

Regular Meeting of the Burt Township Board
Tuesday, January 13, 2026 -- Community Center - 6:00 PM

DRAFT

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

Public Comment:

Agenda: Motion by McShane, second by Secrest to approve agenda with the addition of the quote from KCI for the assessments under new business. 5 ayes

Correspondence: none

Approve Minutes: Trustee Jenkins clarified a comment about the website – asked for it to be corrected from complained to stated. Motion by Jenkins, second by Williams, to approve the minutes from the December 9th regular meeting. 5 ayes.

Department and Committee Reports: Reports were available from the Assessor, DPW & Water, Library, and Woodland Park.

Appointments/Resignations: none

Supervisor Report: Supervisor has been working with ambulance and fire departments to ensure our rescue vehicles are in working order and working with park manager to upgrade the community center generator. Recycling is tomorrow!

Treasurer's report and Approval of Bills: Discussion of invoice for text alerts, and engineering. Treasurer's report – (\$950,295.37). Motion by Secrest, second by Williams, to accept treasurer's report and approve the bills for payment (\$48,278.25). 5 ayes

Unfinished Business:

Planning Commission/Recreation Plan: Planning commission approved the recreation plan at the meeting on January 6th, 2026, and the board has had it for review. Trustee Jenkins asked a few questions about the median income levels and the general historical data, as well as confirmation of inclusion of the harbor details needed for waterways grants. Motion by Babbitt, second by Williams, to approve the 2026-2031 Burt Township Recreation Plan and adopt the resolution 2026-01-01. 5 ayes.

Woodland Park Septic status update: Still waiting for the EGLE response to determine the best design and location for the drain fields. Still intend to have plans finalized and go out for bid in February 2026 for spring installation.

Mobi Mat bids: Two of the three bidders have rescinded their bids. One bidder remained which was the highest – board decided to continue and try to gather additional bids.

Transient Merchant Ordinance: Ordinance that was approved at the December meeting was discussed with the township attorney and changes were made, including specifying the exemptions in the ordinance, not just the motion to approve. Motion by Babbitt, second by McShane, to approve the revised ordinance. 3 ayes, 2 nays (Williams, Jenkins) Discussion of sending a survey to the registered voters to get community input on a variety of issues.

Harbor Plan/UPEA – Harbor Committee: Copies are available at the office and on our website for public comment, and will also be discussed at an upcoming planning commission meeting. We are looking to apply for a grant this spring for the engineering costs associated with design, planning, and development. Please pick up a copy and submit your feedback to the board.

Deficit Elimination plan – Fuel system: Motion by McShane, second by Babbitt, to adopt resolution 2026-01-02 and accept the fuel system deficit elimination plan as written, and making adjustments for the loan from the park fund when the fuel system renovations were completed. 5 ayes.

Short Term Rentals – Inspection: Motion by Babbitt, to approve the cost of the home inspection class for three firefighters to be certified for the short-term rental inspections, at a cost of \$699 per class, total of approximately \$2,100.00. 5 ayes. Further discussion of a few proposed changes to the ordinance and the rules. It was determined that if you are in a commercial zone, you do not have to pay the registration fee or be on the list.

New Business

Township Attorney: Board members would like to investigate and try to engage with a new law firm or singular attorney for the township. We have been dealing with Steve Tinti of Crystal Falls since 2019. It is suggested we wait until the water project with USDA is closed before we change over.

Altran Bus: The first Wednesday of every month the Altran bus picks up residents in Grand Marais and goes to Marquette. There has been some confusion about how to sign up for this service. We have clarified with Altran that if you intend to ride the bus, please contact them directly to make a reservation. We will put flyers around town to notify the public.

Chamber Fireworks: Received a letter from the Grand Marais Chamber of Commerce asking the township board to contribute \$7,500 this year towards the fireworks. Board will discuss in the upcoming budget workshops.

KCI assessments: Motion by Babbitt, second by Williams, to approve the proposal from KCI for \$1,494.32 to process and mail our assessment notices this spring. 5 ayes.

Other: Special meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 20th, 2026, at 3:00 PM for budget review and workshop.

Public Comment: Cathy Egerer spoke about the upcoming UP200 sled dog race on February 14th. They still need volunteers. Briana Rupel thanks everyone for the glass recycling success. Bill Egerer urged the board to consider the chamber fireworks request as they are working hard at fund raising.

Board Comment: Trustee Jenkins thanked Alger Delta for all the hard work getting everyone's power restored as quickly as possible.

Adjournment: 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted January 20, 2026

Lori McShane, Clerk