

Tilden Township Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2025

The regular meeting of the Tilden Township Board was held on Tuesday, May 20, 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: Aho moved/ Marietti supported/ PASSED; to accept the agenda with the addition of Misc. Debris & Southwood Drive Flooding Issue, as presented.

Minutes: Thibeault moved/ Filbrandt supported/ PASSED; to accept the April 15, 2025, Meeting minutes as presented.

Special Meeting Minutes: Thibeault moved/ VanLuven supported/ PASSED; to accept the March 27, 2025, Special Meeting minutes as presented. *Previously approved at Monthly Township Meeting April 15, 2025.

Public Comment: N/A

Bills: Thibeault moved/ VanLuven supported/ PASSED; to pay the bills as presented;
• General: 22914-24965 • Fire/Garbage: 1487-1491 • Water: 7189-7192
• Road: 5048-5050 • Tax: Summer; 0 & Winter; 42-50

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

Communications: U.P.S.E.T. Thank You - The Board reviewed the U.P.S.E.T. Thank you letter. The Board was presented the resignation letter of a former staff member. Copy of this communication is available at the Tilden Township Hall for review.

Supervisor's Comments: Supervisor VanLuven informed The Board that the blueprints for the correction of the Southwood Drive Drain Project. VanLuven is set to have a finalizing meeting for the project at the end of May, and again in June to assess costs.

Water Business: Supervisor DPW Champion informed The Board that they need approximately 2 rolls of copper (1,000 ft/each) to replace the remaining lines. Champion stated there is budgeted money remaining in the water fund, under "repairs and maintenance", in the amount of \$2,500.00, so no budget adjustments are needed.

Unfinished Business: Range Cell Phone Booster Quote/Direct TV Info – Range Telecommunications is offering a cell phone booster kit for \$2564.20. The Board discussed the poor service that cell phones get while at The Township Hall and that a booster could help remedy that problem. The Township currently has an AT&T landline, that would be replaced by the cell phone booster. If The Township Hall were to lose power, the booster will work off the backup generator. DPW Supervisor Champion believes that the range of service should be obtainable throughout the parking lot of The Township Hall as well. The Board also discussed purchasing DirectTV for The Township Hall for \$32.99/month, with the first monthly bill amounting to \$14.99 with special offers and services. Aho moved/ VanLuven supported/ PASSED; to purchase the Range Telecommunications cell phone booster for \$2564.20, as well as DirectTV for \$32.99/month for The Township Hall.

Dore Landfill Invoice – Treasurer Filbrandt informed The Board that the check to pay the landfill is coming soon. The Treasurer will hold onto the invoice from The Landfill until the check is received for payment. The Board will be looking to hire a local contractor to finish cleaning the debris from The Old National Mine School tear down.

Silversmith – Treasurer Filbrandt informed The Board that they are still waiting on approval. Tabled until the next monthly meeting.

Cindy Dodge; LOR Consulting – Treasurer Filbrandt provided The Board with a review packet from the visit with Cindy Dodge.

Habitat for Humanity Contract – The Board reviewed the contract from Habitat for Humanity for the purchasing of the 5 lots available where The Old National Mine School used to stand. H.F.H. will purchase all 5 lots for \$8,000.00/lot. Marietti/moved, Filbrandt/supported /PASSED upon a roll call vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent; A copy of the contract can be found at The Tilden Township Hall upon request.

New Business: Proposed Kari Lane Layout – Supervisor VanLuven reviewed the Kari Lane layout with The Board. VanLuven stated that once the finalized costs are provided, The Township can start bids for the project.

Over/Under Policy for Tax Collection – Treasurer Filbrandt reviewed the new Over/Under policy for tax collection payments with The Board. A. - An overpayment of \$5.01 or more will be refunded and processed following the Accounts Payable Guidelines. B. – An overpayment of \$5.00 or less will be either transferred to any tax balance if applicable or processed in accordance with generally accepted tax collection practices. C. – An underpayment of \$5.01 or more will generate a reminder bill of the balance that is currently due. D. – An underpayment of \$5.00 or less will be taken from the interest being earned on the tax account. Aho moved/ Marietti supported/ PASSED; to accept the Over/Under Policy for Tax Collection Policy.

New Business Continued: Jack's Builders; Estimate for Counter Reconfiguration – Jack from Jack's Builders gave a verbal quote of \$500.00 or less to reconfigure the counter in the front office. Jack stated that he could use and refurbish most of the existing material. Marietti questioned the Bids Policy in reference to the bid for the counter. Filbrandt reviewed the Bids Policy for The Board and found that the bid from Jack's Builders for the office counter, met the Bids Policy requirements. VanLuven moved/ Thibeault supported/ PASSED; to hire Jack's Builders for the front office counter reconfiguration, costing \$500.00 or less.

Final Budget – Clerk Aho reviewed the final budget with The Board.

Truth In Taxation Resolution Proposed, Public Hearing, Hearing & Resolution Adoption

- The Board discussed The Resolution. Tilden Township proposed a tentative increase of 0.0265 mills for the General Fund, a tentative increase of 0.0227 mills for the Road Fund, a tentative increase of 0.0148 mills for the Fire Fund, and a tentative increase of 0.0080 mills for the Garbage Fund. If adopted, the proposed tentative additional millage for the General, Road, Garbage Collection and Fire Protection Funds will decrease by 2.440% over such revenues generated by levies permitted without holding a hearing. If not approved, the revenue for these funds will increase by 2.500% over the preceding year's operating revenue. There was no public comment. Marietti/moved, VanLuven/supported /PASSED upon a roll call vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent; Resolution may be found at the Township Hall upon request.

Millage Rates Resolution Adoption - The Board discussed The Resolution. Tilden Township proposed a tentative increase of millage rates for 2025 as follows; 1.0853 mills for the General Fund, a tentative increase of 0.9296 mills for the Road Fund, a tentative increase of 0.6071 mills for the Fire Fund, and a tentative increase of 0.3269 mills for the Garbage Fund. Marietti /moved, Aho/supported /PASSED upon a roll call vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent; Resolution may be found at the Township Hall upon request.

General Appropriation Act Adoption - The Board discussed The General Appropriation Act. Marietti/moved, Aho/supported /PASSED upon a roll call vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent; The General Appropriation Act may be found at the Township Hall upon request.

New Business Continued: Help Wanted Ad – The Board discussed the help wanted add put in the local paper for the front office position. The ad will run for 2 weeks in the paper, in addition to placing the ad on The Township website. Treasurer Filbrandt will look into the possibility of putting the ad up through Michigan Works as well.

Public Comment: A resident informed The Board that a traffic sign was down on County Road PI, DPW will call MCRC to replace signage.

Another resident inquired as to whether Tilden Township hours of operation would be changing with the new office position. Resident was informed at this time there are no plans to change office hours.

A question was brought up as to how much snow plowing costs The Township when assistance is provided to qualified residents. It approximated to take DPW around 4 hours per snow event.

A concern was raised as to sewage issues, the resident was informed that the Health Department must handle such problems.

A resident had questions as to why elected officials were able to set their own office hours, work from home or bring their children in to the hall with them. The resident was informed that elected township officials are not required to designate set office hours, and that each newly elected board designates how the board conducts business in the office. Board members are not designated or assigned any tasks from an employer, the board serves as the employer in this instance, and each individual is responsible for knowing and completing any work required of them, as each officials position holds different requirements and responsibilities.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 P.M. by Supervisor Fred VanLuven.


Tara Aho, Tilden Township Clerk

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