

The regular meeting of Macon Township was held on Monday, July 7, 2025 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: absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Important Dates:

Township Board Meeting August 4, 2025 at 7:00p.m.

Planning Commission July 16, 2025 at 7:00p.m.

Public Comment

Mary Tommelein - 111 N. Oneida – public comment was heard. Copy of the public comment is attached to the minutes.

Eric Long – 7421 Clinton-Macon Rd. – public comment was heard waiting for a foundation to be poured at Macon Cemetery. Dean spoke with Jeromy and it will be done by the end of next week.

Jennifer Neuman – 10701 Welch Rd. – public comment was heard. The board is supposed to be here to listen to the will of the people; 3 minutes of public comment is ridiculous. The constituents want a different date than Monday for meetings and would like a flyer because they don't have the internet. Beth DeJonghe stated that there is a flyer that goes out in everyone's Winter Tax bills.

Lori Ritter 10649 Welch Rd – public comment was heard. Are shipping containers permanent or temporary? How many shipping containers can you have on a property? Does the fencing go above the shipping containers? Concerned about property values because of the shipping containers.

Kerry Ritter 10649 Welch Rd. – public comment was heard. Doesn't think shipping containers look appealing. Thanked the board for following up on the ordinances and doing our job.

Sharon Schroeder Douglas 4892 Braun Rd. for Donald & Margaret Schroeder 8960 Britton Hwy. – public comment was heard – Noxious weeds on the Invenergy solar property. Any new solar projects? Would like an update on solar lawsuits. Dean: Group of citizens sued the Township and that is in Appeals court and should be settled in January or February. Invenergy suing the Township and there was a hearing and the judge is waiting on the appeals court decision. Any new solar projects would have to go the Michigan Public Service Commission, the township doesn't have a say.

Resident: How does the solar going in effect property taxes?

Beth DeJonghe moved, seconded by Joe Rine to approve the June 2, 2025 minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Ledger Account Balances

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

Road Account: Receipts: \$5,342.86. No disbursements. Total balance in the Road Account \$32,016.51

Fire Account: Receipts: \$1,852.27. No disbursements. Total balance in the Fire Account \$79,385.25

Cemetery Account: No receipts. Disbursements: \$1,435. Total balance in the Cemetery Account \$42,160.87

General Fund: Receipts: \$11,206.70, Disbursements: \$11,706.71. Total balance in the General Fund \$313,637.87

Perpetual Care Fund: Receipts: \$1.91. No Disbursements. Total balance in the Perpetual Care Fund \$16,031.71

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Joe Rine to approve the ledger account balances. Motion carried.

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

No Old Business

New Business:

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Joe Rine to move the September meeting from September 1st to September 8th due to the Labor Day Holiday.

Dean received a letter from the Drain Commission that they will be spraying herbicide at the following drains: Wilson Springbrook 643, Schroeder Brook 515 and Craig Drain 127

Julia Marshall moved, seconded by Joe Rine to adjourn the meeting at 7:53p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julia Marshall

Clerk

Macon Township

Guests: 20

Speech to Macon Township Trustees – Lake Ridge Cemetery Care
Presented by Mary Tommelein

Good evening, Trustees.

My name is Mary Tommelein (111 N Oneida) While I am not a resident of Macon Township, I come before you as someone deeply committed to the preservation and respectful care of *Lake Ridge Cemetery*, located between Preston Highway and Welch Road, here in Macon Township.

Lake Ridge Cemetery, established in 1837, is not only a final resting place for a number of veterans but also for some of the original founders of Macon Township. It is a place of historical and sentimental significance, reflecting the roots and values of your community.

For many decades, the cemetery was overseen by a cemetery association that was incorporated in 1855. Needless to say the members are deceased and have been for many years. The association Lake Ridge has received funding from Macon Township—from 1923 through 2023 that support helped maintain its dignity and upkeep. However, that funding has ended, and currently there is no formal maintenance in place.

In Spring of 2023 when I spoke to supervisor Montrief he suggested volunteers. Mr. David Stimpson a local attorney also was told by Mr. Montrief in November of 2023 that volunteers should be sought for the care of the grounds—this is the reason I am here today.

The cemetery requires modest but consistent care: ideally two mowings per month, along with trimming and blowing grass clippings off headstones. My hope is twofold:

1. That you as township trustees might personally consider volunteering for a mowing or two; and
2. That the township would assist in spreading the word—posting this need on your website, bulletin boards, or any township communication channels.

I have brought printed flyers for your review and am happy to email a digital version to your clerk for further distribution.

One can tell a lot about a community by how they care for their cemeteries and honor their predecessors. I believe this rings especially true for Lake Ridge which is located in the center of Macon Township and highly visible to many who use Ridge Road on a daily basis.

Thank you for your time, for helping to publicize this effort, and for any help you may offer—whether by volunteering yourselves or helping us find others to care for this important place during the months of August, September, October. Please know that as a descendant of the Schroeder/Price family buried there I do not think volunteer help is a long term solution.