

TOWN OF SCHROEDER

Minutes for Regular Board Meeting on September 9, 2025

Present: Supervisors Bruce Martinson, Tina McKeever, & Cathy Johnson; Treasurer Carla Menssen, Clerk Amy Brugge, Fire Chief Cody DeWandeler, and incoming Treasurer Gordon Engstrom.

T. McKeever motioned to approve the agenda. C. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

T. McKeever motioned to approve the minutes for the August 13, 2025 Regular Meeting. C. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer C. Menssen reported on the treasurer transition, as Gordon Engstrom officially begins the role on September 10, 2025, and provided updates on necessary actions to change authorizations on bank accounts at Grand Marais State Bank and North Shore Federal Credit Union.

Disbursements = \$12,127.43 Receipts = \$27,675.86 Total Financial Assets = \$498,786.28

T. McKeever motioned to accept the treasurer's report and approve claims presented of \$12,241.12 paid by checks #6100 - #6118. C. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

West End Lodging Tax – No numbers to report at this time

T. McKeever motioned to cancel credit card in previous Fire Chief Phil Bonin's name. C. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Johnson motioned to require 3 signatures for banking activity at both Grand Marais State Bank and North Shore Federal Credit Union and for authorized signatures to include the following: Supervisor Bruce Martinson, Supervisor Tina McKeever, Supervisor Cathy Johnson, Treasurer Gordon Engstrom, Clerk Amy Brugge, and Deputy Treasurer Mary VanDoren. T. McKeever seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer G. Engstrom provided an overview of investment options through Charles Schwab, discussed current interest rates available at the institution, and provided an overview of account application materials.

T. McKeever motioned to authorize Treasurer Gordon Engstrom to establish an investment account for the township with Charles Schwab. C. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board of Supervisors thanked Carla Menssen for her many years of service in the treasurer role and welcomed Gordon Engstrom to his new role.

Commissioner's Report – Commissioner Storlie provided updates from the Cook County Board of Commissioners on various bids for the golf course and the approval of bonding for the law enforcement center. The Truth in Taxation meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2nd at 6pm at the Cook County Courthouse. The County Auditor has submitted all items from across departments for the board to determine the final levy amount, which will be no more than 5.77%.

Fire Department – Fire Chief DeWandeler reported that there were 5 calls last month; 2 false alarms, 2 vehicle-related, and 1 fire at a business. Worked to complete repairs of fire trucks and is still compiling a “wish list” for EMS-related grant items.

Road and Bridge – One potential bidder on the snow removal service contract provided a list of questions to the board about potential amendments to contract language regarding snow depths and sought clarity around plowing expectations for the Gitchi Gami Trail. It was determined that the trail should be plowed from Cross River parking lot to Temperance Traders. The board was open to reducing the snow depth expectation for plowing at the Town Hall to 1.5” but that 3” would be the standard for the plowing of all roads.

C. Johnson discussed the recent gravel truck traffic on the Sugarloaf Road and expressed her concern for the impact on the road and safety. Board members discussed various ways of addressing the gravel truck traffic. More information will be gathered about possible changes for 2026.

Cemetery – No update regarding the cemetery gate repair.

Recreation – Portable toilet will need to be removed after MEA weekend. Garbage pick-up has been going well. Will contact Curt Laboda for dock removal at Dyers Lake in October.

Town Hall – Re-sloping of the earth where the retaining wall previously stood will be completed by contractor soon.

Taconite Harbor Strategic Plan Update – There is an open call for individuals from the region to participate on the Taconite Harbor Strategic Advisory Group. Application is available online on the EDA website and are due on September 19, 2025. They intend to begin meeting in October.

Land Use Plan Committee – Public Forum on Schroeder Sub-Area Plan will be held at 7pm on Monday, September 29, 2025 at the Schroeder Town Hall.

Other Business:

Wetland Delineation Studies – The studies from MSA Professional Services were reviewed and discussed by the board. The board found the completed studies acceptable and agreed to have the consulting service submit both studies to Cook County's Land Services office.

Temperance Traders Liquor License Renewal

T. McKeever motioned to recommend the approval of the renewal of Temperance Traders liquor license. Motion was seconded by C. Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

West End Emergency Management Meeting – next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7th at 5:30pm at the Tofte Town Hall.

Correspondence

Sent – Public Notices for snow removal service and the September Public Forum were published for 3 weeks in both the Cook County Herald and the North Shore Journal. Township's Unique Entity ID was renewed with the federal government. Certification of the 2026 Tax Levy was submitted to the Cook County Auditor's office.

Received – Public notice of a delayed date for hearing on potential conditional use permit for cell phone tower.

Public Comments – T. McKeever reminded the group of the Schroeder Area Historical Society meeting on Saturday, September 13, 2025.

C. Johnson motioned to adjourned. T. McKeever seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Brugge
Schroeder Town Clerk