

Tilden Township Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Tilden Township Board was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at the township hall. Supervisor VanLuven called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Supervisor: Fred VanLuven, Clerk: Tara Aho, Treasurer: Julie Filbrandt, Trustee: Craig Marietti, Trustee: Gary Thibeault

Board members absent: N/A

Agenda: Marietti moved/ VanLuven supported/ PASSED; to accept the agenda as presented.

Minutes: Thibeault moved/ Marietti supported/ PASSED; to accept the January 21, 2025, Meeting minutes as presented.

Public Comment: N/A

Bills: Aho moved/ VanLuven supported/ PASSED; to pay the bills as presented;

- General: 24741-24783 • Fire/Garbage: 1468-1473 • Water: 7113-7129
- Road: 5038-5039 • Tax: Summer; 3035-3042 & Winter; 07-18

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report has been placed on file.

Communications: MCTA 2025 meeting dates – Reviewed by The Board.

Supervisor's Comments: N/A

Water Business: Water Rate Increase Proposal – The Board reviewed and discussed increasing the water rates in smaller increments over the years. Trustee Marietti suggested instead of increasing the water rates to residents on the water system, increase the Hydrant Rental from the Fire/Garbage Fund to the Water Fund of \$675/month to \$1,000/month to cover the rates increase. This would go into effect for the new FY 4/1/2025-3/31/2026. Marietti moved/ VanLuven supported/ PASSED; to increase the monthly Hydrant rental to \$1,000 from \$675 effective 4/1/2025.

Unfinished Business: National Mine School Lot Info – The Board reviewed and discussed the letter from The Landbank. A representative from Habitat for Humanity was also present to discuss the options for the property where the Old National Mine School was located. Habitat's representative stated that if they were to participate in the project, they would guarantee to have 5 houses built on the 5 lots. Supervisor VanLuven addressed that he would like to get multiple entities involved, including a realtor. VanLuven would like the Township to see revenue back from the project. Trustee Marietti inquired about the costs of a water main line installation for the area. DPW Supervisor Champion stated that with the new water main line, the current Booster Station will need to be updated and adjusted to a larger size in order to be compatible with the new lots. The Board decided to gather more information and table the matter until the next Board meeting.

Unfinished Business Continued: EGLE Permit – The Board reviewed the EGLE's permit to replace the utility line structure and update lines, on County Road PGE, across the creek. Supervisor VanLuven stated that he would like a guarantee from EGLE that if there is any damage sustained to the road from the utility work, that EGLE be liable to fix/replace any damage done to the road. There was also some question as to if the pond/creek would need to be drained or not. Supervisor VanLuven signed the EGLE Permit.

2025 WETESA Resolution – After reviewing the WETESA Resolution, The Board agreed that they would all like more information on how costs were calculated and divided amongst The Authority before signing. 2025 WETESA Resolution is tabled until the next monthly Board meeting.

Revised Policies & Resolutions – Treasurer Filbrandt reviewed all revised policies and resolutions with The Board. All revisions were reviewed and noted on by The Township Attorney. Filbrandt requested that The Board members review the revisions and send any notes or concerns to her before the next Board meeting, so that she may make any adjustments needed.

MTA On-Site Training – Treasurer Filbrandt reviewed an estimated budget of the On-Site training with Cindy Dodge. The Estimated total is \$1,718. A date has not yet been set for the On-Site training, but Filbrandt will keep The Board informed of that date and time when it is finalized.

Salary Comparisons – Treasurer Filbrandt reviewed a salary comparison from other local Townships for their Board members & Deputies. Some discussion was held and Filbrandt requested that The Board review the comparisons and consider a possible increase in salary.

New Business: GEI Proposal; Kari Lane – The Board reviewed the proposal for professional engineering services for the Kari Lane reconstruction project. This project would convert Kari Lane into a public road. It is a stand alone project, costing \$24,900, not including the cost of the road. Supervisor commented on being in favor of the project and suggested the costs come out of Capital Outlay if voted 'yes'. Marietti moved/ Filbrandt supported/ PASSED; to accept the GEI engineering proposal, costing \$24,900 out of Capital Outlay; by a rollcall vote 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. The GEI Proposal was signed.

Silversmith Service Agreement – Treasurer Filbrandt presented a program called Silversmith, a software system that can be used for the water system and inventory for The Township. There are YouTube tutorials available for any Board member who wishes to learn about the software. The Board discussed the possibility of using money from the DMWI Grant Reimbursement for the purchase of the software. Tabled until the next monthly Board meeting when more information can be presented.

906 Technologies Quote Desktop Agreement – Clerk Aho requested that she have a desktop computer in her office and presented the Board with a quote from 906 Technologies for the amount of \$793.09, not including the cost of installing. Marietti moved/ Thibeault supported/ PASSED; purchase a desktop computer from 906 Technologies for \$793.09 for the Clerk's office.

UPSET Request – The Board reviewed the agreement and agreed to pay the amount as the previous FY of \$5,000. Marietti moved/ Filbrandt supported/ PASSED; to pay UPSET \$5,000 for the FY 4/1/2025-3/31/2026.

Greater Commission on Aging Request – The Board reviewed the donation request letter from The Greater Commission on Aging and agreed to make a donation in the same amount as the previous year of \$1,000. Marietti moved/ Thibeault supported/ PASSED; to donate \$1,000 to The Greater Commission on Aging.

Public Comment: The Township plowing for elderly or disabled residents, was addressed by a Township resident. The resident inquired how much time the DPWs are spending on average plowing for residents and if there was a criteria that residents needed to meet to utilize these services. Supervisor VanLuven stated that he would compile as much information as he could on the matter, without violating any other resident's private information, and supply the plowing information to any resident that requests it.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 P.M. by Supervisor Fred VanLuven.



Tara Aho, Tilden Township Clerk

