

Supervisor Murphy called the public meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Supervisor Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk McMahon called the roll and the following board members were present:

Supervisor Murphy, Trustee Hurckes, Trustee Pratl, Trustee Sexton-Kelly and Trustee Toscas.

Also present were Elizabeth Shine, Attorney; Katie Elwood, Township Manager; Colleen Kenny, Deputy Clerk; Shaun Murphy, Assessor; Fred Moody, a citizen.

MINUTES

Motion made by Trustee Hurckes, seconded by Trustee Pratl to approve the minutes from Session #1076-25, Regular Meeting, December 17, 2025.

Trustee Hurckes – aye

Trustee Pratl – aye

Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye

Trustee Toscas - aye

Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Trustee Sexton-Kelly, seconded by Trustee Hurckes to approve posting the tentative 2026-2027 budget and appropriation ordinances for the Town of Worth Fund, Town of Worth Road Fund and the Town of Worth General Assistance Fund for 30 days.

Trustee Hurckes – aye

Trustee Pratl – aye

Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye

Trustee Toscas - aye

Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Toscas, seconded by Trustee Pratl to approve scheduling a public hearing for the 2026-2027 tentative budget and appropriation ordinances for the Town of Worth Fund, The Town of Worth Road Fund and the Town of Worth General Assistance Fund on February 18, 2026, at 5:00 pm.

Trustee Hurckes – aye

Trustee Pratl – aye

Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye

Trustee Toscas - aye

Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Sexton-Kelly, seconded by Trustee Toscas to approve the hiring a part-time senior transportation driver.

Trustee Hurckes – aye

Trustee Pratl – aye

Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye

Trustee Toscas - aye

Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Pratl, seconded by Trustee Sexton-Kelly to approve the hiring of a receptionist in Energy Services.

Trustee Hurckes – aye
Trustee Pratl – aye
Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye
Trustee Toscas - aye
Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Sexton-Kelly, seconded by Trustee Toscas to approve Ordinance #578-26, an Ordinance establishing and adopting building access and visitor policy for Worth Township.

Trustee Hurckes – aye
Trustee Pratl – aye
Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye
Trustee Toscas - aye
Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Hurckes, seconded by Trustee Pratl to approve changing the monthly town board of trustees meeting time from 6:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Trustee Hurckes – aye
Trustee Pratl – aye
Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye
Trustee Toscas - aye
Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

Clerk McMahon swore in Assessor Shaun Murphy as Assessor.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Supervisor Murphy wished everyone happy new year. She shared that they are currently working on the newsletter. It will be mailed out quarterly to approximately 20,000 people.

Trustee Hurckes shared that the Township is starting the process of going out to bid to get the parking lot done.

Trustee Sexton-Kelly reported that volleyball is going great. The program has 3 levels for 4th to 8th grade. There are 8-10 teams for each level and they play from 4:00 – 9:00. YSB is continuing with telehealth.

Trustee Pratl informed the board that the senior room is very busy. The bus drivers have been handing out flyers to the residents with all the activities. Exercise class is held Monday and Wednesday, bingo is on Wednesdays and they are playing bridge and pinochle. Also, eight new people have joined the walking club. There will also be some Amish from Shippshewana coming in to teach basket making on January 26th.

Trustee Toscas said the drafts of the budget are posted outside the Clerks office for 30 days.

Assessor Murphy stated that it is pleasure to work with the board and he is happy to continue the work of the Assessor's office.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report

PUBLIC/STAFF PARTICIPATION

Fred Moody, a citizen, congratulated Assessor Murphy on his election. He also stated that the ordinances are important but the agenda doesn't provide enough information. He doesn't know what it means and feels there needs to be a better way other than making a FOIA request.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

TREASURERS REPORT

Motion made by Trustee Toscas, seconded by Trustee Hurckes, to waive the reading of the Treasurer's report and pay the bills as presented and budgeted.

Trustee Hurckes - aye
Trustee Pratl – aye
Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye
Trustee Toscas - aye
Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Trustee Hurckes, seconded by Trustee Toscas to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 p.m.

Trustee Hurckes – aye
Trustee Pratl – aye
Trustee Sexton-Kelly - aye
Trustee Toscas - aye
Supervisor Murphy – aye

Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clerk Eamon McMahon