

Gourley Township

Menominee County Michigan

DRAFT Minutes of March 10, 2025 Regular Meeting

Supervisor Steve Wery called the meeting to order at the Gourley Township Hall at 6:40 p.m. and then, asking all to stand, Steve led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Steve Wery, Supervisor
Stephanie Walechka, Treasurer
Ken Netzel, Deputy Clerk
Dan Cordy, Trustee
Jesse Wery, Trustee

Absent: Ivy Netzel

Also Attending: Brain Mack, Fire Chief

Agenda: Steve presented the agenda and after review, Jesse made a motion to accept the agenda as amended with Stephanie supporting the motion; it carried.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 10, 2025, Regular Board Meeting were presented and after review, Stephanie made a motion to accept the minutes. Dan supported the motion; it carried.

Treasurer & Clerk Report:

NOTE: The clerk checks the tax fund check book monthly.

- The Financial Report for February 2025 was reviewed and there was \$514,991.12 in the General Fund and \$337,151.52 in the Fire Fund. Jesse made a motion to accept the Financial Report and place it on file. Stephanie supported the motion; it carried.
- Budget Amendments
 - The amendments to the 2024-2025 budget were reviewed. Stephanie made a motion to accept the Budget Amendments. Steve supported the motion; it carried.

Fire Chief Report:

- There was 1 fire call for the month: CO detector alarm at a township residence.
- Brian noted that the Fire Department will proceed with writing a grant to help with equipment repairs, which are estimated to be approximately \$16,000. In addition, there are two CDs maturing in March, one for approximately \$10,000 for equipment that will be cashed as a backup in case the grant does not come through. The second CD is for gear and will have an additional \$4500 added to it.
- Brian discussed a meeting of the fire chiefs in the county that was held at the Gourley Township Hall concerning a software package called Hieba that will allow the chiefs to get a better handle on real-time equipment availability and assistance from other departments. The county has agreed to purchase the software.

- A Regular Meeting of the Gourley Township Volunteer Fire Department will be Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at the fire house at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor's Report:

- Board of Review
 - Steve clarified that the BOR no longer handles veterans exemptions for property taxes. Those forms now are processed by the assessor. In addition, 2025 is the last year that veterans need to submit the form on a yearly basis.
 - Steve also discussed the dissatisfaction by some of the taxpayers with the tax assessments that were recently sent. There are a lot of inconsistencies with respect to the size of the increases to assessed values.
- Steve confirmed that the Road Commission agreed that County Road 551 from County Road 374 south to the township line be repaved within the new 5-year road commission millage that just passed, at the same time that Gourley pays for part of the work on Maple Lane. Steve wants to have a plan in place to provide to the Road Commission within 6 months for a 5 year Road Plan for Gourley Township.
- Shed Dormer Project: Steve provided an update on the township and fire hall shed dormer project. The shed dormers are essentially finished. A new piece of siding is to be installed on 3/11/2025 to replace a piece that had been cut too long.

New Business:

- Dan asked about the new assessor and requested that opportunity to meet with him. Steve indicated that he would invite him to a meeting this spring.
- Henry Kleikamp will turn 105 years old on May 17, 2025. The Board agreed with the suggestion to get a birthday card, sign it and present it to him. Brian indicated that Henry usually attends the fish fry at Four Corners on Friday nights.
- Resolution 2025-1 was passed.
- 2025-2026 Draft Budget: Steve made a motion to accept the Budget with the changes as discussed during the Budget Meeting. Jesse supported the motion; it carried.

Old Business:

- Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA): The state has delayed implementation of the policy for employers with 10 or fewer employees until October 1, 2025. There is still a lot of confusion out there concerning whether or not this even applies to small townships. The Board agreed to table this until more clarification comes out.

Public Comment

- none

Correspondence:

- none

Pay the Bills:

- Steve made a motion to pay the bills. The motion was supported by Stephanie. The motion carried.

Adjourn:

- Jesse moved to adjourn. Dan supported the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm CDT. The next meeting will be April 14th, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivy Netzel, Clerk

Date Approved

Budget Amendments:

General Fund

Over budget:

✓101-101-882-0	Flags	\$301.40
✓101-101-955-1	Fire Department Banquet Expense	\$1,015.42
✓101-265-934-0	Hall Maintenance	\$10,412.63
✓101-446-884-0	Fire & Road Signs Expense	\$303.80
✓101-101-840-0	Insurance Premium	\$413.20
✓101-101-852-0	Webpage	\$7.35
✓101-262-704-0	Election Workers	\$7.38
✓101-262-752-1	Election Supplies	\$1,404.50
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		\$13,865.68

Take from:

✓101-901-975-0	Buildings, Building Additions & Improve	\$7,500.00
✓101-101-955-0	Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00
✓101-446-934-0	Road Repairs	\$1,921.53
✓101-901-980-0	Office Equipment and Furniture	\$1,487.35
✓101-101-805-0	Continuing Education	\$500.00
✓101-101-924-0	Utilities	\$1,456.80
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		\$13,865.68

Fire Fund

Over budget:

✓206-265-934-0	Hall Maintenance	\$10,291.78
✓206-336-934-0	Repairs	\$845.17
✓206-336-934-1	Emergency Repairs	\$538.32
✓206-334-940-0	Rentals	\$128.96
✓206-901-975-0	Buildings, Building Additions & Improve	\$3,178.29
✓206-223-804-0	Audit	\$250.00
✓206-336-840-0	Insurance Premium	\$639.68
✓206-343-850-0	Communications	\$24.79
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		\$15,896.99

Take from:

✓206-265-801-0	Lawn Care	\$275.00
✓206-336-758-0	Diesel Fuel	\$285.36
✓206-336-806-0	Grant Writing	\$200.00
✓206-336-861-0	Transportation-Mileage Reimburse	\$364.81
✓206-336-955-0	Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00
✓206-448-920-0	Street Lights	\$135.22
✓206-901-985-0	New Equipment	\$7,849.66
✓206-336-707-0	Firemen Incentive Program	\$1,301.28
✓206-336-725-0	Fire Chief Per Diem	\$120.00

✓ 206-336-752-0	Supplies	\$527.65
✓ 206-336-752-1	Office Supplies	\$45.94
✓ 206-336-752-2	Fire Chief's Supplies	\$400.00
✓ 206-336-791-0	Dues	\$380.00
✓ 206-336-835-0	Health Services	\$300.00
✓ 206-336-924-0	Utilities	712.07
206-342-807-0	Training	\$2,000.00
		<u>\$15,896.99</u>