SUGAR ISLAND TOWNSHIP

6401 E 1 ½ Mile Rd
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

I. Supervisor Eitrem called meeting to order at 7:02 pm

II. Supervisor Eitrem led meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll call taken: Supervisor Eitrem-present, Treasurer Brown-present, Trustee-Williams- present, Clerk Rich – present, Trustee Morehouse-present

IV **MOTION:** Clerk Rich - to accept Agenda. Support –Trustee Morehouse. Motion passed unanimously

V **MOTION:** Trustee Morehouse- to approve Meeting Minutes July 14, 2026 Supported by Clerk Rich. Motion passed unanimously

VI Correspondence- Supervisor Eitrem received inquiry correspondence concerning keeping farm animals on the island.

VII **Treasurer's report- Fiscal Year 25/26**

Treasurer Brown presented the Township Treasurer's Report

July 30, 2026

Michigan Class

Beginning Balance	$578,380.94 ROAD	
	$120,712.76 FIRE	
	$25,148.47 SOLID WASTE	
	$251,484.99 AMBULANCE	
Income earned	$1,846.46 ROAD	
	$385.36 FIRE	
	$80.30 SOLID WASTE	
	$802.86 AMBULANCE	
Balance	**$580,227.40 ROAD**	
	$121,098.12 FIRE	
	$25,228.77 SOLID WASTE	
	$252,287 AMBULANCE	
	TOTAL	**$978,842.14**

Account#

Petty Cash:	$400.00
Payable:	$22,429.71
General	$121,310.04
Taxes:	$124,824.05
Roads:	$58,408.80
Metro:	$14,645.07

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Playground:	$3,656.13
Solid Waste:	$75,298.53
Fire Fund:	$107,714.50
Ambulance Fund:	$165,670.73

Total: $693,957.56

GRAND TOTAL: $1,672,799.70

MOTION: Clerk Rich - to approve Treasurer's Report, supported by Supervisor Eitrem. Motion passed Unanimously

VIII Unfinished Business:

a. Discussed the planned visit of Tracy Tomaszewski (EGLE). Supervisor Eitrem announced that Ms. Tomaszewski was in a vehicle accident and was unable to attend her previously scheduled appointment. Plans are to reschedule at a later date. Supervisor Eitrem will tour the island, taking photos of sites in preparation of her visit.
b. Discussed recent legal review of the Township's Advertising Sign Ordinance. **MOTION**: Trustee Morehouse to eliminate Sign Ordinance. Support Trustee Williams. Motion passed Unanimously
c. Discussion regarding public question and answer session with Spectrum Communications on August 26th at 6:00 pm at Sugar Island Township Community Center. Steve Gillis will let the board know if the Lions Club will offer refreshments after the Lions meeting this Thursday.

IX New Business:

a. Pay Bills with EFT's and Checks.
MOTION: Clerk Rich to pay monthly bills as presented. Supported by Supervisor Eitrem. Motion passed unanimously.
b. **MOTION**: Supervisor Eitrem instructed the Planning Commission to engage for the purpose of creating an ordinance to address solar and wind farms. Support Trustee Morehouse. Motion passed unanimously.
c. Discussed and considered the need to increase Community Center rental fees. Treasurer Brown and Supervisor Eitrem will continue to gather information from other townships to be presented at a later meeting.
d. Discussed and considered the need to increase the pay for the Township's elected officials. Supervisor Eitrem will contact other Township Supervisors to gather information for future discussions.
e. Discussed and considered the need to issue permits for food trucks and other private vendors using the Township's facilities. Primary concern – fire safety. Fire Chief Horner will explore possibilities regarding permits/inspections.
f. **MOTION**: Supervisor Eitrem to follow all State retention and Disposal Schedules to authorize disposal procedures. Support Trustee Morehouse. Motion passed unanimously

X Department/Committee Reports:

a. Ambulance Report -July 1, license renewed x 1 year.
b. Fire Report -4 runs, 1 medical assist, volunteer training continuing as scheduled. Jaws of life, value ~$1,000, will be donated to the EUP Fire Academy.
c. Planning Commission- unable to hold a recent meeting due to a lack of quorum, Trustee Carol Williams is in the process of recruiting the required number of members.

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Trustee Carol Williams is in the process of recruiting the required number of members.

d. Zoning Board of Appeals- Meeting held 7-28-26. Meeting minutes submitted and posted to website. Members Nancy Stoddard and Carol Williams to attend upcoming training.
e. Board of Review- Meeting scheduled in December 2026.

XI Public Comment

- William Hann expressed concern regarding trash overload, and the need for additional containers. Supervisor Eitrem will speak with GFL on possible solutions.
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XII Board member reports

Supervisor Eitrem provided the Board with a Data Center check list for their information. Also provided copies of MTA publication dealing with Board Vacancies and how to deal with Deputies. Mentioned that the MTA website has information on understanding compensation of Township Boards.

Trustee Morehouse provided paving update, Village Rd and Honey Lane are completed, along with three sections of Brasser at 4 Mile Rd having been repaired by the county.

Clerk Rich noted that the Primary election was a success and the Township will be receiving a new Absentee Ballot Drop Box.

Treasurer Brown – announced that she is exploring 2 software programs for the online rental of the community center and kitchen, plus software for sending mass texts, for all who sign up, for community information regarding voting, taxes, beach closings, etc.

Discussion – Trustee Morehouse regarding Beach Safety signage. General consensus to utilize a purchase order and order appropriate signs.

XIII Announcements:

a. Watch for Announcements in the Sugar Island Quacker
b. Watch for Announcements on Sugar Island Township Facebook page.
c. Watch for Announcements on the Sugar Island Township Website: www.sugarislandtownship.org

XIV 2033 Supervisor adjourned the meeting

Respectfully submitted by:

Brandi Rich

Original signed

Sugar Island Township Clerk