

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the
Port Sheldon Township Board
January 10, 2024 – 5:30 P.M.**

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
 - a. Present: Meredith Hemmeke, Lucas DeVries, Rachel Frantom, Bill Monhollon and Michael Sabatino.
 - b. Absent: None
 - c. Also present: Attorney Ron Bultje, Fire Chief Brad Dirkse, Firefighter Jim Casemier, Becky Huttenga, Water Resources Commissioner Joe Bush, and seventeen residents and guests.
3. Pledge of allegiance.
4. Invocation
 - a. Luke DeVries offered the invocation.
5. Additions to Agenda: Sarah Matwiejczyk presented as a candidate running for prosecutor 2024, the supervisor requested to hear her in the agenda to before the public hearing.
6. Approval of Agenda.

Motion by Luke DeVries to approve the agenda with additions. Supported by Rachel Frantom and carried.
7. Consent Agenda Approval
 - a. Approve Minutes
 - December 13, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.
 - b. Approve Financial Report
 - c. Approve Correspondence -receive one correspondence in support of STR
 - d. Approve Committee Reports
 - Building & Zoning –December –five permits were issued with no new house starts.
 - Fire Department – December – Twenty-Two calls and two meetings. 2023 Full year report totaled Two-hundred fifty-eight calls. Probationary firefighter, Noah Roelofs graduated from Fire Academy and has completed all his required training. Chief Dirkse recommends promoting him to full firefighter status.

Motion by Rachel Frantom to accept Chief Dirkse’s recommendation and promote Noah Roelofs to full firefighter status. Supported by Luke DeVries and carried.
 - Code Enforcement – Year-to-date report. Thirty total enforcements for the year with twenty complaints resolved.
 - e. Approve payment of Bills

Motion by Rachel Frantom to approve the consent agenda. Supported by Luke DeVries and carried.
8. Ottawa County Farmland Preservation Presentation
Becky Huttenga presented information regarding The Farmland Preservation Program, and how Townships can opt in by Resolution, which allows farmers to apply if desired.
9. Sarah Matwiejczyk presented as a candidate running for prosecutor in the 2024 election.

10. Public Hearing- Planning Commission STR Ordinance

Supervisor opened the Public Hearing on the Planning Commission STR Ordinance to determine necessity and hear any objections to the ordinance at 5:51 pm.

Public Comments:

Curt Carini, 14944 Port Sheldon St, is in support of the STR Ordinance, he commented about using a common-sense approach and that people come here to spend time by the lake and short-term rentals provide that opportunity.

Floyd Ellisor, 6410 Wildwood Dr, in support of the Ordinance, lives by one has never had an issue with the guests.

Brian Dunn, 16693 Firefly Ridge, in support of the Ordinance, he owns a STR, he commented that he did have an issue with renters, but they took care of it and now only rent for a period of at least 5 days.

Victoria Carini, 14944 Port Sheldon St, is in support of the Ordinance, owns a rental on the lake, she thinks the ordinance is not overreaching.

Kim Casemier, 6355 Whispering Trails, voiced concerns about limiting STR's and that the Ordinance should address fire prevention, and compliance with all building codes and ordinances.

Motion by Luke DeVries to close the Public Hearing. Supported by Meredith Hemmeke and carried. Public Hearing closed at 5:59 pm.

11. Consider Poverty Exemption Resolution.

Motion by Rachel Frantom to adopt the 2024 Poverty Guidelines Resolution. Supported by Bill Monhollon and carried with five yes roll call votes. Ayes: Rachel Frantom, Lucas DeVries, Mike Sabatino, Meredith Hemmeke and Bill Monhollon. Nays: None.

12. Request from West Ottawa Public Schools to collect the 2024 Summer Tax Levy

Motion by Luke DeVries to approve the request from West Ottawa Public Schools to collect the 2024 Summer Tax levy. Supported by Rachel Frantom and carried.

13. Request from Grand Haven Public Schools to collect the 2024 Summer Tax Levy.

Motion by Rachel Frantom to approve the request from Grand Haven Public Schools to collect the 2024 Summer Tax levy. Supported by Luke DeVries and carried.

14. Additions to the Agenda

15. Public Comment.

- Joe Bush the Water Resources Commissioner spoke about running for re-election and that he is continuing to work on drains and reviewing PUDS.
- Marc Smith from the National Wildlife Federation commented on his concerns for continued public access and fishing opportunities to Lake Michigan via the North pier of Pigeon Lake after the Consumer's Decommissioning

16. Adjourn: **Motion** by Bill Monhollon to adjourn. Supported by Rachel Frantom and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Meredith Hemmeke, Clerk