

Webber Township
Minutes Regular Meeting
7/10/2025

Call to Order: 6:00PM

Pledge of Allegiance:

Attendance Roll Call: Kelly-Here, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Here, Deb-Here, Shaun-Here

Approval of the Agenda: Deb made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Fee Schedule with support by Kelly. 4 Aye votes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Approval of the minutes: Motion to approve the below listed minutes made by Kelly with support by Kathy. 4 Aye votes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Minutes of 6/12/2025 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of 6/19/2025 2nd Budget Workshop

Minutes of 7/9/2025 Finance Meeting

Public Comments N/A

Approval of the Accounts payable: (Roll Call Vote)

General fund Account: Motion to approve made by Shaun with support by Deb. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Fire Fund Account: Motion to approve made by Shaun with support by Kelly. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Sewer & Water Account: Motion to approve made by Deb with support by Kathy. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Refuse Fund Account: Motion to approve made by Deb with support by Kelly. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Treasurers Report: Absent-No Report

Correspondence: N/A

Guest Speaker: N/A

Department Reports (Do not require vote unless individual items are presented for approval)

Fire Department- Jeremy gave report. Asked for donations of money or candy for Troutarama parade. Received an estimate of \$1053.14 to repair IR Camera. Deb made a motion to approve \$1053.14 for IR camera repair with

support by Shaun. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries

Water/Sewer – Sam and Bob of AIA gave report. AIA is currently providing service until a new provider contract is in effect.

Maintenance – Deb gave report for Scott. Purchasing lawn sprayer and will be applying week & feed to lawn and park. Also will be used for mole and other pest control.

Zoning Administrator – Shaun read Chris' report.

Co. Road Commissioner – N/A

County Commissioner – Bob Sanders gave report. Both Prosecuting Attorney and Magistrate have resigned. Attorney General's office has stepped in to cover Lake Co. He believes we are close to having a new PA appointed. Crime victims matching grant has been approved. School resource officer has been approved. They are doing a great job. The school is paying the full cost of the Resource Officer. The formal Mutual Aid Agreement has been approved. 2024 audit was excellent. Brian Burden has been appointed new Emergency Manager.

Sheriff Department – Emergency Manager is also the Assistant 911 Manager. There were 6 ORV crashes, with 2 being fatal, on Memorial Day weekend. Got Fox Motors Peacock to pay for signs. Twp will need to pay \$200 for the installation. Expect to be back up to full staff next month, after retirements. Received approval to sponsor ORV to be trained as Deputy. Protests-GEO is now a process center, not a prison. There have been 3 protests. First was peaceful, no issues. Second at Mich Works was small but did have issues. The third, on 7/4/25, was hostile. Co can limit parking for 90 days as a way to prevent protestors from parking near GEO. Ultimately, the Township should adopt an ordinance restricting parking in that area. There will be a mobility scooter race after the Trout-A-Rama parade. We have a new State Police Officer serving our area. Sheriff Martin presented his charity Township Coin Challenge with examples of the first two Township coins. All Townships are invited to present a draft drawing for consideration for their coin.

Cemetery Report-Deb reported the damaged tree at the cemetery has been taken down by Pacola Tree Service. Still working on final clean up.

Grants Report – N/A

DDA – N/A

LCEDA-N/A

Planning Commission – Approved Master Plan. Will be reviewed by Board members and placed on 8/14/25 meeting agenda for approval. Starting to look into short term rentals. Members are asking for an updated Zoning Book with all Ordinances included.

Parks & Recreation – GO Day was a success.

Ongoing Business:

Community Service Initiative Proposal- Countywide initiative to help clean up blighted properties for underprivileged residents. Tabled to August to allow more time for Board view.

Ordinances in question – Deb made it very clear the board did not sweep these under the rug as accused by a Planning Committee member. There were questions as to whether they actually were incorrect at all. Attorney had advised us to just repost all of these Ordinances properly to correct the situation.

Discussion with public whether this is proper ensued.

Vendor/Farm Market Ordinances – We have two separate ordinances on the book, Outdoor Vendor and Farm Market, that cover the same things. Deb suggested reviewing them and combining them. The Clerk's office will take the initiative to prepare a combined Police Action Ordinance combining the two for review at the August meeting.

New Business:

Water/Sewer Operator/Service Provider Sealed bids – Sealed bids from West MI Municipal Contracting Services and Infrastructure Alternatives, Inc (IAI) were opened. Shaun read both bids. The Board reviewed the bids and asked various questions regarding some of the items listed. Kelly made a motion to approve the bid from IAI, pending attorney approval of the contract language with support by Kathy. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries. The Board congratulated IAI Rep and thanked the West MI Municipal Contracting Services Rep for submitting a bid.

New BOR Member – Shaun submitted Dawn TenBrink name as new BOR member. Deb made a motion to appoint Dawn TenBrink to the BOR with support by Shaun. 4 Aye votes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Early Voting Proposal – Deb advised the Board she met with the County Clerk's office to discuss have early voting for the 2026 elections here at our Township hall. It is very costly and disruptive to hold early voting at the courthouse. It is centrally located for the 13 Townships that will utilize it. The County reimburses

all costs. It'll allow Deb to work her own job when not busy with assisting voters. Based upon previous experience with Co early voting, expecting a total of aprox 300 voters over the 9 day period. The board agreed to allow the County to hold early voting here.

Tax increase Posting info – Deb explained the Tax increase posting that was questioned at the Annual Budget meeting was not an increase over and above the amounts stated at the Truth in Taxation Hearing. It was the total of all increases that was submitted at the meeting. It just requires a separate news posting, even though it was also included in the news postings the Clerk had done. Deb made a motion to approve the 2025 Tax Rates as presented at the Annual Truth in Taxation Hearing held on 6/28/2025 with support by Kelly. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Cemetery Plot Fees – Deb explained the Resolution to increase cemetery plot fees from \$200 to \$300 was overlooked at the Annual Budget Meeting. The new Fee Schedule was approved with the updated fees. Deb read the resolution and made a motion to increase cemetery plot fees from \$200 to \$300 with support by Kelly. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries.

Irrigation estimate for cemetery – Deb made a motion to approve \$900 to extend the irrigation system to the northside of the cemetery with support by Kelly. Roll call: Kelly-Yes, Pat-Absent, Kathy-Yes, Deb-Yes, Shaun-Yes. 4 Yes/1 Absent. Motion carries

Roof – Shaun has contacted several roofing contractors regarding replacing our roof.

Miscellaneous Business: Brenda Smith of Putnam Lake Campground discussed their need to have the James St driveway open for campers. The courthouse has no documentation of a court order to close it to camper traffic. She also asked the Township to consider paving James St to assist in this effort.

Adjournment : Motion to adjourn made by Kelly with support by Shaun. 4 Aye
Votes/1 Absent. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L Hanes
Webber Township Clerk