

Tilden Township Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Tilden Township Board was held on Tuesday, November 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: Thibeault moved/ Marietti supported/ PASSED; to accept the agenda as presented.

Minutes: Marietti moved/ Thibeault supported/ PASSED; to accept October 21, 2025, Meeting minutes.

Special Minutes: Marietti moved/ Thibeault supported/ PASSED; to accept the October 10, 2025, Special Meeting minutes.

Public Comment: N/A

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

- General26309-25354 • Fire/Garbage: 1517-1520
- Water: 7299-7306 • Road 5063-5067 • Tax-Winter4088-4094

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

Communications: Dottie LaJoye; Recreation Plan Update – Tilden Township received 70 Recreation Surveys back from Tilden residents. Dottie LaJoye reviewed The Drafted Recreation Plan for Tilden Township with The Board. Dottie went on to explain that Supervisor Fred VanLuven will need to register online to be the Authorized Official for Tilden Township Grants. Once VanLuven has been approved, he will need to list Dottie LaJoye as a consultant, under CUPPAD. The Draft Recreation Plan is to be released to the public December 16, 2025, Township Monthly Meeting. Tilden Township will properly notify the public through The Mining Journal Newspaper and the Tilden Township website prior to the January 20, 2026, meeting for the Notice of Public Hearing. The Tilden Township Board are set to vote on The Recreation Plan on January 20, 2025, with February 1, 2025, being the required completion date for The Recreation Plan. Dottie will need to be provided with all minutes for verification/documentation for the grant, as well as the budget amount for the previous 5 years for Recreation. Each Grant will require a post completion report from Tilden Township.

Communications Continued: Sheriff Contract for FY '25-'26 – Sherrif reviewed The Updated 2026 Sherrif Contract and explained the hourly cost was reevaluated and increased to \$63.22/Hour. Marietti/moved, VanLuven/supported /PASSED upon a roll call vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent; to accept the 2026 Marquette County Sherrif Contract in the amount of \$131,699.45.

EGLE Lead and Copper Service Lines: The Board Reviewed the 2025 Service Line Notification Reminder Memo from EGLE. A Copy of the informative packet may be located at The Tilden Township Hall upon request.

MCSWMA Recycling Contracts/ Recycling Grants: MCSWMA distributed a letter to the Constituent Municipalities of Marquette County, urging all Municipalities to take part in recycling, as well as information pertaining to different grant programs available to aid municipalities with recycling. Tilden Township does currently have a contract for recycling.

Supervisor's Comments: N/A

Water Business: N/A

Unfinished Business: National Mine School Site Review – Supervisor VanLuven updated The Board by informing them that the Perc testing will be completed tomorrow, November 19, 2025. More information to be available at the next Tilden Township Monthly Meeting.

Cell Phone Booster: Additional Antenna: Treasurer Filbrandt explained that Range Telecommunications came to the Township Hall to examine the booster antenna currently installed, due to its minimal improvement in cell phone signal at The Township Hall. Range installed a longer antenna to evaluate the booster, which improved the signal for cell phones within The Township Hall. It was determined that the antenna for the booster needed to be taller to reach a signal. Range gave an estimate of \$530.00 for the installation completion by their company.

Aho moved/ VanLuven supported/ PASSED; to pay Range Telecommunications for the Antenna Expansion kit and installation for Tilden Township Hall in the amount of \$530.00.

New Business: Documentation Destruction – Clerk Aho informed The Board that her office was currently working on record retention and that there are certain guidelines for the destruction of retention documents. Aho is waiting for a quote from a local record destruction company. Tabled until the next monthly meeting.

SBAM Rate and Provider Change: The Board reviewed The Informative SBAM Renewal Notice.

New Business Continued: Nationwide Plan Change – Clerk Aho presented The Board with The Nationwide Financial Services, Inc.; Governmental 457(b) Plan Adoption Agreement. Aho stated that she needed to speak with a Nationwide representative to complete. Tabled until the next monthly meeting.

BCBSM Renewal Information/Updated 2026 Rates: The Board reviewed the increasing rates from Blue Cross Blue Shield. The rate is increasing by \$100 for 2026, totaling \$3400.00, an increase in premium of 11.6%. Marietti/moved, VanLuven/supported /PASSED upon a roll call vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent; to accept the increased rates from BCBS in the amount of \$3400.00.

Public Act 152 OPT Out: After discussion, The Board made a motion on Public Act 152. Marietti moved/ Filbrandt supported/ PASSED; to accept The Public Act 152 OPT Out.

HSA Distribution for Part-Time Employees: Clerk Aho and Treasurer Filbrandt addressed how the current HSA Policy reflects for full-time employees, but not for part-time employees. The new, current office manager has completed the probation period but has not received HSA benefits due to lack of clarity in the current policy. Supervisor VanLuven stated he believes the part-time employees receive half the amount provided to full-time employees. VanLuven also stated that he believes the current office manager should receive the benefits pro-rated for the last 5 months that she has been eligible, reflecting the current policy of \$3400.00. The updated policy, going into effect for the FY of 2026. Aho/moved, Marietti/supported /PASSED upon a roll call vote; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent; to amend the HSA benefits to reflect part-time employees receiving half the amount that full-time employees receive, in addition to the current office manager receiving pro-rated benefits to reflect the last 5 months of eligibility.

Tilden Township Annual Christmas Party: The Board discussed the upcoming Christmas Party with the local Ishpeming Fire Department and Santa Claus visit. The Township office manager is looking into coloring sheets for kids to provide additional activities for the party. Tilden Township will be purchasing 250 apples, oranges, and candy bars for children in attendance. The date for The Annual Christmas Party is December 13, 2025, at The Tilden Township Hall, with the time to still be determined.

Public Comment: N/A

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:51 P.M. by Supervisor Fred VanLuven.


~~Tara Aho~~, Tilden Township Clerk

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