

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024 – 7:30 p.m.**

Meeting call to order by Supv. Brian Moore followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

In attendance: Brian Moore, Kimberly Jones, Judy Wheelock, Keith Moore, Penny Nelson

With no additions or corrections to the agenda by Board and/or audience, **a motion by J. Wheelock; 2nd by P. Nelson to accept the agenda. Carried.**

Motion by K. Moore; 2nd by K. Jones to approve the January 8, 2024 minutes. Carried.

Treasurer's report.

- Discussion on placing the \$33,675 into a 100-day CD @ 5.30 APY at Honor Bank, pay the GPR equipment vendor out of general funds. Treasurer described other money market accounts, but suggested placing current budget funds into the special money market fund which would pay at this time at least 2% allowing up to six withdrawals a month. K. Moore suggested using bi-monthly monies sent to the township from the state to be placed into the special money market account as it's also new money. **Motion by K. Moore; 2nd J. Wheelock to place the \$33,675 in a 100% CD, pay the vendor using general funds, pull it out after 100 days and replenish the general fund. Carried.**
- **Motion by K. Moore; 2nd K. Jones to pay all bills using checks #9377-9388. Carried.**

Fire department report. None available.

Blight Enforcement Officer.

- K. Millard reviewed the status of pending blight cases. Healy Lake case was heard by Magistrate. Owner did not appear but the judgment rendered gives him 90 days to clean it up.

New business.

- Networks Northwest request to be on April 8 agenda. Agreed.
- Landbank Authority request to be on the agenda, date to be determined. Agreed.
- 2024 Poverty Guidelines and Asset test.

Motion by K. Moore; 2nd P. Nelson to ratify the 2024 Poverty Guidelines and Asset test, Resolution 2024-01. Carried.

Resolution 2024-01

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD
OF
SPRINGDALE TOWNSHIP, MANISTEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of Springdale Township, Manistee County, Michigan
Duly called and held on the day of February 12th, 2024, there being present:

Supervisor: Brian Moore, Clerk: Penny Nelson Treasurer: Kimberly Jones Trustees: Keith Moore, Judy
Wheelock

Absent: None.

SPRINGDALE TOWNSHIP

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

WHEREAS, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is within the purview of the township board; and

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under Public Act 390, 1994(MCL 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 390, 1994 Springdale Township, Manistee County adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and board of review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns filed in the current or immediately preceding year;

To be eligible a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

1. Be an owner of and occupy as a homestead the property for which an exemption is requested.
2. File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in a current year.
3. Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
4. Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested, if requested.
5. Meet the federal poverty income standards as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget.
6. The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1 but before the day prior to the last day of the board of review.
7. The guidelines apply to individuals and not to corporations, partnerships, associations or trusts. In the event that a partnership, association, or co-owners apply, the guidelines apply to the total assets of all individuals involved.

8. The guidelines apply to both an owner of a life estate and all remainder interests together.
9. Many factors will be weighed to determine whether an applicant qualifies for an exemption. Factors analyzed will include the following:
 - a. Income levels
 - b. Total value of liquid assets
 - c. Total non-homestead real property
 - d. Total acreage owned
 - e. Non-essential personal property
 - f. Total value of all assets
 - g. Gifts made within 10 years
 - h. Employability
 - i. Retirement account value, IRA, 401K, etc.
 - j. Other factors suggesting an individual's worth, including but not limited to life insurance, businesses, lawsuits, judgments due, etc.
10. Total liquid assets must not exceed the value of \$10,000. Assets beneath \$10,000 shall be considered together with other factors to determine eligibility. Liquid assets shall be considered cash, unrestricted deposits and accounts, securities, bonds, promissory notes, stocks, and other similar type of assets.
11. Total non-homestead and non-qualified agricultural real property shall not exceed the value of \$10,000.
12. The non-essential personal property shall not exceed \$5,000. Non-essential personal property includes but is not limited to horses, snowmobiles, boats, motorcycles, jet skis, all terrain vehicles. The purpose of this factor is to exclude from poverty consideration those individuals who have purchased recreational, hobby or sporting property which is not related to essential needs.
13. Total net assets must not exceed \$50,000. Total net assets below \$50,000 shall be considered together with other factors to determine eligibility.

The following are the poverty thresholds as of January, 2023 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2024 assessments:

Size of Family Unit	Annual Household Income
1	\$14,580
2	\$19,720
3	\$24,860
4	\$30,000
5	\$35,140
6	\$40,280
7	\$45,420
8	\$50,560

For each additional person, add \$5,140

14. The guidelines include employability of the individual applicants as well as other adults living in the residence. Factors here include but are not limited to attempts to find employment; physical, mental and experiential abilities, voluntary loss of employment or employment opportunities, etc.
15. The guidelines shall include an analysis of all gifts given by the applicants within ten (10) years. An applicant cannot divest him or herself of assets and then claim poverty. No fixed amount is set as a factor as each applicant must be handled on a case-by-case basis.
16. It is possible for an applicant to qualify under each separate factor but not qualify when all factors are considered together. The following are examples of how a combination of factors may disqualify a person:
 - a. An applicant has a total asset value of \$40,000 but gave away \$20,000 within the last ten years.
 - b. An applicant qualifies under income or asset factors but recently spent \$10,000 for a life insurance policy with his or her children as beneficiaries.
 - c. The applicant qualifies under the asset or income levels but voluntarily quit from a well-paying job.
 - d. In addition to weighing the individual factors, the Board of Review and Supervisor shall evaluate all the factors together to determine if the applicant is in a poverty condition.
17. Any tax exemption given to an individual under these guidelines shall be for the one (1) year's taxes. A new application will be required for the next year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption.

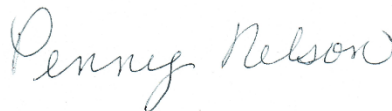
The foregoing resolution offered by Trustee, Keith Moore and supported by Clerk, Penny Nelson. Upon Roll Call vote, the following voted:

Aye: Brian Moore, Kimberly Jones, Keith Moore, Judy Wheelock, Penny Nelson

Nay: None.

Absent: None

The supervisor declared the resolution adopted.



Township Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned and duly qualified clerk of Springdale Township, Manistee County, Michigan (the "Township") do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting held on February 12, 2024, the original of which is on file in my office and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have affixed by official signature this 12th day of February 2024.

Penny Nelson

Township Clerk

Old business.

- Briefing on the Grand Traverse Band's awards. Clerk explained the award ceremony and how the band accepted our application. Rebecca Fraley, grantwriter explained it from the Band's viewpoint. The library was also funded fully.
- Cemetery
 - Policy for the ground penetrating radar machine needs to be developed before the machine is placed in service. Will be stored in the back room.

Library report. Distributed to the board. B. Moore read it briefly aloud.

Correspondence. Campground license from the state, Housing North letter.

Public comments. Y. Humphrey commented on paying \$18 for recycling when the dumpster wasn't at the township hall. Explained that all the Manistee recycling sites can be used, including the closest one at Copemish. Cannot use Thompsonville's recycling site. R. Fraley stated that a presentation is being developed about the Indian Boarding Schools. Expect it to be presented next year in Benzonia's Mill House.

Board comments. B. Moore stated that the Board of Review's dates: March 5, 2:30 pm organizational meeting, March 13, 9 am – 3 pm and March 15, 3 pm to 9 pm. Next board budget meeting: March 11, at 6:30 pm.

Adjournment: 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Penny Nelson

Penny Nelson
Township Clerk