

Goodwell Minutes
September 24, 2025

- ♦ Tim M. called meeting to order 7:00 pm, meeting was recorded:
 ✖ Tim M., Rachel B., Bob B., Greg O., and Jennifer W. present.
 ✖ Public:
- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| ☺ Alec & Kasey Dakin | ☺ Jeremy Rusilowski | ☺ Ryan Fast |
| ☺ Christopher Gingerich | ☺ Colleen Olson | |
| ☺ Ryan Fast | ☺ Sandra Wright | |
- ♦ Pledge of Allegiance recited.
 ♦ Email was sent out with minutes from Aug 27, 2025. Bob motioned to accept the minutes, Greg 2nd, passed. Minutes posted to the township website.
 ♦ Rachel: **Treasurer's report** as of Sep 24, 2025:
 ✖ Have \$488,376.02 total. Payments were \$26,746.48. The brining payment of \$6,270.00 to D&B Brining and the Workman's Comp Insurance payment of \$798.00 were the largest payments. Revenue was \$10,284.90. This included a Revenue Share of \$9,955.00. Bob motioned to accept treasurer's report as presented and pay bills. Jennifer 2nd, roll call, passed.
 ✖ There was discussion about the Fire Fund balance and how to clarify the budget process for it, especially for auditing. Rachel explained the cleanest break would be to have a \$2,000.00 balance after all payments in September. This amount represents the amount deposited from the General Fund when the account was started. This will keep the account from having any bank fees. Jennifer motioned to make the scheduled payments from the millage, to pay the current excess (from CD that was put in the Fire Fund) that exists, and each September pay out the interest that has accrued for the Fire Fund. Greg 2nd, roll call, passed.
 ♦ **Public Comment:**
 ✖ Christopher BPF - 22 runs:
 ≥ 14 medical – 1 in Goodwell
 ≥ 10 fire – 1 auto/boat in Goodwell, 1 downed power line in Goodwell.
 ≥ Training was: Hardy Dam failure preparation. 2nd training Rokon with rescue bikes. Patient packaging and transport. Also Normal truck check and maintenance.
 ≥ Projecting replacing rescue vehicle in next 2 years. Will repurpose the old one. Radios are obsolete. Budgeting to replace 3 per year @ \$5,000.00 each. They do have 3 new ones that are programed.
 ♦ Bob: **Zoning report:**
 ✖ No applications, 1 call from a contractor working on a house at Washington/Cottonwood
 ♦ **Planning:**
 ✖ Meeting is next month, will work on splits, and extra dwelling framework.
 ♦ Jennifer: **Clerk's Report**
 ✖ The audit is about done. Just received the draft of the Audit Report, the needed journal entries, and a sample of a Management Representation Letter to write up and sign.
 ✖ The Worker's Comp Insurance company, Liberty Mutual, has sent information that the new Clerk will need to review and work with to be prepared for next year's renewal. Such things as a portal and audit information.
 ✖ Reviewed the budget reports. The auto-pay amount for Cintas is currently at \$72.38 (plus auto-pay fee?) and Internet has been \$73.99 for 2 years. The income/expense for Fire protection and for Zoning items need to be adjusted. They will be voted on at October's meeting. Election expenses are done (except possibly 9-day voting expenses (depending on a decision about 9 -day voting) and an adjustment of \$50 will cover the over-spending on supplies and underspending on mileage. Areas to be looking at: Township Miscellaneous, Township Dues, Building Utilities, and Planning Wages (that do not count Zoning Administrator Planning meeting attendance).
 ♦ **Old Business:** none
 ♦ **New Business:**
 ✖ Community involvement is needed to work through the budget struggles. There is a high likelihood of cutting services to meet the budget. Possible areas to consider: Brining – the current cost is expected to increase significantly, Clean-Up, and any other non-statutory services. One option is to have the Road

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millage offset into General Fund. Looking at mailing a letter that details some information and urges residents to come to meetings and participate in the process and decision.

- ✂ Clerk Replacement – Tim talked with the County Clerk, Jason VanderStelt, to understand the current process for clerk replacement. After the Clerk resigns, the township has 45 days to find a replacement. If no replacement is found, the County has 15 days to name a replacement. If no replacement, the township MUST have an election, even with no entries. There are three other townships in Newaygo County in the same situation. There is no understanding by the County what happens after an election and still no replacement found.

◆ **Public Comment:**

- ✂ Alec - what letter is referred to on agenda for Clerk replacement. The newsletter that goes out with tax bills. But we expect it will be sent separately, and in time for January meeting. The significance of the budget concerns is necessary to be relayed well in advance of budget work.
- ✂ Alec – asking Planning to look at making a zoning statement to keep AI stations from being developed in the Township. Such stations create noise, take away resources, and drive up costs. The State will end up making laws regarding these, and townships will have to stay within these laws,

◆ **Board Comments:** What is the water line situation for the winter? Tim needs to get heat tapes put on in certain spots.

- ◆ Bob motioned to adjourn, Greg 2nd, passed. Meeting ended at 7:49 pm.

◆ **Next meetings:**

- ✂ Planning meeting October 14th, 7pm
- ✂ Township meeting October 29th, 7pm