

Cross Village Township Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 9-1-2026

Present: Supervisor Stephen Keller, Treasurer Marie Garrett, Clerk John Keller, Trustee Howard Wood, Trustee Barb Jania

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Cross Village Board was called to order by Steve Keller at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

Agenda: Howard Wood asked to amend the agenda to add Printing Master Plan. It was placed under Unfinished Business as item 4. Further amendments were Generator Maintenance (item 5 Unfinished Business), and Fire Extinguishers (item 3. New Business). Steve Keller moved to accept the amended agenda. Wood seconded. All were in favor and the amended agenda was approved.

Minutes (August 2026): Supervisor moved to approve the August 2026 regular meeting minutes. Trustee Wood seconded. All were in favor and the August 2026 minutes were approved.

Financial Report: The Clerk's and Treasurer's reports were presented.

Total Bills Paid (August 2026): \$18674.90

Payment of Bills: Wood moved to pay bills totaling \$1111.03. Steve Keller seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Correspondence/Announcements:

- Meeting of Road Commission is October 13th, 2026 at 6:30 pm at 2265 E Hathaway Rd., Harbor Springs, MI 49840.
- A Post-Blissfest meeting is September 15th, 2026 at 6 pm at Readmond Township Hall.

Public Comments:

- A representative from MSU Extension spoke about forums that have been held on several subjects related to the township and the Master Plan, including leadership roles, preservation of cultural resources (in conjunction with LTBB), and emergency preparedness. A forum in May elicited discussion on hot-topic issues such as public restrooms, emergency preparedness, Veterans' Park project, and more. A forum with Matt Blythe from Emmet County Emergency Management Services will be held this October, and more fora are planned. These have been funded by a grant from Harbor Springs/Petoskey Community Foundation.
- Linda Rosalik spoke about communications importance during emergency events, and the need to plan for emergencies. She noted that milkweed seed packets will be available for free in the Reading Room, to help promote the Monarch butterfly population.
- Supervisor noted the hole in the Town Hall foundation is being addressed, and in fact it's patched. Thank you to Patrick Keller.

Committee Reports:

Linda Rosalik said the next Planning Commission meeting is Monday September 21 at 1 pm at the Community Center and that members are close to finishing sections of the Master Plan. She mentioned the issue of short-term rentals and a desire to discuss the township's approach to them. She spoke about the Veterans' Park project. They had a booth at Harbor Springs Farm Market, and raised some funds there. A plaque is being discussed for contribution of a flagpole by Joan Young and Thomas Schellenberg. Howard Wood did the woodwork for the Wounded Warrior emblem. Next meeting of that committee is Thursday 9/3 at 7 pm in the Community Center.

Assessor Report:

Tim Grimm gave an assessor report, noting he's completed the required continuing education needed for recertification. A 2-year sales study has been completed, showing 14 sales with an average sale price to assessed value of 46.15%. The goal would be 50%. Included were 3 waterfront sales with average to assessed of 39%. Assessments continue an upward trend, and the average increase in Cross Village will be 8%. A Michigan Tax Tribunal appeal on assessment was filed, and will probably not be heard until spring of 2027. There were a

couple of land-splits as well. The assessor noted he's available anytime people want to look at the assessment rolls or look up a parcel, etc.

Unfinished Business:

- a. SLFRF Round 2 Projects: John Keller said he will assemble the picnic furniture and a cost to install can be calculated to pay for installation.
- b. Bathrooms: There has been some delay, but progress is happening on the bathroom remodel. The contractor is certain they will be complete before the deadline in early November.
- c. Totem Pole: No new discussion.

New Business:

- a. Historical marker – Linda Rosalik said she'd received an email from Phyllis Epps regarding work on getting a marker for the Community Center. Discussion on further moves to seek Historic Site status were held. It was decided to add the item to the October agenda.
- b. Fire Extinguishers – Supervisor stated he had a quote for replacing our old fire extinguishers in the Community Center at a cost of \$500.00 with a \$100/year cost for refill, maintenance, and replacement if needed. John Keller moved to accept the bid. Barb Jania seconded. All were in favor.
- c. Land purchase consideration – After a brief discussion it was decided to handle this item in regular session v. closed session. The post office building is up for sale at a cost of \$209,000. It was suggested as a possibility to both preserve a post office in Cross Village, and remodel the building as a welcome center/restroom facility. The USPS has a lease agreement currently at the building. Supervisor will contact USPS to get details on the agreement, and whether it would continue in place with the sale of the building. He will also ask a contractor to meet him there to look over the building for rough costs to remodel.
Secondly, the property adjacent to the Veterans' Park property is available to the township for \$38,000 dollars. Discussion occurred on the possibility of purchase and building a welcome center/restroom at that location instead. Supervisor will get a rough estimate on costs for such a project.

Second Public Comment: None

Adjourn Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

John F. Keller, Cross Village Township Clerk

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