



November 18, 2024

- I. CALL TO ORDER- The meeting was called to order by Supervisor, Jason Killoran at 6:00 p.m.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. ROLL CALL  
Spurr Township Board Members: Supervisor, Jason Killoran, Treasurer, Barb Wilson, Trustee, Dennis Benti, Trustee, Joel LePage, and Clerk, Jessica Omernick. Quorum is present.
- IV. AGENDA APPROVAL- Under XIII. Meeting Announcement change meeting date for c. Spurr Township Planning Commission to Thursday January 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Spurr Township Hall. Motion made by Trustee, LePage to approve the agenda with the amendments and seconded by Trustee, Benti. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- Motion made by Trustee, LePage to approve the minutes, seconded by Trustee, Benti. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- VI. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
  - a. Motion made by Trustee, Benti to approve Accounts Payable of \$12,129.83 and seconded by Trustee, LePage. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- VII. Highline Metro Act- There were two representatives present from Highline to discuss with the board their intentions on getting high speed internet to the township. Highline has roughly 6,000 miles of fiber across the whole state with 5,000 miles of that in the UP that was awarded to them as part of a grant program to service 49,000 homes in the state. They are about 2,500 miles into the project. They are looking to hit all of Marquette County hard in 2025 which includes Spurr Township for the summer of 2025. Not every home in Spurr township is going to get fiber, but Highline is going to build like they are for future extensions of the line down the road in 2-3 years. They are going to be doing a lot of aerial attachments which means underground will be a minimum since they are going to go on, WE energy poles as much as possible. The Metro Act covers municipalities and is a separate permit from what they have to get from the county, city and MDOT. The footage is audited every year by the state and the Michigan Public Service Commission wants that. The footage rate is \$.05/foot which Spurr township will get. As far as specific addresses and roads they are still in the finalizing design. The cost of the installation of the service from the pole to the house is a one-time payment of \$200 and monthly service charge is \$111. This also includes a router. The speed is 1 gb/second and there is no data cap. Supervisor, Killoran made a motion to sign the Metro Act and seconded by Trustee, LePage. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
  - a. Nicolet Bank- Corporate Checking accounts, positive pay and FDIC Coverage- Mark Calhoun from Nicolet was present and spoke to the board about converting the general fund checking account to a corporate checking account, positive pay and FDIC coverage. Funds are only FDIC insured up to \$250,000 and the township general fund typically always has a balance greater than that. Nicolet Bank does offer Reich & Tang which is that FDIC insured accounts up to \$50 million across many banks, earns 2.18% interest and has a \$125 a month service charge. Or the township could use money market accounts which has no service charge but is not FDIC insured and earns 2.18% interest. A corporate checking is an account that earns credit based on a balanced account that Nicolet uses to offset service charges. Right now, we are in a municipal account that earns 0.7% which was \$670 in the month of October. If we transfer to a corporate checking account, we can earn \$1,041 a month. Corporate checking accounts also includes positive pay which is a business fraud protection. Motion made by Clerk, Omernick to transition the tax account and municipal general account to a corporate checking account with positive pay protection and seconded by Trustee, LePage. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
    - i. Roll Call: Supervisor, Killoran- Aye  
Treasurer, Wilson- Aye  
Clerk, Omernick- Aye  
Trustee, LePage- Aye  
Trustee, Benti- Nay

VIII. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. Clerk Report- Clerk, Omernick gave the Balance Sheet by Class to the board. In total the township has a positive balance of \$851,225.29 including all the millage accounts and general funds.
- b. Treasurer- Treasurer, Wilson gave an update. The ending balance on 10/31/24 in the tax account was \$44,762.42. The total amount due to Baraga County Treasurer after the December BOR is \$38,018.04. Once this is paid the tax account balance will be \$6,744.38.
- c. Fireboard- Supervisor, Killoran gave an update from the 11/5/24 fire board meeting. The Fish and Hunt shop donated doors and mirrors for the new UTV. Insurance was also updated adding the UTV to the policy. There were 3 runs in October; downed powerline on Peshekee Grade on 10/5, Nelligan Lake Brush fire turned over to DNR on 10/19 and Hardwood Lane Brush fire due to downed powerline on 10/28. 6 members attended the monthly fire department meeting on 10/29. Future events and training with Marquette County Sheriff's department on Donning and Doffing water/ice rescue suits.
- d. Planning commission- Trustee, Bentti gave an update from the 11/8/24 PC meeting. There has been no response from the property owners on the corner of Ruth Lake Road and US Hwy 41 regarding obtaining a conditional use permit. The PC decided to wait if there are any more complaints before proceeding further. This problem should be resolved when the properties are rezoned this winter. SEMCO contacted the PC about putting a substation on natural gas pipeline west of Petticoat Lake Rd. They will need a conditional use permit in order to proceed. Rezoning of the corridor along US Hwy 41 was discussed and was tabled until the January 2025 meeting.
- e. Zoning Administrator- Trustee, Bentti gave a report on behalf of ZA, Mike Simula. There were 2 zoning permits issued in the past month
- f. Baraga County Sheriff. They had 17 hours of patrol time, 3 complaints resulting in 1 arrest, 3 traffic stops, 2 warnings, 2 civil infractions, 0 property inspections, and 2 crashes in Spurr Township in the month of October.
- g. Assessor- No update this month.

IX. OLD BUSINESS- public comment after each agenda item.

- a. ORV Update- Supervisor, Killoran gave an update. There are no new updates and the ORV trails are done for the year. Harry from the trail authority resigned.
- b. Semco Energy Company- Gas Line- The ordinance will be valid 30 days from when it is published in the paper on 11/13/24.
- c. Beaufort Lake Dock- Supervisor, Killoran gave an update and is still waiting to hear from the DNR about them dredging.
- d. Blight Ordinance Updating- There was discussion around updating the current township blight ordinance as it has not been updated in over 30 years. The board could hire someone to rewrite it or the board could take other township's ordinances and create a new one for Spurr from parts of those ordinances. The board is to review the L'Anse blight ordinance and the MTA website and come with comments and suggestions for Spurr township's blight ordinance for the December meeting

X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Michigamme Senior Meals- Virginia Olsen and Bill Seppanen from the Michigamme Senior Meals board were present to discuss the importance of the senior meals to the community and funding of the senior meals. They presented the financials Q1, Q2, Q3 and October of 2024 and showed that they are in the red (negative) for their income. 27% of people that attend the weekly meal are from Spurr Township, however Spurr township does not contribute anything financially to this weekly event. It was presented and asked of the Spurr Township board to contribute financially in order to keep this important community event going. The Township board discussed and was in agreement with supporting senior meals financially. Motion made by Clerk, Omernick to have Spurr township pay the Michigamme Senior meals \$1500 quarterly and seconded by Supervisor, Killoran. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried. Clerk, Omernick to contact Virginia Olsen to coordinate payments.

XI. Public Comment- Three minutes- None

XII. Meeting Announcement

- a. Michigamme/Spurr Fire Board meeting Tuesday December 3, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Michigamme
- b. Spurr Township Board Meeting Monday December 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Spurr Township Hall
- c. Spurr Township Planning Commission Thursday January 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Spurr Township Hall
- d. Michigamme/Spurr Joint Board Meeting Wednesday January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Spurr Township Hall

XIII. Adjournment- Supervisor, Killoran adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Omernick, Clerk