

Georgette Peterson, Supervisor
 Susan Wilson, Clerk
 Jill Sanborn, Treasurer

Ron Klein, Trustee
 Ted Swanson, Trustee

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP
 52022 34th Avenue, Bangor, Michigan
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2025

Georgette Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Ted Swanson, Ron Klein, Susan Wilson and Georgette Peterson all present.

Absent: Jill Sanborn

Others Present: Scott Graham, Arlington Township Attorney and Jeff Douglas, Deputy Treasurer

Approval of Agenda:

Snow Plowing was added under New Business.

Ted Swanson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, supported by Georgette Peterson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Reports:

Consent Agenda Reports

Assessor's Report

Supervisor's Report

Clerk's Report

Amendment: The Zoning Commission and Road Commission reports were removed this month from the consent agenda. No reports were given.

Motion was made by Susan Wilson to approve the Consent Agenda Reports, as amended above, supported by Ted Swanson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Amend the footnote date from the 20th to the 17th.

Motion was made by Georgette Peterson to approve the September 17, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes as amended above, supported by Ted Swanson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Reports

Law Enforcement: Deputy Holly Daniel gave her report. There was a total of 58 calls for Arlington Township in the month of September. Blight issues were discussed. Deputy Daniel asked if it were possible to give a 'free pass' (for the township's transfer station) to those residents who need to clean up and dispose of their blight. Bangor, Columbia, and Bloomingdale Townships do something similar for their residents. This will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

Fire Department: Arlington, Bangor City, and Bangor Township (ABB): Derek Babcock reported a total of 59 calls during the month of September. The Lawrence Township fire chief left the fire department at the beginning of October. They are in the process of finding a replacement. Three high school students are attending the Van Buren Tech Center; two for the fire program and one for the EMT program. The City of Bangor will be adopting the 2021 International Fire Code. Each year, fire inspections will occur at businesses and rental properties (long and short term).

Senior Service's Report: Jeannie Babcock reported that Senior Services have a support group for those who are care givers. They meet on the first Monday of the month. It is also available through zoom.

Commissioner's Report: Kurt Doroh reported that the county continues to work on the facility master plan. Issues continue with Mercury Broadband and Lawrence and Geneva Townships. A program was held at a recent commissioner's meeting regarding artificial intelligence (AI). Van Buren County is the number one county for 'AI' in Michigan.

Treasurer's Report: Deputy Treasurer, Jeff Douglas, gave the treasurer's report.

Georgette Peterson asked for approval to pay September 18, 2025 – October 15, 2025 expenses. Checks with 10/15/25 dates are post board approval and checks dated prior to this date were issued prior to board approval per township policy, or were previously approved by the board.

Ted Swanson made a motion to approve payment of the expenses. Ron Klein supported the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Ted Swanson, Ron Klein, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson all in favor. Motion carried.

Georgette Peterson asked for approval to pay KCI \$988.53 for the Winter 2025 tax bill mailing postage.

Ted Swanson made a motion to approve payment of the above expense. Ron Klein supported the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Ted Swanson, Ron Klein, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson all in favor. Motion carried.

Georgette Peterson asked for approval to cash in the PNC money market account and deposit \$100,000 into the MBLic checking account and place the remainder into the JP Morgan money market account.

Ted Swanson made a motion to approve of the above change. Ron Klein supported the motion. Roll Call Vote: Ted Swanson, Ron Klein, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson all in favor. Motion carried.

Budget Amendments: Georgette Peterson asked that the following amendments be made to the budget for Planning and Zoning. Decrease fund #101-701-702.000 by **\$2080.00** (General Fund - Salaries and Wages) and add **\$2080.00** to fund #213-701-709.000 (Marijuana Fund - Salaries and Wages).

Georgette Peterson made a motion to approve the above amendment to the budget. Susan Wilson supported the motion. Roll Call Vote: Ted Swanson, Ron Klein, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson all in favor. Motion carried.

Decrease fund #101-701-715.000 by **\$194.37** (General Fund – Payroll Taxes) and add **\$194.37** to fund #213-701-715.000 (Marijuana Fund – Payroll Taxes).

Susan Wilson made a motion to approve the above amendment to the budget. Ted Swanson supported the motion. Roll Call Vote: Ted Swanson, Ron Klein, Susan Wilson, and Georgette Peterson all in favor. Motion carried.

Planning Commission: Ron Klein reported that all information requested by the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, for the master plan, will be given to them by the end of the week. The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission will give McKenna the information they need for ordinances. Ron attended a Porter Township meeting where watershed management was discussed. Obtaining further information and contacts can assist Arlington Township with water management ordinances and improve the quality of inland lakes. Grants are available to obtain large trees that can be planted to protect watershed and the shoreline.

Marijuana Coordinator's Report: Georgette Peterson reported that there are 13 marijuana growers in the township with 85 grow licenses, 10 processor licenses, and 1 provisioning center license. She has made 9 visits to the growers with 4 more to go. Georgette spoke about Michigan Cannabis Industry Association filing a lawsuit aiming to invalidate Michigan's 24% wholesale tax on marijuana.

Jacob Diljak, Outreach Coordinator (VB Conservation District): Jacob stated that the conservation district is unable to work in their building due to the government shutdown, but they are working remotely. A recycling event will be held this Saturday, October 18, at the Van Buren Tech Center from 9:00am to 2:00pm. It is free to all Van Buren County residents and landowners. Hazardous waste, paint, tires, electronics and foam will be accepted. Cannot take tractor tires at this time.

Public Comments: Comments were made by Christopher Passmore, Kristin Colgren, Sharon Staffen, and Laura Roe.

Update & Discussion on Stone Co - Discussion of the Stone Co Gravel Pit was moved from Old Business. Residents voiced their concerns regarding the Stone Co Gravel Pit and its operation on 42nd Avenue and CR 215. Much discussion ensued. Scott Graham asked residents to document their concerns and to possibly provide videos of what is occurring. Turn this into the township. Further legal action is occurring. Depositions will be taken by the end of November and then a trial date will be set. An update will be provided by Scott Graham at the November or December board meeting.

New Business:

Nominate an Alternate to the Fire Board – Georgette Peterson would like to nominate Dorman Wilson as an alternate to the fire board. **Georgette Peterson made a motion to nominate Dorman Wilson to the fire board as an alternate. Ted Swanson supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Snow Plowing Contract – Susan Wilson reported Out on a Limb Tree Service will plow and salt the driveway for \$125.00 per each 3-inch snow fall. They will also shovel and salt the sidewalks for \$125.00 per each 3-inch snow fall. Discussion was tabled and will be revisited further under the transfer station update.

Old Business:

Zoning Admin Request for Salary Increase – A request was submitted by the zoning administrator regarding an increase in salary. Ted Swanson suggested to not increase the salary at this time, but to wait for more information and relook at this closer to budget time. Need to gather information on what are other townships, our size, pay zoning administrators.

Ted Swanson made a motion to not increase the salary of the Zoning Administrator. Susan Wilson supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Bloomington Communications “Metro Act” Right of Way Contract – Susan Wilson inquired about this contract. Scott Graham asked further discussion be tabled until the next board meeting.

Transfer Station Update – Ted Swanson reported that Consumers Energy lost the Transfer Station contract and original check from the township. Ted questioned whether to suspend using the dumpster from 12/1 to 3/1. The contract with the Van Buren Conservation District will need to be reviewed to see if recycling needs to stay open all year. Snow plowing will need to be arranged. Clarks Metal Auto has agreed to let us keep their dumpster until November 15th. The township gets to keep any money made over \$100.00 from scrap metal. Ted asked if the township should accept any scrap metal and appliances for free from residents. Better advertising of the transfer station was suggested. Fees will be looked into next year for the dumpster.

Ted Swanson made a motion to close the dumpster portion of the Transfer Station from 12/1 to 3/1. Ron Klein supported the motion. Roll Call: Ayes – 3 and Nays – 1. Motion carried.

Ted Swanson made a motion to obtain bids for snow plowing of township properties. Ron Klein supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ted Swanson made a motion to accept appliances (washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator) for free at the Transfer Station until 11/15 for residents and home owners. Georgette Peterson supported the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ron Klein asked to comment on the noise and vibration that was reported earlier. This could be a Consumer’s Energy issue. Gas pipelines can pulsate with air pockets that can produce vibration and noise. Jeff Douglas further explained what can occur with gas pipelines.

The sexton will investigate a dangling branch at the Colburn Cemetery.

Adjournment: Ron Klein motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:39pm. Seconded by Susan Wilson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Wilson, Clerk

Peggy Douglas, Administrative Assistant

DRAFT