ST. JOHN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 20, 2026; 6:00 P.M.
St. John Township Community Center, 1515 W. Lincoln Highway, Schererville, IN 46375
Main Meeting Room

Meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Chairman, Lisa Elder, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS	- Lisa Elder, Chairman - Michael Quigley, Secretary - Eric J. Stanich, Member
TRUSTEE	- Cathy J. Lareau
TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY	- Adam J. Sedia
LAKE HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.	- Steve Michalak, Fire Chief - Tom Van Vleet, Deputy Chief - Missy Michalak, Lake Hills Board President

CITIZEN INPUT

None

REPORTS

1. Fire Department Reports

a. Lake Hills Fire Department June 2026 Financial Reports, June 2026 Calls & EMS Reports
Chief Michalak went over the June 2026 Calls and EMS Reports. He stated they were very busy due to the bad weather. There was a brief discussion regarding Mutual Aid. Chief Michalak explained ambulance payments have a payment turnaround of 7-10 days now compared to 30-60 days in the past. This is improvement is due to the TOMSWeb online setup. He also stated they have four new probationary firefighters in the academy now. Michalak, Lake Hills Board President, stated the financials looked good. The ladder testing and pump maintenance was completed in June. They are still receiving donations for headsets from the 2025 donation letter. Should surplus donations come in for the headsets, the extra donations will be used towards other equipment. The 2026 donation letter is expected to be distributed October or the beginning of November. Michalak confirmed with Lareau that the tax payment received in June was not included in the June bank reconciliation. This payment will show in the July bank reconciliation.

Elder accepted the Lake Hills Fire Department June 2026 Financial Reports, June 2026 Calls & EMS Reports as a matter of record.

2. **Trustee Report**
   Lareau discussed the DAV Walk flyer in the Board's meeting packets. She encouraged them to participate. Veterans have received benefits every year due to the awareness the DAV Walk raises.

   Lareau stated the budget is being prepared now and that the first six months of the year are closed out. A public hearing will be in September and an adoption in October. A budget meeting is set up with the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) for a discussion of the budget.

   Attorney Report
   Attorney Sedia asked Trustee Lareau to explain to the Board the issues with the rail fence. Lareau explained a gentlemen backed into the fence in the Township parking lot. He informed the office of this accident. There were already a couple of the fence posts that were weakened prior to this accident. The part of the fence he had hit broke a post but the rails are okay. Lareau has received a few estimates to fix the fence. The gentlemen is going to reimburse the Township with his portion of the money. Sedia explained the claim will be settled.

   Attorney Sedia added everything else he has previously touched on is still pending.

3. **Board Reports**
   None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Approval of June 23, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes**
   There were no questions.

   Quigley made a motion to approve the June 23, 2026 Board Meeting minutes as submitted. Stanich seconded the motion.
   Elder called for a vote. Motion carried 3-0.

2. **Approval of June 23, 2026 Executive Board Meeting Minutes**
   There were no questions.

   Stanich made a motion to approve the June 23, 2026 Executive Board Meeting minutes as submitted. Quigley seconded the motion.
   Elder called for a vote. Motion carried 3-0.

2. **Approval of July 14, 2026 Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

There were no questions.

Quigley made a motion to approve the July 14, 2026 Executive Board Meeting minutes as submitted. Stanich seconded the motion.
Elder called for a vote. Motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Township Assistance Reports June 2026**
   Lareau pointed out that, based on the number of clients assisted and the staff's efforts to secure resources from organizations outside of the Township, the combined total of assistance provided this month was approximately $17,000. Many of the clients requesting assistance have eviction notices or utility shut-offs with significant outstanding balances. Lareau added that the staff does a fabulous job working with other organizations to provide additional assistance. There was also discussion regarding the calculations for Lines 1 and 2 on the Township Assistance Report.
   Elder accepted the Township Assistance Reports June 2026 as a matter of record.

2. **Township Financial Reports June 2026**
   Lareau noted that the closing grand totals on the Fund Balance Sheets for both Trust Indiana and Centier Bank match perfectly, confirming that the accounts are fully balanced. There were no questions.
   Elder accepted the Financial Reports June 2026 as a matter of record.

3. **Sale of 2006 Ambulance**
   Lareau stated now that the new ALS ambulance is up and running, Lake Hills is ready to sell the 2006 ambulance. Sedia explained the two allowable approaches under statute: Selling to another government organization by doing an outright sale and selling to a private entity which must be done through an auction. This could be an online auction. The whole idea is if it is not being sold to a government unit, it's to maximize the value you get for it. He stated there may be websites to list it for sale for governmental buyers. If a private buyer was interested, it still must go to auction but can attach conditions to officially ensure the ambulance is being sold to a buyer that will be used in accordance with the plans to retire. Lareau stated they must find the value of the ambulance. The Township purchased it for $25,000 and it will sell lower than that. A sealed bid is not necessary because of the price range it will be sold for. It will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Sedia explained a resolution must be made finding it as surplus property and authorizing the sale. He will prepare the resolution for the next board meeting. The Board then would authorize the sale pursuant to statute. There was a brief discussion regarding possible markets for older ambulances. Sedia suggested to wait for the resolution before putting it up for auction.

4. **2027 CIP (Capital Improvement Plan)**
   Lareau and Sedia briefly went over the process for last year's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Lareau reached out to the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF), and they still do not have the new CIP template. Sedia added Lareau reached out to Representative Slager last year and the law was fixed. Lareau stated there are new revisions to the Indiana Code involving the CIP. Sedia explained changes and the positive changes. Based upon the requirements, the Township is not required to submit a CIP in 2026 because it does not meet the required threshold. Beginning in

2028, the Township will be required to implement a CIP. Lareau explained that the purpose of presenting the CIP to the Board was to make them aware that it does not need to be approved at this meeting for the Township to submit it to the County in August. Sedia explained that there will not be another CIP for two years. The proposed changes provide the Township Board with the appropriate timeframe to review and approve the CIP and allow sufficient time for it to be submitted to the County.

ANY AND ALL OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE TOWNSHIP

1. **Other**
   None

2. **The next scheduled meeting of the Township Board to be held on Tuesday, August 25, 2026 in the Community Center Hall.**

ADJOURNMENT

Quigley made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanich seconded the motion.
Elder called for a vote. Motion carried 3-0.
Meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

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Lisa Elder, Chairman

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Michael Quigley, Secretary

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Eric J. Stanich, Member

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Submitted and attested by Cathy J. Lareau, Trustee