

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD  
MONTHLY MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

- Members Present:** Sharon Black, Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, Dave Johns, and Pete Nemish.
- Guests:** 8 citizens.
- Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7 PM with prayer by Bolduc and the pledge.
- Guest Presentation:** None.
- Public Comment:** A few words about 9/11 and public comment opened at 7:04 PM, there was one comment, and public comment closed at 7:04 PM.
- Clerk's Report:** The minutes from the Election Commission Meeting on July 11, 2023, were reviewed. The minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 9, 2023, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as presented Eggle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed. The minutes from the Special Meeting on September 5, 2023, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as corrected Nemish, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.
- Treasurer's Report:** Report for August was presented by the Treasurer – Checking account: Beginning balance \$187,727.33, Receipts \$18,040.51, Disbursements \$21,920.86, Ending balance \$183,846.98. CDs: Beginning balance \$136,063.88, Receipts \$0, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$136,063.88. General Fund Total ending balance \$319,910.86.  
Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$89,461.27, Receipts \$22.78, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$89,484.05. Encumbered \$60,000.  
CLFRF (ARPA) Funds: Beginning balance \$80,211.21, Receipts \$0, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$80,211.21.  
Motion to accept the August report, Bolduc 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.
- Bills:** Bills were presented and discussed. Motion by Nemish to pay monthly bills totaling \$2,852.08, as listed by the Clerk from General Fund, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.
- Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as presented, Bolduc, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.
- County Comm.:** County Commissioner Gregory updated us: County L-4029 approved, Middle MI Economic Development contract for 3 years no price increase, removing higher EMS temp wages, budget work. Discussion of Early Voting (EV) and who is doing it themselves vs. going with the Co. Lincoln, Hersey, and Sherman are known to be doing it themselves. Not sure of others, more info to follow. County has not finalized an EV site yet.
- Fire Board Report:** Johns provided the report from the last meeting, see attached.
- Planning Comm.:** Nemish reported that the Blight ordinance is still being discussed, but is in a holding pattern. Report that the new owners of the former Kettunen Center might

be in violation of our Zoning Ordinance for various issues including changing the facility use and not getting a special use permit to cover the new use. Follow up needed by the PC members and Zoning Admin.

- Parks Committee:** **Grove Hill** – nothing to report.  
**Center Lake** – Iler reported: Matt G. completed weed wacking of outflow ditch. Additional benches not available at this time. Maybe in the Spring. Emails sent to each camp with invoice requesting pmt for Milfoil treatment. Funds received from Lake Preservation Association.
- Road Committee:** Eggle reported on the RC meeting. Mattzela told Eggle that the Co. is behind with gravel spreading. Our contract is still good, but we might have to wait a bit to see it get done. We canceled during our special board meeting the additional brine.
- Cemetery:** Bolduc and Calkins reviewed 1<sup>st</sup> full burial of the season and the good and bad of the new tractor as helpful in digging for that.
- Correspondence:** There were several items of correspondence to report: 1) Apex newsletter with renewal, 2) L-4029 from local area schools (not filed in board book), 3) Workmen’s comp insurance info with renewal (not filed in board book), and 4) verbal information from QuickBooks about changes to their product. We must make changes starting in our new fiscal year.
- Old Business:**
- Records Retention:** Ongoing.
- Cem. Ordinance:** Still waiting on word from the Prosecutor’s office following their review of the draft ordinance. Eggle directed questions to Comm. Gregory about funding prosecutor’s office which Gregory couldn’t really answer at this time with other than that the Co. is trying to get to a better financial place. Request to maybe have Prosecutor attend OCTA to discuss/present to the townships together about issues. Eggle will work on setting up a meeting with the Prosecutor, himself, and Nemish to discuss directly our blight enforcement concerns and the two ordinances.
- Blight Ord.:** See Cemetery Ordinance above paragraph.
- Capital Equip.** TV is in! Looking good. We are ready for carpet and carpet is at the business, so Black will schedule asap. The AED machine is in. Recommended install location is above the fire extinguisher next to the refrigerator. Motion by Eggle with 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bolduc to purchase an in wall cabinet as recommended by the Co. EMS team to the size of our AED up to \$350 including installation and a flat wall sign. Passed.
- ARPA Funds:** Some of the minor items will be paid initially by our General Fund then collected into one cashier’s check from the ARPA funds to ourselves to cover these expenses.
- Flag Donation:** Delay with plaque, but should happen in the next month or so.
- Retirement Fund:** Bolduc recapped the issue with the missing 218 form and the context of our discussions. Recommendation is to discontinue this program. Discussion. Bolduc moved to terminate the retirement plan and initiate separation which will pay out all

account funds to the employee involved, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Roll was called. Johns no, Nemish abstain, Bolduc yes, Eggle yes, Black yes. 3 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain. Motion was passed.

**Business Cards:** Bolduc will get some options and prices for business cards, name tags, shirts with logo, etc.

**Election:** Bolduc reviewed several items. Motion by Bolduc to increase the election training rate to the same rate as paid for BOR currently \$81.05 per half day adding a line into our Fee Schedule #34 and adjusting line numbers following, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.

**New Business:**  
**Center Lake:** Pia Strobel brought a detailed plan to the Board of items improving the Center Lake park. Discussion. She has several volunteers who are willing to help with the labor involved to plant nice flowers and update the roundabout area as well as planter containers at the top of the beach area. Additionally pouring a concrete pad and moving the port-a-potties. See attached. Bolduc moved to purchase the planting dirt as proposed in the attached plan and the planter containers up to \$900, Pia and volunteers will make the purchase and do the work, 2<sup>nd</sup> Eggle. Passed. Calkins and the tractor will help to move/spread the dirt once it arrives.

**Hall Maint. Issues:** See attached list. Joanne Iler kindly put together a list of known areas where work is needed. We reviewed the list including new doors, outside painting, parking lot sealing and gravel at the East end, and power washing. Eggle will follow up with getting bids on the sealing. Bolduc suggested her painting team could do that project. Iler said that if we want to do the power washing “in house” that he would loan his washer to Matt Gilman to do the job.

**Misc. Issues:** Black announced that she has appointed a new deputy, Loretta Slocum will now be Deputy Treasurer. Bolduc announced that she has appointed Sarah Pagels as her Deputy Clerk. Bolduc pointed out the need to retain Art (Mike) Black as a Twp employee authorized to accept tax payments and do other jobs as requested by the Treasurer. Discussion. Eggle moved to employ Art (Mike) Black as an employee in the office of the Twp Treasurer who is authorized to accept tax payments and make deposits of township funds with additional duties as assigned by the Treasurer, paid at \$48.61 per month, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed. Bolduc moved to transition Hall Rental coordination to the new Deputy Treasurer, Loretta Slocum, with additional pay of \$18.84 per month, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.

**Review of Dates:** Eggle reviewed the chart of dates.

**Announcements:** The next OCTA meeting will be Monday, November 27, 2023, 7 PM at the Middle Branch Twp hall. Next year’s picnic tent rental is confirmed with Superior Canape from Lake City for \$480 on July 21, 2024.

**Ext. Pub Comment:** Extended comment opened at 9:11 PM. There were two comments and public comment closed at 9:15 PM.

**Adjourn:** Nemish moved to adjourn at 9:15 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.