

# MINUTES OF THE AU GRES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 ~ 7:00 P.M. **DRAFT**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Supervisor Jim Herzog, Clerk Michael Oxley, Treasurer Patricia Tremble, Trustee Jan Bullock and Trustee Penny Kurchak  
**ABSENT:** None

**ATTENDEES:** In order of signing in: Arthur Gallop (Zoning Administrator), Joseph Short, Gina Short and Robert Britt.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting began at 7:00pm with the pledge of allegiance.

**BOARD COMMENT:** Supervisor Jim Herzog thanked those who came out in this very cold weather.

**APPROVAL of AGENDA:** Treasurer Pat Tremble made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion supported by Trustee Penny Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Amended agenda approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (2 minute limit per person/group):** Joseph and Gina Short (2200 Lola Lane) brought the issue of their neighbor (Jessica Leinaar, 2210 Lola Lane) running a hair cutting/nail and tanning salon out of her home and that her fence was on their property. The Shorts, noting that attempts to get the township to improve Lola Lane (a private drive), asked how a commercial business, and the extra traffic was allowed by the township. The board stated that if a fence is on their property, it is their right to remove it. As for the business affecting Lola Lane, it was suggested that a Home Owners Association (as in the Bay Ridge subdivision) should be created, where all residents contribute to keep the road passable. It is illegal for the township to spend taxpayer monies on a private drive. There was more discussion on past attempts by the County Road commission to improve the road. Those plans failed due to the requirement of 33 feet right-of-way (both sides) which many residents rejected.

**APPROVAL of the MINUTES:** Motion made by Tremble to approve the minutes (with one correction) of the November 12th, 2025 Board of Trustee meeting. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Minutes approved.

**PAYMENT OF BOOK OF BILLS:** Motion made by Tremble to approve the November 2025 Book of Bills as presented. Motion supported Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. November 2025 Book of Bills approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Read by Pat Tremble. The current General Fund balance is \$190,410.89. The total of all funds is \$1,480,900.57 (bank accounts, investments and interest accrued). Motion made by Clerk Michael Oxley to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Supported by Bullock. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. Motion approved

## **BOARD REPORTS:**

**AUGRES-SIMS-WHITNEY FIRE AUTHORITY:** The November 20th, 2025 meeting was held at the Au Gres Fire Hall. The meeting called to order by Keith Edmonds. Treasurer Tom Brandimore gave the treasurer's report and the board members signed checks to pay the monthly bills. The treasurer prepared checks in advance as he will be on vacation in December.

Chief Humerickhouse reported ten calls during the previous month: 4 car accidents (personal injury), 1 downed power line, a gas leak, and a house fire on Swenson Road (Au Gres township), which was a total loss (Politte's). Humerickhouse also reported on the new fire truck, which is now scheduled to be delivered in September 2026, two months ahead of schedule. Also, the fire department received a check for \$1,000.00 from B R ventures, the oil company on Court Street (after the well burn-off).

The next meeting is on Thursday December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:00pm at Au Gres Fire Hall.

**HERITAGE ROUTE AUTHORITY:** Trustee Jan Bullock attended the December 1st AHRA meeting. Bullock reported that the Santa Train (Great Lakes Central Railroad) stopped at the Standish Depot on December 5th (9:00-10:00am). Mickey Mouse and the Grinch traveled with Santa. Not sure how many kids attended but there were 100 cups prepared. One child asked Bullock how old Santa was? She replied "I am not sure but he is pretty old." To which the boy said, "I'll bet he is 80!".

Bullock chatted up the Omer Courthouse Greens/Bake Sale: Open from 9:00~4.00pm December 12~13th.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Art Gallop Zoning Administrator reported on a permit for a house on Rumsey Road to remove a deck and rebuild it. Another on Pt. Au Gres removing the deck, put on a new roof and new siding. Nice to see parents' and grandparents' houses and cottages in the neighborhood being restored. A Mr. Dulzo, property on Green Drive, bordering the Schwiderson's Marina has two lots and plans a house and pole barn, and possibly a 2nd house on his other lot. Gallop cautioned that, if he planned to combine the two lots into one - then only one dwelling would be permitted.

**LINWOOD CEMETERY REPORT:** No cemetery report during winter months.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Motion to rescind Resolution 2025-07 made at last months board meeting. Tremble explained that the resolution adopted in November, had additional requirements (by the County Treasurers Office) which were deemed responsibilities of the county treasurer, not local jurisdictions. Our Assessor was consulted, and she agreed, that (in the case of errors) there could be liability on the township, which should be fall on the County. Motion made by Tremble to rescind Au Gres Township Resolution 2025-07 (Computerized Tax Roll) adopted on November 12th, 2025. Motion supported by Oxley. Roll Call Vote: Kurchak ~ Yes, Bullock ~ Yes, Herzog ~ Yes, Oxley ~ Yes, Tremble ~ Yes. All Ayes. No Nays. Resolution 2025-07 is rescinded.
- b. Oxley explained that our Assessor Jessica Landry requested the township adopt the updated Federal Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Assets Test, so they would be in place if/when she gets audited by the state (AMAR - Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements). Motion made by Oxley to adopt Au Gres Township Resolution 2025-08 Federal Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Assets Test. Motion supported by Bullock. Roll Call Vote: Herzog ~ Yes, Tremble ~ Yes, Kurchak ~ Yes, Bullock ~ Yes, Oxley ~ Yes. All Ayes. No Nays. Resolution 2025-08 is adopted.
- c. Board of Trustees meeting dates for 2026. Oxley asked the board members if there was any reason, or desire to hold our monthly township board meetings on another day/time (than the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm)? No discussion. Motion made by Tremble to approve the 2026 meeting dates as presented. Motion supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No nays. 2026 Board of Trustees meeting dates approved. Oxley to post the dates, update our website augrestownship.com, and notify residents by mail requesting such
- d. Cemetery Tractor - Fall Tribal 2% Distribution grant of \$19,500.00 received. Herzog informed the board that Nagy's Tractors has, since the grant was applied for, sold the business and no longer has the Massey Ferguson tractors for sale. Herzog, wanting to buy locally, visited other tractor sales locations in Standish, and presented a Richardson's Kubota diesel tractor spec sheet to the board for a sum of \$22,445.00. Herzog had consulted with Sexton Ed Manor on the Kubota and he had no issues. Tremble asked about 'loaded tires' and if they were in the price. Also, a brush hog attachment was considered. After more discussion, with input from Art Gallop and Robert Britt, a motion with an upper limit was suggested by Bullock, rather than wait for the next board meeting. Motion made by Tremble to purchase the Kubota Tractor from Richardson's at a price not to exceed \$24,000.00. Motion supported by Bullock. Voice vote: All Ayes, No Nays. Purchase approved. Herzog to follow up, and update the board members as things progress.

**BOARD COMMENT:** Herzog thanked all the board members for all the team work and accomplishments over the past year. Other board members chimed in with agreement.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Bob Britt thanked the board for all you do- you are a board who gets along and gets things done. Thank you all!

**ADJOURNMENT:** TIME – 8:00pm. Motion made by Tremble to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Kurchak. Voice vote: All yeas. No Nays. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes approved at the regular Board of Trustees Meeting on \_\_\_\_\_

James Herzog, Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Oxley, Clerk \_\_\_\_\_