

**GOLDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2107**

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Carl Fuehring at 2:00 PM.

Members present Carl Fuehring, Connie Cargill, and Richard Walsworth, also present PC Secretary Jake Whelpley, Former State Representative Jon Bumstead and New State Representative Scott VanSingel.

The board presented the following issues:

1. Silver Lake State Park; the township would like to find ways the park could offset costs associated with their daily operations. The ORV grant for extra police presence should be larger. One officer a few days a week doesn't cover area adequately. They should contribute to the road maintenance expenses. The townships position is that the roads to the park should be state M-Routes as all other state parks have. It shouldn't be the township and road commission maintaining those roads.
2. Fire Department: Training requirements should be changed for rural departments. They don't have the same situations as large municipal departments do. The hours of training deters people from joining. It's becoming harder to get new people.
3. Property Taxes: There more and more kinds of exemptions approved by the state each year. They should be looked at closely to reduce the "loopholes".
4. Roads: The new funding will help but the state must keep the small rural townships in mind not just the downstate area.

The meeting was adjourned 4:00 PM

Jake Whelpley
Acting Secretary