

Minutes of the  
Makanda Township Board Meeting  
Tuesday, May 13, 2025

1. Supervisor Lipe called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. Present were Supervisor Lipe, Trustees Holub, Kolar, Stanley, and York; and Clerk Einig.
3. Clerk comments: None.
4. Trustee comments: None.
5. The agenda was approved.
6. Public comments on Agenda items: None.
7. Approval of Minutes for the following meetings: 1) Sept. 25, 2024 Special Board Meeting; 2) Jan. 14, 2025 Board Meeting; 3) March 18, 2025 Board Meeting; 4) March 20, 2025 Special Board Meeting; 5) April 10, 2025 Board Meeting. Approved as corrected.
8. Fund Balances and Revenue: on side table, not read aloud.
9. Budget Approvals: as this is a public hearing, public comments are solicited during approval.
  - a. **Town Budget:** Clay moved and Fred seconded to approve the adjusted Town budget, which added \$9,000 for Audit and removed the \$20,000 transfer to Fire Protection Capital. Mike moved and Clay seconded an amendment to add \$8,000 to Technology. It was noted that all adjustments to budgets will recalculate the 5% Contingency. Both motions were approved unanimously.
  - b. **Building Capital Fund Budget:** Clay moved and Debbie seconded to approve the budget with the starting balance adjusted to reflect the actual ending balance on March 31. Motion passed unanimously.
  - c. **Road and Bridge budget:** Sara commented as a public citizen that it would be helpful to explain the increase for Equipment. Ed is looking to purchase a used heavy truck and attached tools for hauling and plowing. A typo in revenue had been corrected from the tentative budget. Clay moved and Sara seconded to accept the amended budget. Motion passed unanimously.
  - d. **New Bridge budget:** Clay moved and Mike seconded to accept the New Bridget budget. Motion passed unanimously.
  - e. **Fire Protection budget:** Mike moved and Fred seconded a motion to pass the Fire Protection budget. Clay thanked the Fire Department for the thorough budget. Sara moved and Clay seconded to change Equipment/Miscellaneous to \$2,500. Mike moved and Sara seconded to increase Insurance to \$25,000 Insurance amendment passed unanimously. Equipment amendment passed unanimously. Motion to approve the amended budget passed unanimously.
  - f. **Fire Protection Capital budget:** Clay moved and Mike seconded to approve the Fire Protection Capital budget. Motion passed unanimously.
  - g. **General Assistance budget:** Mike moved and Sara seconded to approve the General Assistance budget. Motion passed unanimously.
  - h. **Connect Humanity Grant budget:** Sara moved and Clay seconded to approve the Connect Humanity budget. Motion passed unanimously.

- i. **Foreign Fire Insurance** budget: Sara moved and Clay seconded to approve the Foreign Fire Insurance budget. Motion passed unanimously.
  - j. **Brian R Pierce Jr 517 Memorial Fund budget:** Debbie moved and Fred seconded to approve the Brian Pierce 517 Memorial budget. Motion passed unanimously.
- 10. Approval of bills by fund: the engagement letter for the Audit (\$9,000) will be signed by Mike next week. Approval of the bills implicitly approves this contract. Clay moved and Debbie seconded to pay the bills. Motion passed unanimously.
- 11. Reports:
  - a. Fire Department: 3 fire calls, 6 medical calls, 2 traffic calls for a total of 11 calls in April. Total for the year is 73. Seventeen firefighters on the roster.
  - b. Road Commissioner: see written report.
  - c. CWPP: no report.
  - d. Supervisor: prepared FY25 annual financial report for the newspaper. No General/Emergency Assistance inquiries. Preparing for transition to Mike Holub.
  - e. Assessor: is in the middle of the quadrennial reassessment.
  - f. General/Emergency Assistance: no report.
  - g. Broadband: no report.
  - h. Grant Committee: no report.
  - i. Financial Planning and Advisory: Rollie stated their next meeting is Tuesday May 20, 4pm at Fire Station 2 and will generally be held 3rd Tuesdays at 4pm at FS#2. Working on long term planning for the Fire Department and welcome guests to come discuss other long term planning.
- 12. Old Business:
  - a. Digitizing Township records at IRAD. Gina is still awaiting a call indicating the first batch is done and they are ready for the next. She will pass this topic to Dawn Crimson.
- 13. New Business:
  - a. Recognition of outgoing Makanda Township Board members. Sara on behalf of the Board wished Regina well since her hospital stays and thanked Fred for eight years of service and contributions. Mike thanked Gina, Fred and Sara for their years of hard work. Sara has been very gracious in supporting Mike and Dawn in the transition. The public applauded.
- 14. Public Comments: Julieta Leitner expressed gratitude for Devin Biffar for responding to emergency calls in 2023 and 2025 with care, respect and reassurance. Brittany Adams, who works as a librarian in Murphysboro, has experience writing grants to expand library access, and offers to help the Township explore this. Laura Lipe, a long time Makanda Township resident, noted the many Lipe family members over the generations who also served Township government; she praised her sister Sara Lipe's 22 years of dedicated service to the Township, not having missed a single meeting, including the 2018 Annual Meeting the day of mother Rose Lipe's passing. Standing ovation.
- 15. Adjournment: Fred moved and Debbie seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed by acclamation.

**MAKANDA TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY REPORT**  
**5/13/2025**

It has rained a lot this month so it's been hard to get things done

A culvert was replaced on Sheppard Lane

Potholes were filled, rip rap was applied to Midland Hills, and Sheppard Lane

Preparation for the pouring of concrete for salt/chip and cold patch storage was finished, They are planning to pour the concrete 5/14/2025

A grapple bucket was purchased as well as an old 8' grader blade. We attached the grader blade to the forks of the grapple with plans to use it to scoop up dirt we will be plowing out of ditches all over the township. Many of our ditches are full of dirt. This will be an ongoing project probably for the next few years.

I am leaving 5/14/2025 to head to just outside of Philadelphia, PA to look at a 2019 Ford F-750 dump truck, 52K miles, not used for salt. Right now the price is listed at \$72,219. I have already reduced that amount by \$1500 by foregoing the cosmetic preparation of the truck that has absolutely nothing to do with functionality, only appearance. If I purchase the truck, Sara has agreed to wire the money to the company and I will drive the truck home. It was going to be more than \$3K to have it hauled here.

An explanation of the \$100K in the equipment purchase line: The truck purchase price will be around \$70K. It will cost \$13K to put a snow plow on and another \$15K for a spreader bin and we will also have to have a lighting package installed . I have not priced that yet.

The spot sprayer that was purchased last year is now functional and I will start spraying signs, bridges, rip rap and other weeds next week, weather permitting.

A shout out to Dan Chester for getting the small engine on the sprayer working well and also for seeing if the greens aerator, that was part of the purchase of the building, running so we can put it in the auction the first of June.