

MINUTES OF THE SALEM TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING HELD JANUARY 14, 2025

Members Present: Jim Pitsch - Supervisor, Renee Busscher - Clerk, Ashley Brower – Treasurer, Dan Striegle – Trustee, Don Sebright – Trustee
Also present: Craig VanBeek – County Commissioner, Dan Kipen – Firechief, Lisa Vandebunte – Library Director
Absent: n/a

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

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: Craig VanBeek presented. He plans to come to Salem Township meetings every 3 months. Will be rotating his townships. He will send an email update on the months he is not present. Last Thursday, the commissioners had an organizational meeting to establish new chair. Sirens were recently tested, all but two sounded. 123Net is behind anticipated schedule. Commissioners looking to see updated, realistic timeline. Commissioners looking to establish ground water plan- Overisel Township had test well that didn't produce. Wants to make sure that as we grow, we have supporting aquifers. Watched new judge, Jipp, get sworn in. Excited that new judge can help with backlogged cases.

Comments from Commissions & Departments of:

- *Zoning:* incident/violation letters from PCI
- *Planning:* Site plan review for Wolverine Power
- *Fire:* Dan Kipen presented. See attached report
- *Ambulance:* Yankee Springs no longer participating, the remaining members will have to pick up costs.
- *Library:* Lisa Vandebunte presented, see attached paper. Check out Library webpage for all information <https://saletownshiplibrary.org/>
- *Parks Planning:* Park grant was approved. Awaiting next steps. Supervisor hoping we can look into applying for another to do park maintenance
- *ARPA Funding:* funds are allocated. Can remove.
- *Roads:* n/a

Public Comment:

Questions regarding wells, farmer use, pumping, and nitrates.

Old Business:

n/a

New Business:

1. Sandy Pines Storm Shelter Procurement for General Contractor and Timeline:
Moved by Dan Striegle to grant permission to move forward when we receive lawyer's OK, seconded by Don Sebright
Discussion: timeline was created, but procurement not sent. Need Lawyer review.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
2. Salem Township Parks Grant Procurement for Engineer to oversee Grant Process:
Moved by Ashley Brower, seconded by Dan Striegle
Discussion: Williams and Works is already planning of record, looking to move forward with them as engineer
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
3. Hire Firm to Apply for a Salem Township Parks Grant to request Funding for Maintenance Projects in the Park:
Moved by Renee Busscher to receive quote from Williams and Works, seconded by Don Sebright
Discussion: to enter discussion to see about acquiring a grant

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Appointments to Salem Township Boards and Commissions:

Moved by Ashley Brower for Planning, Board of Review, and Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Dan Striegler

Discussion: n/a

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Allegan County Legal Assistance Center contract and Invoice:

Postponed until February Meeting

6. Computer Purchase for Elections and Office

Moved by Dan Striegler, seconded by Don Sebright

Discussion: computers need to be able to run Windows 11 for elections and in office, a few are out of date. There is grant available for election related computer purchases.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Amendments to the Solar Ordinance:

Postponed until February Meeting

8. Dust Control for Salem Township Roads:

Moved by Don Sebright, seconded by Ashley Brower

Discussion: 3 locations, Monterrey doesn't pay, Dorr pays half, Jamestown does not pay either

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Approve Jason Miller as Sergeant for Fire Department:

Moved by Renee Busscher, seconded by Don Sebright

Discussion: n/a

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comment:

Question regarding pole barn that was being built without permits and notices from PCI.

Adjournment:

Moved by Ashley Brower, seconded by Renee Busscher to adjourn meeting at 8:05 PM

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SALEM TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

Strategic Plan

2025-2027

Vision

Inspire Curiosity
Foster Community
Ignite Imaginations
Cultivate Learning

Mission

Building a
community of
people who discover,
share and belong

Values

Teamwork
Respect
Access
Curiosity
Kindness

Goals

Collection

Expand & Diversify our Audio Book Materials

- Consider new and alternative audio book devices for our collection
- Evaluate audio book trends with new advancements in technology and adjust our physical audio collection where needed

Space

Reimagine Space for our Community

- Continue to partner with the township, local fire department and community, to realize new facility opportunities
- Understand evolving needs of the community and plan facility changes accordingly
- Optimize use of existing spaces

Community

Build & Grow our Community Reach

- Develop programs & events to encourage social connections, and community engagement
- Work with local schools to help kids engage with reading and build library awareness
- Continue to work with our local community groups and explore additional partnerships

Curiosity

Explore New & Diverse Learning Materials

- Expand our library of things collection to meet community needs
- Develop new learning kits to promote and sustain educational growth within our community



3007 142nd Ave. Dorrr MI 49323

616-896-8170

salemtownshiplibrary.org

sti@salem-township-library.org



**Director's Report
December 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

Allegan County Libraries Circulation

	<u>Circulation</u>	<u>Population Served</u>	<u>Hours Open Weekly</u>
Salem Township Library	5,239	8,289	45
Dorr Township Library	2,506	7,922	31
Fennville District Library	3,213	14,496	53
Hopkins District Library	1,109	4,851	37
Leighton Public Library (Moline)	5,981	7,001	40
Saugatuck District Library	4,932	5,686	47
Henika District Library (Wayland)	3,385	7,978	53

Salem Township Library Stats

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>% +/-</u>
Circulation	5,239	5,242	0%
Overdrive	1,007	960	5%
Hoopla	552	345	38%
Hotspots	24	24	0%
ILL Requests	393	294	25%
MEL Holds	43	31	28%
References	79	84	-6%
New Patrons	6	11	-83%
Patron Count:			
Children	373	358	4%
Adults	587	595	-1%
Total	960	953	1%

Programs/Events:

- * Holiday I Spy - 26 participants
- * Treats and books by the fire - 8 participants
- * Story Time with Santa - 24 kids; 44 in all including adults and babies
- * Kid's Christmas crafts - 9 kids
- * Lego club and book clubs are still ongoing
- * January 4 - March 1: Adult Winter Reading
- * January 13: Basic Computer Skills class at 6:30pm
- * January 21: Princess Tea Party at 4:30pm
- * January 29: Puzzle Challenge at 4pm

Other Notes:

- * Naomi and Marissa became certified through the Library of Michigan.
- * 2025-2027 Strategic Plan was finalized.



Salem Township Fire Department
Monthly Report
December 2024

Projects	
SOGs	Working on updating operational SOGs
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	Co-Hosted the 1 st Salem Township Tree Lighting. Great video at "Harig Creative Services" on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php/?story_fbid=122189887964138027&id=61554140816212

Total Fire and EMS Year To Date- 474			
Fire Incidents	Total -15	YTD-154	Incidents in Sandy Pines- 2
Type	Number of Incidents	District	Notes
Vehicle accident	4	2-Salem 1- Monterey 1-Dorr	3 with minor injuries and 1 with no injuries
Structure fire	3	1-Salem 1-Monterey 1-Dorr	-Room contents fire -Fire in breaker panel -Pole barn fire
Assist EMS	3	1-Salem 2-Monterey	Lift assist
Possible Gas leak	1	1-Salem	Request from PD to check after an accident. Vehicle hit a marker stake only
Powerline	1	1-Salem	Low hanging wire across road
Carbon Monoxide alarm	1	1-Monterey	CO found due to exhaust from generator
Controlled burn	2	1-Monterey	Related to a very large brush pile in Sandy Pines
Year to date Incidents in Sandy Pines- 9			



Salem Township Fire Department
Monthly Report
December 2024

EMS			
Total -24	YTD-249	Incidents in Sandy Pines-0	Incidents in Rehoboth- 3
District	Number of Incidents		
Salem-	21		
Monterey-	3		
Canceled Medical alarms	1		
Disregarded Priority 3 medical	3	YTD Priority 3: 73	
Year to date Medical Incidents in Sandy Pines- 32		Year to Date in Rehoboth- 8	

Trainings/Meetings	
Topic	Number of Personnel
MiOSHA topics and updates	21
Officers meeting	5
Equipment Checks	5

Hanging lights for the 1st tree lighting



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.