

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026 – 7:30 p.m.

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

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

Additions or corrections to the agenda by either the Board and/or audience. Addition to new business from audience: Iron Fish RV campground. Addition to old business from clerk: Manistee Recreational Plan. **Motion by K. Moore to accept the agenda with additions; 2nd J. Wheelock. Carried.**

Motion by K. Moore; 2nd K. Jones to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2025 regular board meeting. Carried.

Treasurer's report.

- Request to open another money market account to hold current tax receipts. **Motion by K. Moore 2nd by P. Nelson to open another money market account to hold current tax receipts. Carried.**
- **Motion by J. Wheelock; 2nd K. Jones to pay all bills presented using checks #1562-1563 and 9908-9925. Carried.**

Fire department report.

- Cleon Township Fire Department report distributed to the board. Supv. B Moore read the report aloud.

Blight Enforcement Officer. Kenneth Millard reviewed his activities. Question about a lot of cars in many states of repair on a township property. Show cause hearing scheduled for Healy Lake property.

Cemetery. No activities.

New business.

- 2026 Poverty Exemption Guidelines. Assessor explained that the numbers are 2025 numbers.

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

Resolution 2026-01

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of Springdale Township, Manistee County, Michigan Duly called and held on the day of January 12th, 2026, 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.

Poverty Exemption Resolution Cont'd:

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, 2025 for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2026 assessments:

Size of Family Unit	Annual Household Income
1	\$15,650
2	\$21,150
3	\$26,650
4	\$32,150
5	\$37,650
6	\$43,150
7	\$48,650
8	\$54,150
For each additional person, add	\$5,500

- 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.

Poverty Exemption Resolution Cont'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 Board Member Brian Moore and supported by Board Member Keith Moore. Upon Roll Call vote, the following voted:

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

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

The supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

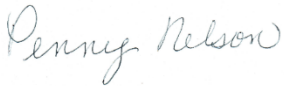


Penny Nelson
Township Clerk

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 January 12, 2026, 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 January, 2026.



Township Clerk, SPRINGDALE TOWNSHIP

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- o Iron Fish campground. Questioned whether there was an unlicensed campground set up on the Iron Fish grounds.
 - o Reminder: Budget workshop sessions February 9 at 7 p.m.; March 9 at 7 p.m.

Old business.

- o Recreation Plan. An updated plan distributed to the board. Clerk said that the planning director would change the township's ORV roads to open from closed.

Library report. Distributed to the board.

Correspondence. Letter about the Benzie Bike Tour; Country Line magazine; Pleasanton Twp master plan approval letter; MTA Board of Review training brochure; Carrot Top brochure; Charter TV change information.

Public comments. J. Litwiller stated that the Board of Review training this January 22, 9 – 12 at the Maple Grove Community Center.

Board comments. K. Moore reminded that the main hall floor needs refinishing. Put in budget discussion, along with a section of cabinets in the hall.

Clerk explained that the Copemish and Thompsonville post office hours have changed. Also that mail is not postmarked at the local post office but only when it reaches the distribution center.

Keith Moore about status of Healy Lake lease renewal. Clerk: DNR promised March.

Kim Jones: supplies in utility room are in need of revamping.

Adjournment. 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Penny Nelson
Township Clerk

DRAFT