

Minutes
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
October 20, 2025 6:00 PM
TOWNSHIP BUILDING
(906) 337-1970

- **Members present:** Jim Huovinen, Trustee; Mel Jones, Deputy Clerk; Leslie Fischer, Clerk; Robby Fischer, Supervisor; Julie Hamilton, Treasurer; and Tom Hall, Trustee.
- **Members absent:** Julie Newman, Deputy Treasurer.
- **Agenda additions/approval:** Jim Huovinen motioned, and Tom Hall seconded to approve the agenda for the October meeting. Motion carried.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Tom Hall motioned, and Jim Huovinen seconded to approve the minutes from the September 15, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.
- **Budget Amendments:** Robby Fischer motioned, and Jim Huovinen seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report Balances in the accounts as of September 30, 2025, and to approve the payment of bills. Rollcall vote was taken. Motion carried.
 - Treasurer's Report Balances:
 - General Fund \$52,668.90
 - Water Fund \$46,213.50
 - Savings \$12,020.38
 - CD \$16,049.43
 - Cemetery Fund \$6,025.30
 - Payment of Bills:
 - General Fund: Total since September meeting= \$6,120.08
 - Water Fund: Total since September meeting= \$1,018.17
 - Cemetery Fund: Total since September meeting= \$373.37
 - Grand Total: \$7,511.62
- **Department Reports:**
 - **Assessing:** No report.
 - **Water Department:** Water Department Chair Mel Jones explained that we need to get parts installed at the pump house. Bay Electric will install these soon. Due to a change in water rates, the water bills have been inaccurate. Mel Jones agreed for Linda to review the past three periods of water bills to determine if it is worth billing residents for the deficit.
 - **Cemetery:**
 - Jim Huovinen motioned, and Robby Fischer seconded to appoint Mary Long and to the Cemetery Committee.
 - Steve Kline and Jim Huovinen summarized the Cemetery Committee's meeting with Tim Scarlett, Associate Professor of Archaeology and Anthropology and Grace Ojala Griffin, PhD Student, Industrial Heritage and Archaeology. Because we're still waiting to hear back concerning the price of various services, conversation was tabled.
 - **Elections:** Jim Huovinen motioned, and Tom Hall seconded to give Linda Kline access to the Clerk's email for election purposes.
 - **General Maintenance:** No report.
 - **Park:** Community members expressed the concern that on busy park days, the bathroom needs to be serviced more often for trash pick-up and paper products.
 - **Consolidation Committee:** Robby Fischer motioned, and Julie Hamilton seconded to authorize the Consolidation Committee to have conversations with other townships.
- **Unfinished Business:**
 - Replacing the siding on the building: No update.
 - Lower Bridge: No Update.

- **New Business:**
 - Robby read a letter from the Zoning Board that invited the public to a Zoning Board of Appeals hearing.
- **Public Comment:**
 - A Calumet community member asked about the possibility of purchasing beachfront property from the township. Mel advised that this wouldn't be in the best interest of the township. Community member expressed understanding and appreciation for consideration.
 - Elaine Hall shared that the museum is closed for the year and will reopen in June of 2026. Repairs are being made on the museum sign.
- **Adjournment:** Robby Fischer motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim Huovonen seconded. Motion carried.

I hereby certify that these minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Houghton Township meeting held on October 20, 2025, as approved by the township board on _____.

Signed: _____
Township Clerk

Date: _____