

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING
APRIL 11, 2023

Members Present: Sharon Black, Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, and Pete Nemish.

Member Absent: Dave Johns.

Guests: 9 citizens.

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7 PM with prayer by Bolduc and the pledge.

Guest Presentation: Don Akers brought to the Board for consideration the donation of an 48 Star flag which is pre 1959. It was originally presented to the wife of a fallen Marine in the traditional triangle fold. Akers had it cleaned and pressed. He proposes to donate it to the township, he will build a holder for it, and we would then display it in the meeting area. Discussion. Eggle moved to accept the flag, 2nd Bolduc. Passed. Further discussion on how/where to put it for display, but deferred that decision until later. Suggestion to have a plaque to go with it containing info on the original presentation.

Financial consultant Casey Boyer from Edward Jones, Cadillac who is a resident of our township came at the request of the Treasurer to answer our investment questions and provide some information. Municipalities have to work with Banks and Credit Unions not financial advisors. We were encouraged to have an investment policy. Suggest to look in our resolutions book if we might have an older one we could update and to check MTA for examples of such a policy. Recommend to keep language somewhat broad. Discussed moving funds in May or June to get some of the great CD rates right now. Explained laddering our CDs. When moving funds we need a copy of the minutes where the move is approved and who is named as signatory for those funds and that account.

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 7:02 PM, there were two comments, and public comment closed at 7:04 PM. Picture mentioned last month was from the Gordon Smith home on 170th near 22 Mile.

Clerk's Report: The minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 14, 2023, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as provided Nemish, 2nd Eggle. Passed.
The minutes from the Special Meeting after the Annual Meeting on March 21, 2023, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as provided Black, 2nd Nemish. Passed

Treasurer's Report: Report for March was presented by the Treasurer – Checking account: Beginning balance \$181,371.85, Receipts \$33,671.17, Disbursements \$11,702.21, Ending balance \$203,340.81. CDs: Beginning balance \$67,152.18, Receipts \$0, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$67,152.18. Savings account balance \$65,729.29, Receipts \$37.82, Disbursements \$0, Total

\$65,767.11. General Fund Total ending balance \$336,260.14.

Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$9,367.96, Receipts \$74,471.03, Disbursements \$0 Ending balance \$83,838.99. Encumbered \$60,000.

CLFRF (ARPA) Funds: Beginning balance \$108,914.11, Receipts \$0, Ending balance \$108,914.11.

Motion to accept the March report, Eggle 2nd Bolduc. Passed.

Bills: Bills were presented and discussed. Motion by Nemish to pay monthly bills totaling \$6,181.73, as listed by the Clerk from General Fund, 2nd Eggle. Passed.

Agenda: Motion to approve agenda as presented, Nemish, 2nd Bolduc. Passed.

County Comm.: County Commissioner Gregory could not attend. Pagles gave us a few brief updates.

Fire Board Report: Johns provided the report from the last meeting.

Planning Comm.: Nemish reported on the PC meeting. There was 1 permit. Work on the Blight Ordinance continuing. A copy has been sent to the Attorney for review. Discussed locking in a clean-up date with the garbage company just in case we decide we do want to hold a township clean-up this year.

Parks Committee: **Grove Hill** – nothing to report.
Center Lake – Loons are back! DNR hatchery delivered 1900 trout up to 13 inches long. Ben Robertson feels confident that he and his dad can fix the hand pump.

Road Committee: Reviewed info as presented by the county at their annual meet with townships representative days. Committee has a goal of next month to provide a recommendation for the Board to vote on which areas to spread 2023's gravel.

Cemetery: Two footings are pending as funds and request received but weather not there yet. Bolduc reviewed the email and bid for tree work at the Maple Hill Cemetery of which we are co-owner. Several board members want to do more research, and we will consider it at our May meeting.

Correspondence: There were several items of correspondence to report: 1) Municipal Retirement Systems, Inc. Changes to fees, 2) Municipal Underwriters of MI Notice of Policy Change, and 3) Notice from Wexford Joint Planning Commission draft available of newly amended Master Plan.

Old Business:

Records Retention: Nothing to report.

Cem. Ordinance: Nothing to report.

Capital Equip. Once more we reviewed the chart of price comparisons for tractor/digger options.

Bolduc moved to purchase a Kubota BX 23 from Ina Store for 23,600, and a King Kutter 1.5 Ton dump trailer for 3,229.99 (+/-) as this is a sale price of which we don't know the sale duration at this time. Total \$26,830 funds to come from ARPA account. 2nd Eggle and the roll was called, No 1, Yes 3, absent 1. Motion approved. Eggle will get additional prices on a TV to replace the screen and projector in the hall.

Park Attendant: Eggle reviewed the process of interviewing, duties and pay schedule as presented to the candidates. There were three very equally qualified people interviewed. Eggle moved to hire Pia Strobel for Park Attendant, 2nd Black. Passed.

CPR Class: Eggle reported that 12 people attended the CPR class held on Wednesday, April 5, 5 PM. Recommend doing it one time per quarter for a while until we have no one else signing up. Bolduc moved to purchase an AED machine through the county EMS, 2nd Black. Passed with the slight delay that Eggle is talking with a donor who might provide the funds, but if they choose not to, we will move forward anyway.

Cemetery Mowing: Bolduc reviewed, see chart, three bids from qualified mowing companies. Each company has at least one cemetery which they mow and various members of the Board have met and reviewed our locations and mowing needs with each vender who has not mowed our location before. Discussion took up considerable time. Bolduc moved to engage Robert Paige as our mowing vender for the 2023 season, see attached bid and references, Eggle 2nd, and the roll was called. No 2, Yes 2. Denied. No further motions were made, and we moved on with the meeting.

ARPA Funds: Report due this month.

Property question: Issue is with Badovinac so we are waiting to hear from him. There is also a question of the Benjamine New property on 140th Ave South of 19 Mile where an ongoing blight issue is becoming a health and safety problem. Eggle has called New's sister to see if that can push a resolution forward.

New Business:

Flag Donation: Done earlier in the meeting under Guest Presentation.

Fee Structure: Bolduc reviewed the Fee Structure, see attached. Changes were made because of our vote in Annual Meeting to provide a pay increase to our employees. Those changes are now listed in the Fee Structure. Bolduc also proposed changes to our Cemetery fees. See Fee Structure lines 49 through 53. Black moved to adopt the revised Fee Structure, Resolution # 20230411, as presented. All changes except the cemetery plot prices are effective immediately. Cemetery plot prices are effective September 1, 2023. 2nd Eggle. Roll Called, No 0, Yes 4. Passed.

Misc. Issues: Nothing.

Review of Dates: Eggle reviewed the chart of dates.

Announcements: None.

Ext. Pub Comment: Extended comment opened at 9:54 PM. There were two comments and public comment closed at 10:15 PM. Board member in comments requested references for Robert Paige, and maybe a request if he could adjust downward slightly his prices?

Adjourn: Black moved to adjourn at 10:15 PM, 2nd Eggle. Passed.