

TUSCARORA TOWNSHIP
3546 S. Straits Hwy, Indian River, MI 49749
December 9, 2025 7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING
MEETING MINUTES

Call to order: Supervisor Maves called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call: Present: Hutchison, Smith, Maves, and Decker. Absent: Fisher. There is a quorum

Board member conflict of interest statement (if applicable) None.

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

Approval of meeting agenda with moving Kelsey, Pat, Gordon, and Matt up on the agenda.

Motion: Decker Support: Smith Approved: All in favor

Approval of previous minutes from November 11, 2025 Regular Meeting.

Motion: Smith Support: Hutchison Approved: All in favor

Reports:

Steve Corporon from Performance Engineers gave an update on the sewer project and change order.

Kelsey from the library gave an update on events and needs official support from township for reading garden.

Motion by Smith to give official approval for the reading garden. Support: Decker

Approved: All in favor

Pat from parks gave a report on the snow blower tractor, boat launch lighting sidewalk sealing, 250th committee (Sue Fisher from DDA, Pat McGinnis for Parks, need representative from the township, chamber of commerce and residents of Tuscarora Township). We hope to have DeVoe Beach bathrooms for 4th of July, lighting continues to be updated at Cooperation Park, lamprey nets have been installed at DeVoe Beach, and they still have an open seat on their commission.

Matt Hall from Cheboygan County Road Commission – thank you for all the help during and after the ice storm and finding a location for snow hauling and sidewalk cleaning. They need a deposit this month of \$5,000 to hold a place for our road project this coming summer. Project does not have to be identified at this time. Eagles Nest could use a chip seal. Barbara/Witt area has spots that could be paved, Chippewa Beach?. Every 5-7 years roads should be sealed to preserve them.

Motion by Smith to enter into an agreement with Cheboygan County Road Commission for the \$5,000 deposit for a road project. Support: Decker, Approved: All in favor

Police Report by Chief Temple – 20 frozen turkeys donated to give out a turkey instead of a ticket again this year. Also 4 whole turkey dinners to families in need, raised \$13,000 for stand-alone generator for Amy Diehl. 3 applicants for the open police officer. The cadet will start the police academy in January with funding from the public safety academy assistance program - grant for up to \$20,000.

Clerk report: 34 bills for \$37,904.65 and payroll report.

Motion: Smith Support: Hutchison Approved: All in favor

Board requested a summary report on the cemetery activities for the year.

Treasurer report: Sending out personal property tax letters, treasurer statutory duty to try to collect, delinquent O & M bills added to property tax bills – 2 quarters will go on the summer (October – March), and April – September will go on the winter bills. All bank reconciliations are up to date.

Correspondence - 0

Airport – pipes have been drained for the winter.

DDA-working on RFB for pathway south, they also have an opening on their committee. Meeting with the school – the hill has not been plowed by the school. Will they start plowing it or should the township plow and bill them. Under discussion with the school.

FOIA – 1

Old business:

Transient merchant ordinance, updated application and guidelines – Tabled.

RFP for O&M to go out for 3 year contract on builders exchange and our website. Will review bids at February meeting.

Motion: Maves Support: Smith Approved: All in favor

Boiler issues – heat went out on boiler 1 and boiler 2. They need separate water heat exchanges for the systems. Need to use fund equity to pay for the new work. Bid specs for the new project needs to go out for bid.

Pay M & M Plumbing & Heating bill for \$33,972.75 to replace one boiler and repair the second boiler. Split the bill 3-ways between township, library, and police. Police will use their fund balance to pay their share. And possibly the library too.

Motion: Maves Support: Decker Approved: All in favor

Update given on sewer rate study with Bendzinski & Co.

RFB ads for WWTP cold storage and RFB ads for screen at WWTP – will meet with Performance Engineers after the first of the year to get these bids out.

Update on health insurance policy for deceased employees to be added to Tuscarora Township policies.

“Health care coverage for employee upon death (non-union)

Full time employees who qualify for Employer provided health insurance benefits upon hire.

In the event of an **unexpected** death of employee, employee provided health care coverage shall be extended for not more than (90) days or 3 months coverage, from the date of death of the employee, to any insured member of said policy.

Tuscarora Township shall be responsible for sending certified letter to dependent of said health care coverage explaining the employer provided health care coverage will expire in (90) days or 3 months' worth of coverage.

Employee **shall** continue to contribute in cost share of said coverage. If employee can not contribute monthly cost share, coverage will be terminated at end of coverage month."

Motion: Hutchison

Support: Smith

Approved: All in favor

New business:

Sewer construction bills & change orders – Phase I, Phase II, WWTP

Grand Traverse Construction for \$88,402.05

Matt's Underground for \$7,076.02

Change order #4 Phase I – date change.

Motion: Smith

Support: Hutchison

Approved: All in favor

HACH annual service agreement for spectrophotometer used at WWTP for \$961.00.

Motion: Hutchison

Support: Decker

Approved: All in favor

Transfers to parks for clerk to make journal entries to move budget amounts from library, PD, and DDA for lawn and snow removal contracted services.

Motion: Smith

Support: Maves

Approved: All in favor

Parks commission personnel - parks to present their personnel approval to the township board for approval.

Resignations – Sue Fisher resignation as township trustee.

Motion: Decker

Support: Smith

Approved: All in favor

Post and address at the January 13, 2026 meeting with information/interviews with interested parties and special meeting later to appoint new trustee.

Maves to resign as FOIA Coordinator – tabled to review policy – maybe designate someone.

Public comments (3 minutes per individual)

Regarding sewer rates, resignation, and road project.

Board comments – 3 comments

Motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm.

Motion: Maves

Recording Secretary, Chris Green

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Decker, Clerk

Trudy Maves, Supervisor