

Regular Meeting of the Burt Township Board
Tuesday, October 14, 2025 -- Community Center - 6:00 PM

DRAFT

Attendance: Jon Babbitt, Sara Secrest, Lori McShane, and Tim Jenkins. Paul Williams – absent.

Public Comments: none.

Agenda: Motion by Secrest, second by Babbitt to approve agenda with the following changes: Add duct cleaning for township office – new business item J. 4 ayes

Correspondence: none

Approve Minutes: Motion by Secrest, second by Jenkins, to approve the minutes from the September 9th regular meeting and September 25th special meeting. 4 ayes.

Department and Committee Reports: Reports were available from the Assessor, DPW & Water, Fire, Library, and Woodland Park. Discussion regarding the firefighters training requirements. Supervisor Babbitt has reviewed with Karla Bowen and is assured all have completed or are close to completion of all continuing education requirements.

Appointments/Resignations: none

Supervisor Report: Woodland Park septic project is close. Meeting tomorrow with EGLE to determine whether the authorizing entity will be the local health department or the EGLE, depending on the flow levels, total water usage. We may have to wait for next spring for replacement. I have been working on a new contract with Sheriff Brock for more law enforcement presence. Looking for a new planning commission member, Rod Lowe is our new chairman and he says the zoning ordinance is progressing well and will be turned over to the consultant soon and then to the township board. Meeting on the 17th of this month with the Army corp of Engineers to discuss dredging plans for next summer. Dr. Khabir has written a letter to the township asking to use the medical center to offer medical services. Recreation plan survey results are available and the planning commission will begin working on this when zoning ordinance is complete. The Altran bus schedule has been erratic and I hope to have conversation with them to get this resolved, we know how important this is to our community and want to get it fixed or possibly get our own bus. Marina is officially closed on the 15th and the park is partially closed, will keep half open as long as weather permits.

Treasurer's report and Approval of Bills: Treasurer's report – (\$1,046,063.97). Motion by Babbitt, second by McShane, to accept treasurer's report and approve the bills for payment (\$72,054.42). 4 ayes

Unfinished Business:

Planning Commission: Next meeting of the planning commission is October 21st. They will be discussing the latest revisions to the zoning ordinance and the recreation plan.

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Transient Merchant Ordinance: Tabled until next meeting.

Guide Star quotes: Motion by Babbitt, second by McShane, to approve the estimate from Guide Star for a new Dell Pro laptop for the township office and five (5) new monitors at a total cost of \$3,010. 4 ayes.

New Business:

Township Office Building: Treasurer Secrest discussed the township office building skirting, which is treated plywood and requires periodic maintenance and painting. When the building was originally renovated, we got quotes to put cultured stone on the skirt, and even the faux panels, but both were deemed to expensive. Possibly discuss at budget time to make improvements next year.

Medical Center – Dr. Khabir: Letter from Dr. Khabir asking for use of the medical center to offer primary care services for the community – possibly one day a week. Motion by Babbitt, second by McShane, to welcome Dr. Khabir and offer the first year rent free until practice is established. 4 ayes.

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Other: none

Public Comment: Jennifer Champagne from the Munising Beacon spoke to introduce herself and talk about the many programs and benefits of expanded Beacon paper. It is now available at Superior Shores market, watch for the upcoming fundraiser for breast cancer awareness and as always, they are committed to communities and emergency services funding.

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Sportsman's Club – Rifle Range: Sportsman's asked the board for permission to police the rifle range: pick up garbage, spent cartridges, new targets, basically maintain the rifle range. They ask in return that we place a sign saying "This rifle range is maintained by the Grand Marais Sportsman's Club." Motion by Babbitt, second by McShane, to allow the club to help maintain the rifle range, and to arrange for sign to be placed. 4 ayes.

MDOT Resolution: Wilson Street Project: Needed to approve a resolution with MDOT for a permit for the work on the water system on Wilson Street next summer. Motion by Secrest, second by Babbitt, to approve the performance resolution with MDOT. 4 ayes.

Harbor Dockage Rates – 2026 season: Motion by McShane, second by Babbitt, to stay with category "H" on the DNR rate schedule for dockage rates in the 2026 season. 4 ayes. This will reflect a slight increase per the DNR rate schedule.

AED maintenance – locations: We currently maintain AED units at the campground office, community center, and the township office, as well as the Mennonite Church, the Catholic church, the Lutheran church, and now the GM Christian Church. We will also schedule a CPR/AED class with Robert Hughes for township employees as well as community members from each church.

FY 2024-25 Audit Report: Audit report is complete and has been distributed to the board as well as posted on our website. There was no material weaknesses noted. There were a few comments about long outstanding checks, and budgetary issues but overall, a good report.

FY 2025-26 2nd Quarter budget review: All expenditures through the second quarter of our fiscal year were reviewed and amendments were noted as necessary. Increase in transfer from the park to general, as well as changes to the park budget due to the impending drain field replacement.

Township office – Duct Cleaning: Motion by Secrest, second by Babbitt, to approve the estimate from SCI-cleanup to clean the air ducts in the township office for a cost of \$1,460. 4 ayes.

Other: none

Public Comment: Jennifer Champagne from the Munising Beacon spoke to introduce herself and talk about the many programs and benefits of expanded Beacon paper. It is now available at Superior Shores market, watch for the upcoming fundraiser for breast cancer awareness and as always, they are committed to communities and emergency services funding.

Board Comment: Treasurer Secrest thanked office manager Heather Dobberstein for all her hard work on the revised Township employee policies and hoped we could approve at a future meeting. Trustee Jenkins commented on the planning commission recreation plan survey results and the timeline for completion. We will reach out to our CUPPAD representative to confirm the path to completion. The Harbor master plan survey is out there – go to burrtownship.com for more information. Trustee Jenkins spoke as the Alger Delta representative for our township and the closing of the mine and possibly rate increase. He also reminded us of the program Alger Delta has for rebates on new appliances and disposal of old ones. Congratulations to Robert Hughes on his new appointment to the Alger County Board of Commissioners, and thank you to Rick Capogrossa for his service.

Adjournment: 7:40 PM

Respectfully submitted October 23, 2025

Lori McShane, Clerk