



Bridgeton Township Board Monthly Meeting Minutes (Proposed)

April 28, 2025

I. Routine Business

- a. Call to Order/Pledge – Supervisor Mansfield calls the meeting to order at 7:00pm, starting with the Pledge
- b. Roll Call – Board Members Present: Kossen-Priddy, Mansfield, Herman-Hinton, Clough, and Petropoulos
- c. Approve Agenda – Clough motions to approve the agenda with the following changes/additions: add Local Campgrounds paying for launch passes to New Business b.; add River cleanup day to New Business c.; add Junk Day Ad to New Business k.; add Food Distribution New Business j.; remove Old Business Tablets and Laptops; remove Old Business Budget Adjustments; add VII. Board Comments; move Maple River Project to Routine Business e. Herman-Hinton seconds. Passes 5-0
- d. Approve March 2025 Meeting Minutes – Kossen-Priddy motions to approve the April 2025 Meeting Minutes with changing the period to a comma after the word installation in Old Business; g.; Parking Lot Repair, Clough seconds. Passes 5-0
- e. Approve April 2025 Special Meeting Minutes Kossen-Priddy motions to approve April 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, Herman-Hinton seconds. Passes 5-0
- f. Public Comment: Supervisor Mansfield asked for public comments related to agenda items except for the Maple River Project, those comments will be after the presentation. No public comment on agenda items.
- g. Maple River Project – Executive Director, Paul Haan, of the Muskegon River Watershed Assembly spoke on the progress of the project. Project is back on due to a change in the federal funding. Will be reengaging with Muskegon County Road Commission. Funding will start the designing and engineering. Models are being created to bring to the residents to show what will happen if the Maple River is opened. Bayne Rd and Maple Island Rd will have better water passage underneath to prevent flooding. Timing of project is not known, 3-5 years is a reasonable timeframe to expect.

i. Public Comment

1. Is this in conjunction with dismantling the dams? This is an isolated project, not related to the dams.
2. Trustee Herman-Hinton asked for where she can get information to post on the township website and Facebook page. Can signup for email updates at mrwa.org.
3. Can emails be given to the project to receive email updates? Yes
4. Website is mrwa.org – page on this website about Maple River Project
5. paul@mrwa.org – email Paul to be added to email list
6. Resident clarified the dams does not have anything to do with what happens down river. They are in place to adjust the pond levels. Dams were engineered to last 50 years, they are over 100 years old.

7. Is the water that comes in from Muskegon wastewater being taken into consideration? This is downriver from the project.
8. If flooding is the main concern why is a floodgate not being considered? This is one of the considerations.
9. Why was the river closed? Logging, wanted to get the logs to Muskegon as fast as they could.
10. Resident thanked the Maple River Project for doing a lot for the river. However, feels that they “put the cart before the horse”. The funding is there but the impact has not been completely studied. Anymore than 20% gets diverted the Maple Island boat launch will not be useable to fisherman, only useable for canoes and tubes. Concern is are we doing something that prevents a once in 100 year event that prevents people from using it daily.
11. Trustee Clough asked if there is mitigation to deepen the channel or make it skinnier if the Maple River is restored? This is a good question. This is why they came here tonight to hear concerns like this. If the impact is 4 inches of water they will probably not proceed.
12. What is the impact on the animals? There are studies happening all the time. More water is better for the animals.
13. Point about floodgate – this will not stop canoeing or tubing.
14. Is the Maple River opening all about flooding? No flooding is one portion; the health of the river is another portion.
15. Where is the bridge on Maple Island? Right before you climb the hill.
16. Resident stated that the Army Corp used property to do testing. Showed model on laptop. Where the inlet goes into the stream it is ankle deep. Will we see transparency about if this is good for us or not? Meetings every two to three weeks, last week’s meeting showed computer models showing different rain events. These models will be available to the public.
17. How long before Kathy Whipple’s project was approved and completed? Typically, it takes longer but her project was completed in 18 months.

II. Action Items

- a. Consent Agenda – Clerk Kossen-Priddy asked about the Planning Commission meeting minutes, should we be receiving the previous month’s approved minutes or the current month’s proposed minutes. Deputy Treasurer Annis-VanOver stated these should be the approved minutes from the previous month. Herman-Hinton motions to approve the bill and payroll reports as received, Petropoulos seconds. Passes 5-0
- b. Treasurer’s Report
 - i. Treasurer’s monthly report – Treasurer Petropoulos read the report. Supervisor Mansfield asked about the disbursements in the tax account. Treasurer stated the tax account is almost empty now and that will be in the April report. Supervisor Mansfield asked about getting back to residents. Treasurer Petropoulos said she is still having phone issues.

Clerk Kossen-Priddy stated Treasurer Petropoulos can bring the phone in to the Clerk to call and have it fixed.

1. Mansfield motions to approve the February 2025 Treasurer's report, Clough seconds. Passes 3-2
 2. Mansfield motions to approve the January 2025 Treasurer's report, Clough seconds. Passes 3-2
 3. Supervisor Mansfield sets a deadline for the Treasurer's report to be to him by the 15th of the month for the board packet.
 - ii. During the October 2024 board meeting the board voted to use remaining ARPA funds and surplus in the general fund for the 112th road project. Clough motions to transfer the \$98,267.94 surplus and the remaining ARPA funds in the amount of \$63,564.06 to the road fund to cover the 50% down requested by the Newaygo County Road Commission, Kossen-Priddy seconds, Passes 5-0
 - iii. Monthly reconciliation with the clerk – March 2025 Fire Fund and Road Fund provided by Clerk Kossen-Priddy and reviewed by Treasurer Petropoulos
 - iv. Tax withholding receipts –
 1. 941 – Copy of payment receipt provided to the board
 2. State of Michigan – Copy of payment receipt provided to the board
 3. UIA – Receipt of filed report provided to the board
- c. Clerk
- i. Election – Clough motions to approve approximately \$65.00, no more than \$100.00, to purchase meals for the election workers. Herman-Hinton seconds. Passes 5-0
 - ii. Deputy Clerk hours April-July
 1. Clerk Kossen-Priddy reported that the Deputy Clerk has been progressing faster than expected on the cemetery records project. However, like any task there are layers.
- d. Cemetery and Parks Report
- i. No burials this month. Four foundations in progress. New fence is installed. Topsoil and seeding done from the tree removal.
 - ii. Training – Herman-Hinton motions to approve up to \$125/person for four people to attend the Cemetery Challenges & Solutions workshop put on by MTA, Clough seconds. Passes 5-0
- e. Boat Launch Report
- i. Clough motions to clarify the process of installing electricity, pending approval of the permitting process, authorize up to \$5,000 to install electricity at the Maple Island boat launch, from the Maple Island boat launch monetary contributions for usage, Kossen-Priddy seconds. Roll call vote Clough – yes, Mansfield – yes, Herman-Hinton – yes, Petropoulos – yes, Kossen-Priddy – yes. Passes 5-0
 - ii. Supervisor Mansfield will follow up with Bryan Kolk and get back with Jim Schuiteman. If not approved, then solar will be investigated.

- f. Social Media Update
 - i. Trustee Herman-Hinton gave an update on social media and communication. Asked residents to email her about thoughts and ideas of information they would like to see posted.
 - ii. Trustee Clough wants to verify we can use pictures of public events on Facebook. Supervisor Mansfield will check into this.
- III. Information Items
 - a. Bryan Kolk – absent from meeting
 - b. Planning Commission overview – Trustee Clough gave an overview of the Planning Commission meeting that was held on April 14, 2025
 - i. Discussion on digitizing records. Clough scanning and emailing to Herman-Hinton the Board Zoning Ordinances.
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Technology Upgrades
 - i. Hall Phone – no update
 - ii. Network upgrade – Tim Priddy spoke with Fremont Computer concerning the cables that need to be run. Funds will be reviewed at the May meeting.
 - b. Tower Update at Township Hall – Supervisor Mansfield received a response from the cell tower company, moving it would delay the tower until at least next year. Supervisor Mansfield will request the original contract. The board feels they need more information before making a decision. Mansfield will bring it to the May meeting.
 - c. Printer purchase Clough motions to approve the purchase of the printer, two toner cartridges of each black and color, no additional trays at this time, and the service protection plan, grand total of \$1,390.95 up to \$1,500.00 maximum cost, Mansfield seconds. Passes 5-0
 - d. FOIA Coordinator – Herman-Hinton is scheduling a meeting with the interested resident. Meeting should take place this week or next week.
 - e. Parking lot repair – Supervisor Mansfield received one quote, no other companies submitted a quote. Clough motions to approve a cap of \$5,200.00 to resurface and repair cracks, seal coat to decrease the likelihood of accidents. Herman-Hinton seconds. Roll call Clough – yes, Mansfield – yes, Herman-Hinton – yes, Petropoulos – yes, Kossen-Priddy - yes. Passes 5-0
 - f. Kitchen repair, faucet no longer functioning properly – Jim Schuiteman will do research and submit to Trustee Herman-Hinton the faucet that needs to be purchased. Herman-Hinton motions to approve up to \$300.00 to purchase a new faucet for the hall kitchen sink, Petropoulos seconds. Passes 5-0
- V. New Business:
 - a. Cell phone for Sexton – Herman-Hinton motions to add a new line to the township account for the Sexton, Petropoulos seconds. Passes 5-0
 - b. Local campgrounds paying for launch permits – campgrounds have not paid in the past. Treasurer has received complaints from fishermen that the campground/tube rental staff are rude and that they block the launch so boats cannot be put into the river for fishing. Letters to be sent to companies that are using the launches. Clerk and Trustee will work together.

- c. River Cleanup Day boat launch fees - Trustee Herman-Hinton asked if fees are waived for the river cleanup day. Yes, the fee will be waived for river clean up.
 - d. Contract digitizing zoning ordinances – discussed earlier
 - e. Flags for graves – Clough motions to purchase three boxes of flags, to be placed on Veteran’s graves, for the summer seasons of 2025 and 2026 at current rate of \$195/box, Herman-Hinton seconds. Passes 5-0
 - f. Recycle center letter – board will not be submitting money to the recycle center
 - g. New audit company – Clough motions to request presentation at May board meeting, Kossen-Priddy seconds. Passes 5-0
 - h. Muskegon Motorcycle Club Permits for events in June, July, August, and September 2025. Herman-Hinton motions to accept the public assembly permits for 2025 contingent on receiving insurance policy. Clough seconds. Passes 5-0
 - i. Dock install/removal – Clough motions to approve resolution to allow the Supervisor to have the docks installed and removed each year, Kossen-Priddy seconds. Roll call vote Clough – yes, Mansfield – yes, Herman-Hinton-yes, Petropoulos – yes, Kossen-Priddy – yes. Passes 5-0
 - j. Summer Food Distribution - Kossen-Priddy motions to approve the use of the hall parking lot for summer meal distribution on Thursdays beginning June 19th through August 7th, 2025, Clough seconds. Passes 5-0
 - k. Junk Day ad – Clough motions to investigate the cost of renting a sign and find out if the Hi-Lites is still delivering, spend up to \$200.00 to either rent a sign or place an ad in the Hi-Lites. Petropoulos seconds. Passes 5-0
 - l. Bill reports to website (added to agenda when the board began discussing New Business)
 - a. Herman-Hinton motions to post bills to website, after payment has been approved by board, each month, Mansfield seconds. Passes 5-0
 - i. Trustee Herman-Hinton and Clerk Kossen-Priddy will work on the website to create a section for the bill report posting.
 - ii. Funds that will be posted, once the website is ready, General, Road, and Fire
- VI. Board Comments: Clerk Kossen-Priddy reminded the board and residents that the May meeting is May 19th due to Memorial Day. Herman-Hinton reminds everyone of junk days, volunteers welcome. After the Memorial Day wreath drop a snack and dessert potluck will be held at the hall. Hall will be open at 9am.
- VII. Public comment: Resident asked about Bryan Kolk and an update on a complaint on a property at 112th and Dickinson. Resident concerning campers on neighbors’ property and requested an update on the complaints. Trustee Clough updated the residents on the new magistrate and the training. Resident stated he is receiving calls for the township. Trustee Clough stated that the phone numbers are posted on the website, in the newsletter, and the hall is open four days per week. Concerns about the truck route. Supervisor Mansfield stated he has contacted the Newaygo County Road Commission, and that the township has no control over the timing of the repairs to the truck route.
- VIII. Adjournment: Clough motions to adjourn meeting at 10:08pm, Herman-Hinton seconds. Passes 5-0

Ann Marie Kossen-Priddy, Clerk

Date Signed

Jason Mansfield, Supervisor

Date Signed