

MINUTES OF THE SALEM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD DECEMBER 10, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Jim Pitsch at 7:00PM
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Members Present: Jim Pitsch - Supervisor, Renee Busscher - Clerk, Dan Striegle – Trustee, Don Sebright – Trustee, Ashley Brower - Treasurer

Also present: Jim Storey – County Commissioner, Tom Dykstra – Assistant Firechief, Lisa Vandebunte – Library Director

Absent: n/a

Reading of previous board meeting Minutes and Bills, if no additions or corrections Minutes and Bills were approved and paid by consent.

County Road Commissioner: n/a

County Commissioner: Jim Storey presented. Board of Commissioner last meeting of the year will be 12/12/24. They are planning to meet with 123Net, approve questions for National Citizens Survey, and receive an award. Oath of Office to be administered for new board members that will be taking office 1/1/2025. He wrapped up, with an “accounting of his stewardship”.

Comments from Commissions & Departments of:

- *Zoning:* There is a business looking for a location for truck repair
- *Planning:* Solar Ordinance was completed, next will move to board for approval. PCI will now attend planning commission meeting. Keep in mind, planning commission doesn’t handle blight, the township board does. Discussed current blight and permit issues.
- *Fire:* Tom Dykstra presented. See attached report
- *Ambulance:* n/a
- *Library:* Lisa Vandebunte presented, see attached paper. Check out Library webpage for all information <https://salemtownshiplibrary.org/>
- *Parks Planning:* Park grant was approved. Awaiting next steps.
- *ARPA Funding:* see discussion below in new business
- *Roads:* receiving final billing for road projects

Public Comment:

n/a

Old Business:

n/a

New Business:

1. ARPA Funding:
Moved by Don Sebright to use allocate remaining ARPA funds to cover budgeted payroll, seconded by Dan Striegle
Discussion: allows for extra availability of funds for issues such as roads, parks, etc.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
2. Replacement of Salem Township Server:
Moved by Dan Striegle, seconded by Renee Busscher
Discussion: server is about at the end of its life. It was replaced about 10 years ago and cost about 20k
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
3. Allegan County/Salem Township Well Agreement:
Moved by Ashley Brower, seconded by Renee Busscher
Discussion: the well was drilled already. It is there to test, however no agreement was signed. By signing, the well will be turned over to us when it is done, then we can use it or plug it for \$2000.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
4. Allegan County/Salem Township Resource Recovery Agreement:

Moved by Dan Striegle to extend for one year vs. 5 years, seconded by Don Sebright
Discussion: should we ask more questions, negotiate more, demand more?
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Application for Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program:
Moved by Don Sebright, seconded by Ashley Brower
Discussion: township only knew of ordinance to be filed; however, an application needs to be filed. Will work to complete. This was found out that steps not completed by a future homeowner looking to complete a sale of home in floodplain.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Pursue Blight on 27th St Property
Moved by Dan Striegle, seconded by Don Sebright
Discussion: looking to turn over to PCI for next steps
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Zoning/Violation Teardown 27th St Property
Moved by Renee Busscher, seconded by Dan Striegle
Discussion: looking to turn over to PCI for removal
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comment:
n/a.

Adjournment:
Moved by Ashley Brower, seconded by Dan Striegle to adjourn meeting at 8:13 PM
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



We asked. You answered. We listened.

Thanks to everyone who filled out our 2024 survey! Highlights of your responses are below. Your responses will help us continue to serve you at our best and learn where we can keep growing.

AREAS YOU LOVE

- Library staff
- Pleasant atmosphere
- Convenient location
- Strong collection
- Engaging programs for kids

AREAS TO GROW

- More engaged community
- Looking for something to do
- Quiet study rooms
- Gathering spaces
- Larger library





Stay tuned for our next strategic plan beginning in 2025!

The Stats

84.6% people are extremely or somewhat satisfied overall	92.2% described the library as friendly	97% described the library collection as "good" or above	93.5% rated library programs as "good" or above	90.8% rated customer service as "very good" or above	70.6% said the library's digital collection is "very good" or "excellent"	81.8% said the library's physical collection is "very good" or "excellent"	97.2% rated the building facility as "excellent"	72.5% said the library's technology is "very good" or "excellent"
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**Director's Report
November 2024**



Mission:
Building a community of
people who discover,
share and belong



Vision:
Inspire Curiosity
Foster Community
Ignite Imaginations
Cultivate Learning



Core Values:
Teamwork
Respect
Access
Curiosity
Kindness

Allegheny County Libraries Circulation

	<u>Circulation</u>	<u>Population Served</u>	<u>Hours Open Weekly</u>
Salem Township Library	5,386	8,289	45
Dorr Township Library	2,610	7,922	31
Fennville District Library	3,411	14,496	53
Hopkins District Library	1,513	4,851	37
Leighton Public Library (Moline)	6,137	7,001	40
Saugatuck District Library	5,127	5,686	47
Henika District Library (Wayland)	3,465	7,978	53

Salem Township Library Stats

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>% +/-</u>
Circulation	5,386	5,494	-2%
Overdrive	942	947	-1%
Hoopla	525	398	24%
Hotspots	19	12	37%
ILL Requests	480	371	23%
MEL Holds	35	55	-57%
References	120	25	79%
New Patrons	13	9	31%
Patron Count:			
Children	414	395	5%
Adults	646	671	-4%
Total	1060	1066	-1%

Programs/Events:

- * Adult Christmas craft: 11 attendees
- * Elf on the shelf - Ruby - is hiding in the library: find her each day to receive a prize
- * Dec 11-13: Holiday I Spy in the library
- * Dec 16 @ 7pm: PJ's, Treats and Books by the fireplace
- * Dec 18 @ 11am: Story Time with Santa in the library
- * Dec 19 @ 3:30pm: Kid's Christmas crafts
- * Lego club and book clubs are still ongoing

Other Notes:

- * Dec 24-26: Library will be closed for Christmas
- * Dec 31-Jan 1: Library will be closed for New Years
- * 2025-2027 Strategic Plan is ready for publication/action in January



Salem Township Fire Department
Monthly Report
November 2024

Projects	
SOGs	Working on updating operational SOGs
Tablets for apparatus	The tablets for apparatus are set up and installed in the trucks
Grants	Working on grants to get headsets in 1712 and 1714
Fire Engineering Online Training	Officers went live 11/10, Firefighters 12/2/
Adopt a Family	Will be doing an adopt a family for Christmas
Tree lighting event	Hung the lights and will be assisting at the tree lighting

Total Fire and EMS Year To Date- 398			
Fire Incidents	Total -11	YTD-139	Incidents in Sandy Pines- 0
Type	Number of Incidents	District	Notes
Vehicle accident	2	1-Salem 1- Monterey	Both with minor injuries
No incident found	1	1- Salem	Caller called in a "glow in the sky"
Assist EMS	1	1-Salem	Lift assist
Gas leak	1	1-Salem	Found a line to the furnace leaking
Carbon Monoxide alarm	1	1-Salem	No CO found, replace batteries in detector
Disregarded while enroute	2	1-Salem 1-Dorr	Fire alarm- burnt food Possible structure fire
Ice Rescue	1	1-Salem	Rescued a dog from a pond
Illegal burn	1	1-Salem	Burning trash in open for multiple days
Wrong location	1	Graafschap	Dispatched instead of Graafschap
Year to date Incidents in Sandy Pines- 7			

EMS			
Total -16	YTD-225	Incidents in Sandy Pines-1	Incidents in Rehoboth- 0
District	Number of Incidents		
Salem-	13		
Monterey-	3		
Canceled Medical alarms	5		
Disregarded Priority 3 medical	1	YTD Priority 3: 70	
Year to date Medical Incidents in Sandy Pines- 32		Year to Date in Rehoboth- 5	



**Salem Township Fire Department
Monthly Report
November 2024**

Trainings/Meetings	
Topic	Number of Personnel
Hazmat- ERG and decontamination	17
Officers meeting	5
Equipment Checks	6

Hazmat Mass Casualty Decontamination training



Salem Township Fire Department has a dedicate group of personnel that respond from home and work to help keep the residents of Salem Township and the surrounding communities safe.