

The regular meeting of Macon Township was held on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:00p.m. with Supervisor Dean Montrief presiding. Roll call: Dean Montrief: present; Julia Marshall: present; Beth DeJonghe: present; Joe Rine: present; Charley Downing: present. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**Important Dates:**

Township Board Meeting February 2, 2026 at 7p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting January 21, 2026 at 7p.m.

Julia Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting to closed session at 7:02p.m. pursuant to MCL 15.268 (1) (h) to consider a written confidential legal opinion from the township's attorney which is exempt by State or Federal Law seconded by Joe Rine. Roll call: Dean Montrief: yes; Julia Marshall: yes; Beth DeJonghe: yes; Joe Rine: yes; Charley Downing: yes. Motion carried. Closed session was adjourned at 8:35p.m.

Julia Marshall moved to go back into open session at 8:37p.m. seconded by Joe Rine. Roll call: Dean Montrief: yes; Julia Marshall: yes; Beth DeJonghe: yes; Joe Rine: yes; Charley Downing: yes. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Rhonda Cheever 966 Macon Hwy. - Public Comment was heard regarding Lake Ridge Cemetery. A letter was read from the descendants of the Price Family buried at Lake Ridge Cemetery. A copy of the letter is attached to the minutes.

Mary Tommelein 111 Oneida – Public Comment was heard regarding Lake Ridge Cemetery. A letter from Jennifer Loesch-Iris was read. A copy of the letter is attached to the minutes.

Lori Monagin 7777 Beechcroft Dr. – Public Comment was heard. Closed session for over an hour and ½ was disrespectful and rude. The citizens are paying for the attorney.

Kathy Kuhlman 7600 Clinton-Macon Rd. – Public Comment was heard. Closed Session is frustrating. Cemetery is old business.

Sharon Douglas 4892 Braun Rd for Donald & Maragaret Schroeder 8960 Britton Hwy. – Public comment was heard. Resolution on Lake Ridge Cemetery. Appalled at financial information. Respect people who put you on the board. Has better things to do.

Ed Scheffler Sr. 11262 Macon Hwy. – public comment was heard regarding Lake Ridge Cemetery. Have respect for the citizens. Go to the State and change the law.

Ted Douglas 4892 Braun Rd. – Public comment was heard regarding Lake Ridge Cemetery. The cemetery is not privately owned.

Joe Rine moved, seconded by Charley Downing to approve the December 1, 2025 minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Ledger Account Balances:**

Solar Account balance remains the same at \$1,764.46

Fire Account: Receipts: \$106.63. No disbursements. Total balance in the Fire Account \$75,229.47

Road Account: Receipts: \$19.78. Disbursements: \$2,474.95. Total balance in the Road Account \$16,314.99

Cemetery Account: Receipts: \$1,050. Disbursements: \$3,185. Total balance in the Cemetery Account \$31,197.02

Cemetery Perpetual Account: Receipts: \$1.89. No Disbursements. Total balance in the Cemetery Perpetual Account \$16,042.76

General Fund: Receipts: \$847.12 Disbursements: 25,301.91. Total balance in the General Fund \$224,366.84

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Charley Downing to approve the ledger account balances. Motion carried.

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Joe Rine to pay all bills. Motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Lake Ridge Cemetery – Per our attorney it is an unlawful expenditure due to the Lake Ridge being a private cemetery. Anyone who disagrees can contact the Michigan Cemetery Commissioner.
2. Will be discussing Cemetery Ordinances.

New Business

1. Cell Tower Agreement – Agreement has not been received by the board yet.
2. Planning Commission will be discussing Ordinance Moratoriums for Data Centers and Battery Storage.

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Joe Rine to adjourn the meeting at 9:12p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Julia Marshall*

Julia Marshall

Clerk

Macon Township

Guests: 15

December 29, 2025

To the Members of the Macon Township Board,

We are writing to express our deep concern regarding the decision for Macon Township to discontinue the upkeep and maintenance of Lake Ridge Cemetery. This matter is of great importance to us, as several members of our family are laid to rest there.

Lake Ridge Cemetery has been part of Macon Township for more than one hundred years. It serves as the final resting place for individuals who, along with their families, lived, worked, raised children, paid taxes, and contributed meaningfully to the growth and stability of the township. Through times of prosperity and hardship, they were members of this community, and their legacy remains an enduring part of Macon Township's history.

Although we are not current taxpayers of Macon Township, we are taxpayers in other townships that maintain cemeteries where we may not have direct family connections. We willingly support those efforts because we believe that preserving cemeteries is both a matter of historical responsibility and a fundamental sign of respect for those who came before us. These places deserve dignity, care, and respect regardless of whether descendants still reside within township boundaries.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Board to open their hearts and reconsider its position and to continue the care and maintenance of Lake Ridge Cemetery. Doing so would honor the individuals buried there and acknowledge their role in shaping the community you serve today.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

The Descendants of the Price Family Buried at  
Lake Ridge Cemetery

Mary and Linford Price  
Dianne Price  
Mike and Chris Price  
Randy and GERALYN Price  
Don and Pat (Price) Roof  
Vaughn and Stacy Price  
Brian and Lisa (Price) Kilbarger  
Lauren Kilbarger  
Kyle Kilbarger

**Attn: Macon Township Board**

RE: Lake Ridge Cemetery

My name is Jennifer Loesch-Iris, and I am a descendant of many (Loesch's and Kidd's) that are laid to rest at Lake Ridge Cemetery. I am writing because the Board is ending over a century of support for Lake Ridge. For 100 years, this Township honored its history. For the last three, that burden has fallen solely on the shoulders of the families.

Over these past 36 months, we haven't just complained—we have acted. As descendants, we have:

- **Maintained the Grounds:** We have mowed, cleared brush, and ensured the dignity of the site when the Township would not.
- **Invested Privately:** We have personally funded lawyers and professional title search.
- **Researched History:** We have documented the deep roots this cemetery has in Macon Township's own story.

We have done the job of the Township. But a volunteer group is not a permanent solution for a historical landmark.

Our research and the 100-year precedent of care suggest that Lake Ridge is more than just a private plot, it is a piece of our collective public heritage. We are asking the Board to move past the impasse.

We aren't just asking for a check; we are asking for **partnership**. We have the data from our title search. Under Michigan law, the responsibility for abandoned or neglected cemeteries often rests with the local government to ensure they do not become a public nuisance or a site of desecration.

Three years of private maintenance is a testament to our devotion, but it is also a three-year lapse in Township stewardship. We are asking the Trustees to reinstate Lake Ridge Cemetery into the budget or to form a formal committee with us to secure its future. Let's not enter a fourth year of neglect. Let's honor those who built this community.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Loesch-Iris