

SANDS TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
SANDS TOWNSHIP OFFICE COMPLEX
November 12, 2024

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** – D. Walch called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. **Roll Call** –Lee Yelle, David Kallio, Darlene Walch, Justin Yelle and Carolyn Kerkela
Absent – None
Employees in Attendance: Randy Yelle, Pamela Roberts, Tom Wahlstrom
Public in Attendance: Tom Ruprecht, Karrie Heikes, Cory Kovacs, Adam Muscarella, Don Marquardt
3. **Public Comment:**
Cory Kovacs, DNR Fish Biologist, gave information and history on Strawberry Lake and the stocking of fish in the lake and the fish population.
4. **Agenda:** C. Kerkela moved, L. Yelle seconded, to approve the agenda with the addition of item 6a – MARESA 2025 Tax Collection. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
5. **Consent Agenda:** D. Kallio moved, J. Yelle seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
 - a. **Minutes:** October 8, 2024 Regular Meeting and October 23, 2024 Special Meeting minutes approved.
 - i. **Treasurer’s Report**
 - ii. **Accounts Payable/General Ledger** – General Fund Checks #39100 - #39180, including the electronic liability checks and Trust & Agency Checks, for \$65,771.67, and the Tax Collection Checks #4024 - #4029 for \$28,463.27.
 - iii. **Budget Reports**
 - b. **Department/Committee Reports:** Accepted and placed on file.
 - i. **Fire Department**
 - ii. **Sanitation / MCSWMA –**
 - iii. **Zoning –**
 - iv. **Recreation Committee -**
 - c. **Correspondence –**
 - i. **DNR Proposed Road Changes**
 - ii. **November 2024 Well Test**
 - d. **Miscellaneous – None**
6. **Treasurer’s Report– Checking Account Balances (as of October 31, 2024):**
General Fund \$187,158.12 **Trust & Agency** \$0.00 **Fire Fund** \$8,075.26
Ambulance Fund \$10,345.57 **Parks/Rec** \$4,018.15
Sanitation \$34,850.57 **Taxes** \$4,794.64 **Road Repair Fund** \$203,530.27

CD Totals:
Ambulance \$568,993.12 **Roads** \$504,308.49 **Fire Dept** \$47,294.95
General Fund \$1,242,470.01 **Parks & Rec** \$323,668.32 **Cemetery Trust** \$2,830.60
Money Markets:
Fire \$48,876.77 **Cemetery Perpetual Care** \$1,100.57
Road Repair Fund \$86,254.71 **General** \$172,673.87
ICS Money Markets
Fire \$174,693.94 **General** \$914,471.04
Ambulance \$136,757.27 **Parks & Rec** \$8,168.72

- a. **MARESA 2025 Tax Collection** – L. Yelle motioned, C. Kerkela seconded, to have Sands Township withhold \$2.50/parcel from the 2025 MARESA disbursement from the summer tax collection. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

7. Clerk's Report –

- a. **Election Update** – C. Kerkela gave an update on the General Election and voter turnout.

8. Supervisor's Report

- a. **Pelissier Lake Drainage** – Initial draft report is available, although not complete.
- b. **Well Testing** – No Update
- c. **Garbage Truck Update** – D. Walch gave an update.

9. Old Business –

- a. **Strawberry Lake Update** – No update; consensus to ask the Recreation Committee to consider ideas for improving the property for public use.
- b. **Property Cleanup Update (Zoning)** – R. Yelle reported cleanup is almost complete.
- c. **Dog Ordinance Amendment 24-04-01** – D. Kallio moved, L. Yelle seconded, to adopt the Dog & Cat Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Commission. After discussion, D. Kallio amended motion, L. Yelle agreed, to include a clarification in Section 4 to clear intent. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

10. New Business

- a. **Strawberry Lake Trout Regulations** – Cory Kovacs gave his recommendation for changes to recommendations on Strawberry Lake, and noted the lake should be open until October 31. C. Kerkela moved, D. Walch seconded, to purchase a new sign with the open dates for Strawberry Lake and extend paying the caretaker an additional month due to the extended season. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- b. **EMS Standard Operating Procedures (2nd Reading)** – L. Yelle moved, C. Kerkela seconded, to adopt the updated EMS Standard Operating Procedures with the clerical errors corrected. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. **2024-2025 Snowplow Bid** – L. Yelle moved, D. Kallio seconded, to accept the bid from Bob's Septic & Snow Removal for the upcoming season. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- d. **Sanitation SOGs & Procedures (1st Reading)** – For December meeting.
- e. **Board of Review** – D. Walch moved, L. Yelle seconded, to appoint John Hambleton, Carolyn Myers and Chris Kirk as members, with Tom Redlon as an alternate, on the Board of Review for the upcoming term in 2025. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

- 11. Public Comment** – Don Marquardt asked what the Pelissier Lake Drainage Project was and if it was available for the public. He also questioned plans for development around the Lake, sharing concerns about accessibility, steep roads, and availability of well and septic due to the land and terrain.

Adam Muscarella commented that a local fishing spot for kids is a great idea.

- 12. Adjournment** – D. Walch adjourned the meeting at 8:21 PM.