

# PINE RIVER TOWNSHIP

Gratiot County, Michigan

**January 16, 2024**

## **Board Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge to the Flag
3. Roll Call
4. Brief Public Comments (3 Minutes)
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Approval of Minutes
  - a. December 19, 2023
7. Approval to Pay Bills
8. Reports by Boards, Committees & Agents
  - a. Treasurer's Report
  - b. Budget Report
  - c. Zoning & Blight Report
  - d. Assessor's Report
  - e. Fire Board Report
9. Business before the Board
  - a. 2024 Budget Discussion
  - b. Resolution 2024-01-Poverty Exemption Guidelines
  - c. Resolution 2024-02-Alma College Property Transfer into the City of Alma
  - d. Use of Hall for Emergency Sheltering
  - e. Election Officials for 2024 Election Season
10. Announcements and Upcoming Meetings
  - a. Gratiot MTA Meeting- February 15, 2024
  - b. Board Meeting – February 20, 2024
  - c. MTA Annual Conference – April 22-25, 2024, Grand Traverse Resort
11. Adjournment

**MINUTES OF THE PINE RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**MONTHLY MEETING**  
**JANUARY 16, 2024**

- 1) The regular monthly meeting of the Pine River Township Board was called to order at 7:00PM by Supervisor Beeson at the Township Hall.
- 2) Pledge the flag: The Board and the Public said the Pledge to the flag.
- 3) Roll Call: Best: present; Moeggenborg: present; Beeson: present; Baker: present. Whitmore: present. (5) Board members present, (0) absent.  
Guests: None
- 4) Public Comments
  - a. Sheila Salmon of Chippewa Township shared her thoughts on the negative impact of solar farms.
- 5) Approve the Agenda:
  - a. Motion made by Moeggenborg: second by Best: to approve the with addition of 9e. All present Board members approved. The motion carried 5-0.
- 6) Approve the Minutes:
  - a. Motion made by Best: second by Baker: to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting from December 19, 2023. All present Board members approved. The motion carried 5-0.
- 7) Approval to Pay Bills:
  - a. Motion made by Moeggenborg: second by Best: to approve the payment of bills for a total of \$69,420.41. All present Board members approved. The motion carried 5-0.
- 8) Reports by Boards, Committees, and Agents
  - a. Treasurer's Report – Discussion: Board reviewed, bank reconciliations have been received and reviewed by all present. Placed on file.
  - b. Budget Report – Discussion: report placed on file.
  - c. Zoning and Blight Officer – Calkins' official end date: 12/31/23. Beeson is interim Zoning and Blight Officer, looking for Calkins' replacement
  - d. Assessor Report – no report
  - e. Fire Services – in line for annual meetings for budget reviews
- 9) Business before the Board
  - a. 2024 Budget Discussion
    - i. Discussion
  - b. Resolution 2024=01 – Poverty Exemption Guidelines
    - i. Motion made by Moeggenborg: second by Baker: to approve Resolution 2024-01 as presented. Roll call vote: Best: yes; Moeggenborg: yes; Beeson: yes; Whitmore: yes; Baker: yes. All present Board members approved. The motion carried 5-0.

- c. Resolution 2024-02 – Alma College Property Transfer into the City of Alma
  - i. Motion made by Baker: second by Moeggenborg: to approve Resolution 2024-02 as presented. Roll call vote: Best: yes; Moeggenborg: yes; Beeson: yes; Whitmore: yes; Baker: yes. All present Board members approved. Motion carried 5-0.
- d. Use of Hall for Emergency Sheltering
  - i. Motion made by Baker: second by Best: to approve the use of the Hall for Emergency Sheltering. All present Board members approved. Motion carried 5-0.
- e. Election Officials for 2024 Election Season
  - i. Motion made by Baker: second by Moeggenborg: to approve the appointment of PJ Hall (Chairperson), Erin Humm, Paula Comstock, Diane Kirkey, Betty Apple, Caroline DeGraaf, Kristina Eggenberger, Barb Lang, Kendra Overla, Jaydon Whitman, and Jeff Sommerville as Election Officials throughout the Election Season for 2024. All present Board members approved. Motion carried 5-0.

10) Extended Public Comment:

- a. None.

11) Announcements and Upcoming Meetings

- a. Board Meeting: February 20, 2024, at 7 PM

12) Adjournment

- a. Motion made by Best: second by Whitmore: to adjourn the meeting at 7:34PM. All present Board members approved. The motion carried 5-0.

Submitted by: Andi Whitmore,  
Clerk

**PINE RIVER TOWNSHIP, GRATIOT COUNTY**

**RESOLUTON ADOPTING POVERTY EXEMPTION GUIDLEINES**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01**

At a duly scheduled meeting of the Township Board of Pine River Township, Gratiot County, Michigan, held at the Township Hall, 1495 W. Monroe Rd., St. Louis, MI 48880 on the 16th day of January 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Best, Mueggenborg, Beeson, Whitmore, Baker  
ABSENT: ∅

The following resolution was offered by Baker and supported by Moeggenborg.

**WHEREAS** the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the Pine River Township Board; and

**WHEREAS** the principal residence of persons, who the Supervisor/Assessor and Board of Review determines by reasons of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under Public Act 390, 1994 (MCL211.7u); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to PA 390, 1994, Pine River Township, Gratiot County, Michigan adopts the following guidelines for the Board of Review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year.

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner or and occupy as a homestead property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File Form 5737 Application for MCL 211.7u Poverty Exemption.
- 3) File Form 5739 Affirmation of Ownership and Occupancy to Remain Exempt by Reason of Poverty.
- 4) File all required additional documentation (such as federal/state income tax returns, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year, with the supervisor or board of review.
- 5) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 6) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 7) Meet the federal poverty income standards as defined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget.
- 8) The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of the board of review.
- 9) The property in question contains enough acreage that at least one or more buildable lots could be split from the main parcel under the land division act, the township will count

the value of any additional parcel that could be split when calculating the applicant's total assets.

10) Total assets shall not be more than \$30,000.00.

11) Fixed assets shall be limited to one house and one vehicle for the claimant and no house and one vehicle for each adult person residing with claimant.

The following are the federal poverty income guidelines which are updated annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The annual allowable income includes income for all persons residing in the principal residence.

**Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2024 Assessments**

Size of Family Unit	Poverty Guidelines
1	\$14,580
2	\$19,720
3	\$24,860
4	\$30,000
5	\$35,140
6	\$40,280
7	\$45,420
8	\$50,560
For each additional Person	\$5,140

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the supervisor/assessor and Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption.

ADOPTED.

YEAS: Best, Mueggenborg, Beeson, Whitmore, Baker

NAYS: ∅

ABSENT/ABSTAIN: ∅

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**



Kevin Beeson, Pine River Township Supervisor

**CERTIFICATION**

STATE OF MICHIGAN     )  
  ) ss  
COUNTY OF GRATIOT    )

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township of Pine River, Gratiot County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a duly scheduled meeting of the Township Board on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

  
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Andi Whitmore, Pine River Township Clerk

**PINE RIVER TOWNSHIP, GRATIOT COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION FOR ALMA COLLEGE  
PROPERTY TRANSFER INTO THE CITY OF ALMA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02**

At a duly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pine River Township, Gratiot County, Michigan, held at the Township Hall, 1495 W. Monroe Rd., St. Louis, MI 48880 on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, at 7:00 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT: Best, Moegeborg, Beeson, Whitmore, Baker

ABSENT: ∅

**WHEREAS** Pine River Township has an Interlocal and Conditional Transfer Agreement with the City of Alma that allows for certain properties meeting certain conditions to be annexed to the City of Alma, and

**WHEREAS** Alma College, the owner of two Pine River parcels (12-033-012-00 and 12-033-013-10, directly across Smith Road and adjacent to the City of Alma) is requesting annexation, and

**WHEREAS** attorneys from Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, and Rhodes have reviewed this request and find that the transfer requirements have been satisfied, and

**WHEREAS** the Pine River Township Board of Trustees find it is appropriate and consistent with the Interlocal Agreement for these parcels to transfer into the City.

**THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED to transfer the above referenced Alma College property into the City of Alma.

The following resolution was offered by Baker and supported by Moegeborg.

This resolution was presented and adopted by roll call vote:

ADOPTED.

YEAS: Best, Moegeborg, Beeson, Whitmore, Baker

NAYS: ∅

**I, the duly qualified Clerk of Pine River Township, Gratiot County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at the duly scheduled meeting of the Township Board on the 16th day of January 2024.**

Andi Whitmore  
Andi Whitmore, Pine River Township Clerk