

WALTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

November 11th, 2025

Present: Trustee Heisler, Trustee Starkweather, Treasurer Heisler, Patti Ostrowski, Margo Aseltine, Jim Mott, John and Nancy Holton, Charlie Sharp, David Fletcher, Diane Barmes, Rick and Barb Platzer and Dave Moody,

Absent:

Supervisor Thering called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Clerk Cummings presented the payables in written form, Treasurer moved to transfer \$27,200, seconded by Clerk Cummings.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Brandy Miller-CU-12-25-22 Conditional Use Permit received by David and Brandi Fletcher for a family cemetery located in section 16 of Walton Township off from Griffin Hwy. Trustee Heisler moved to approve the Conditional Use as written, seconded by Supervisor Thering. MOTION CARRIED.
- Brandy Miller-C10-06-30 Conditional Use Permit received Mr. Jeremy and Mrs. Kathryn Harton to operate their existing greenhouse with retail sales in section 28 of Walton Township. No change to business operations, but would like to construct additional structures. Trustee Starkweather moved to approve the Conditional Use except for #15 Public Health and Safety, refuse disposal at the Transfer Station is prohibited for business use, seconded by Trustee Heisler. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Interlocal Agreement for Eaton County to Approve the Designated Assessor for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030. Supervisor Thering moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement, seconded by Clerk Cummings. MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Planning and Zoning Update- The County will no longer offer an agreement. Supervisor Thering has been in contact with Wexford County that started their own planning commission agreement with their townships. Every Township has someone on the board to represent them and they hire someone to do the work for them. Clerk Cummings asked why the County's change in direction now, Commissioner Mott responded that some Commissioner's just do not want it. Commissioner Mott stated that the Commissioner's agreed that if a plan is not provided to the committee by December 3rd the County is done. Commissioner Mott recommended that the County could help with the transition and extend the time of services or whatever the agreement would be. There is money set aside for master plan update, there is money there and there would not be a whole lot of work if that was used. Supervisor Thering said if we could use that to at least get us going and then come up with their own plan. The Commissioner's that are not supportive and just want to be done, are the ones that do not represent the rural townships. Potentially nine townships are willing to join in on a joint agreement. Supervisor Thering moved to agree to work with other townships for a joint agreement and to notify the county of our plans, seconded by Trustee Heisler. MOTION CARRIED.

- Water Softener Installation-Trustee Starkweather recommended purchasing a softener from Menards instead of the \$3000 that Besco quoted. Supervisor Thering will reach out to Dale Barr Jr.

Reports:

Clerk- Election went well. Trustee Starkweather asked what we are going to do since the curtains have been taken down, we all agreed to just leave them down for now.

Supervisor- Fire Department training to burn the barn at 6966 S Stine has been postponed, we will look into the asbestos possibly in the shingles.

Olivet Fire Chief-

Commissioner- Commissioner Mott stated they are working on a contract with Windsor Township with the Sheriff's Dept. They also met with Onieda, they cannot afford it. Onieda is hoping Windsor would help them out and go in together. Ways and Means meeting will be held November 14th at 9am and the next Commissioner meeting is November 19th.

Road Commission Update-

Assessing- December Board of Review will be held December 9th at 5pm. The estimated increased taxable is 2.7%.

Public Comment-

Margo Aseltine-Commended the election works and the Clerk for using their time during the election to clean up the building instead of using their time to talk.

John Holton asked what the County plan would be and Commissioner Mott responded it's all just going to depend on the Townships. If Townships used the County's plan it would take much time for a transition. Building permits will still go through the County.

Allison Williams-She lives on Martin Rd. Her husband owns a construction company, they are sad to lose Eaton County zoning, they do a great job. They usually have planning and zoning turn around with a week, she is worried that if individual cities and townships start handling this would may take a month plus to receive them, they have dealt with other counties that handle it individually and it takes a long time. They have people on payroll or customers that need things completed.

Rick Platzer-Appreciates the board taking the time to look into the ramifications of burning the barn down.

Charlie Sharp-Appreciates the board looking into the barn further also. Notification was kinda bad.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:40p.m. Trustee Heisler moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Starkweather, MOTION CARRIED.