to DeVoe Beach.

Police – Chief Gordon Temple – The people circulating counterfeit \$100 bills have been caught. Building grant update - water softener, camera work, and associated electrical work has been completed. Currently accepting bids for downstairs construction. Summit Fire Protection is putting us on their schedule to complete the fire sprinkling system. The grant has been amended to delete the upgrades to the library space downstairs. The request was made to have additional work performed to the heating and cooling systems for the township building instead. We have received reimbursement for the requests submitted for approximately \$98,000.

Old business:

Motion by Hutchison to extend the deadline for RFPs for legal to April 1. Letters will be sent out by March 1<sup>st</sup> with return by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Support: Fisher      Approved: All in favor.

New business:

Budget Amendments – Motion to make budget amendments as presented.

Amount	From GL#	Description	To GL#	Description
\$444.00	101-257-980.00	AssrComp/Office Eq	101-247-916.00	BOR Education
\$2,500.00	101-101-980.00	Twp Comp/&Office Eq	101-215-704.00	Dep Clerk Salary
\$4,200.00	101-101-980.00	Twp Comp/&Office Eq	101-253-704.00	Dep Treas. Salary
\$4,000.00	101-262-704.01	Election Coordinator	101-223-801.00	Internal Audit Acct
\$119.61	101-262-704.01	Election Coordinator	101-101-998-.01	Refunds
\$10,119.00	101-209-941.00	Contingencies	101-101-998-.01	Refunds

Motion: Maves      Support: Smith      Approved: All in favor.

Sewer construction bills – Phase I, Phase II, WWTP, Tanner, and Performance Engineers.

Motion: Smith      Support: Fisher      Approved: All in favor.

Motion for new bank account with Citizens National Bank for EPA Funds for Sewer Phase II.

Motion: Smith      Support: Hutchison      Approved: All in favor.

Motion for fireworks contract with Great Lakes Fireworks for July 5, 2025 (rain date 7/6/2025) and budget of \$15,000. Any donations received will go to a better show. Place the donation canister out front.

Motion: Maves      Support: Hutchison      Approved: All in favor.

Motion to accept application and per recommendations of parks commission to appoint Allen Maves until general election. (Trudy Maves recuses herself.)

Motion: Fisher      Support: Decker      Approved: All in favor

Motion to table until March the Tuscarora Township Police Department contract that expires June 2025 pending legal opinion about conflict of interest for Hutchison. (Hutchison recuses himself.)

Motion: Fisher

Support: Maves

Approved: All in favor.

Motion to table until March the Chief of Police contract and how many members on the board should be on the negotiation committee.

Motion: Fisher

Support: Decker

Approved: All in favor.

Public comments (3 minutes per individual) – There were two public comments.

Board comments – four comments.

Motion to adjournment at 8:15 p.m.

Recording Secretary, Chris Green

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Decker, Clerk  
Trudy Maves, Supervisor