

WALTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Present: Trustee Heisler, Trustee Starkweather, Treasurer Heisler, Dave Soblesky, John and Patti Ostrowski, John and Michelle Collins, Jim Mott, and Dave Moody,

Absent:

Trustee Starkweather called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Starkweather moved to approve the October agenda, seconded by Treasurer Heisler MOTION CARRIED.

Correction was made to the minutes-removal of John and Michelle Collins as present at the September meeting.

Treasurer presented the payables in written form, Trustee Starkweather moved to transfer \$23,610, seconded by Treasurer Heisler. MOTION CARRIED Clerk Cummings noted a correction to the payables spreadsheet-adding Jeanine Nowak's wages for October as Deputy Treasurer)

Treasurer Heisler presented the Treasurer's report in written form. Trustee Heisler moved to accept the Treasurer's report as written, seconded by Treasurer Heisler. MOTION CARRIED.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Supervisor Thering received a letter from the Sheriff, asking for interest in an agreement to have a Deputy in the Township.

Received a letter and check from Rural Fire.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Approval of election inspectors for November 4<sup>th</sup> Election (Jen Johnson, Michelle Collins, Dianne Barmes and Debbie Troll, Supervisor Thering moved to accept the Election Inspectors, seconded by Treasurer Starkweather. MOTION CARRIED.
- Cemetery Security- Discussion took place on ideas to discourage or help to eliminate theft. Supervisor Thering reached out to our Insurance Company, they have grants available for security, we plan to apply. Discussion continued.
- Bathroom and water softener purchase- The board agreed to purchase a new stool and possibly a water softener.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Approve Intergovernmental agreement for planning and zoning services -Commissioner Mott explained that the Board of Commissioners will be repealing the current Planning and Zoning Ordinance, when this was originally enacted the County was required to service all areas of Eaton County. This process must take place prior to agreements with Townships being negotiated. The public Hearing will take place on October 28; the Commissioners will repeal after that most likely during November. The Board of Commissioners is discussing how they can keep planning and zoning going until a full agreement has been established with the Townships that have signed the letter of intent. Commissioner Mott stated he feels that the County should continue planning and zoning for these entities, they will look into an agreement for the interim. The agreement with the townships must fund the county position to continue services.

**Reports:**

**Clerk-** Election November 4<sup>th</sup>, Supervisor Thering would like to have something to recruit 2 new board of review members, Chief Collins mentioned adding additional information on the drop phone issues, Clerk Cummings will add a piece to recruit election inspectors for 2026 she also invited any other ideas, please get them to her within the next couple of weeks. Reminder starting in November meeting time will change to 6pm until March.

**Supervisor-** Received a bid to remove the 2 trees leaning over the brick building at 6966 S Stine, the board agreed to move forward with this.

**Olivet Fire Chief-** Olivet Fire Report- 14 total calls in Walton this month. The training to burn the barn at 6966 S Stine Rd is planned for Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 8am, if high winds come up, they may need to reschedule. Chief Collins has invited several area fire departments to participate. An Open House will be held on October 31 (Halloween) at the Fire Station. Chief Collins will be scheduling public education for Wee Ones and Fern Persons Elementary.

**Commissioner-** County Commissioner-Commissioner Mott explained that the Charlotte Fire Department received a \$700,000 grant, however the grant money went to the County. The County will be administering that for them. The grant was for a shipping container training that all fire departments in Eaton County can use.

The budget was balanced, cut about 8.4 million dollars, this will allow the County to go out about 5 years, this is the first time this has ever happened. Commissioner wants to get ahead of things; tough decisions were made but they had to think about the services for the residents not outside agencies. A policy was put into place that each year 10% of the previous year's fund balance must be in place to move forward. Trustee Starkweather asked if there is a chance that a full road patrol will be restated. Commissioner Mott stated that will all depend on the economy.

- **Road Commission Update-** Discussion took place on the 5-point project and the Drain Office.
- **Assessing-** December Board of Review will be held December 9<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. The estimated increased taxables is 2.4%.
- **Public Comment-**

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:03p.m. Trustee Heisler moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Starkweather, MOTION CARRIED.**