

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2019

- Members Present:** Sharon Black, Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, Dave Johns, Pete Nemish.
- Guests:** 4 people.
- Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Eggle with prayer by Bolduc followed by the Pledge. Eggle made a few remarks about Christmas, family, and remembering those who have given the ultimate sacrifice.
- Public Comment:** Eggle opened the floor for public comment at 7:04 PM. There were five comments and comments closed at 7:11 PM.
- Guest Presentation:** None this month.
- Clerk's Report:** The minutes from the regular meeting on November 12, 2019 were reviewed. Amendment requested; add the words in bold on page three under Announcements "as having **an opt out** Marihuana ordinance." Motion to approve minutes as amended Black, 2nd Nemish. Passed.
- Treasurer's Report:** Report for November was presented by the Treasurer – Checking account: Beginning balance \$85,662.41, Receipts \$16,355.81, Disbursements \$10,930.43, Ending balance \$91,087.79. Picnic Fund donated by citizens balance of \$0. CDs: Beginning balance \$130,844.18, Receipts \$4.47, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$130,848.65. General Fund Total ending balance \$221,936.44.
Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$26,985.10, Receipts \$3.43, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$26,988.53. Encumbered \$0.
Motion to accept November as presented, Eggle, 2nd Johns. Passed.
- Tax bills went out on time, and payments are coming in fast.
- Bills:** Bills were presented and discussed. Motion by Nemish to pay monthly bills totaling \$823.38 from General Fund, 2nd Johns. Passed.
- Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as amended, Bolduc, 2nd Black. Passed.
- Co. Commissioners:** Commissioner Nehmer called Bolduc and apologized that he has been so sick the last few days that he can not attend our meeting. He verbally gave her some updates which amount to business as usual. Eggle had attended one of last month's BOC meetings and reported on the discussion about the Road Commission issue.
- Fire Board Report:** Johns read the November Fire Board report, see attached.
- Plan Commission:** The December meeting also contained a Public Hearing on the Verizon Cell tower re-application for special use permit to build on Holmes land near 20 Mile and 160th Ave. Dave Hockey from the company which is building the tower attended and presented some material. The PC voted to approve the application for a special use permit with a

couple of modifications including a bond set to cover decommissioning costs and a double number of trees planted to screen the equipment at the base of the tower. There were 4 attendees and a total of 6-8 comments including those of the PC members. Nemish thanked Bolduc for her help in getting the notices published.

- Parks Comm.:** **Grove Hill** – Nothing to report.
Center Lake – Bolduc presented once again a letter from PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. regarding our relationship with them next year. She thinks this might be a piece of the grant puzzle which didn't get put into place last year. (Copy is NOT attached.)
* Request for Bolduc to email the digital version of this document to the board and other Center Lake stake holders, so they can read it in total.
- Road Comm.:** Eggle reported on the Road Committee Meeting. The meeting was held on Thursday, December 5th, a change to accommodate the County personnel's availability. We are planning to put the millage up for renewal in 2020. The RC has a plan for our approval tonight including contracts with the County which will be down a few items on the agenda.
- Cemetery:** Bolduc indicated that all has been quiet. A clarification that our current Sexton has not resigned he just sought assistance during the September – November time frame. Bolduc had misinterpreted official information provided along with personal conversations to understand that he planned to resign; which plan may or may not be carried out, but at this time he has not officially resigned. The position as per our usual has gone dormant for the winter season to be picked back up around March or spring thaw. Bolduc will push forward the meeting between Twp officials, Kater, and the vault company.
- Correspondence:** Bolduc had seven items. 1) two class info fliers from MTA (not attached), 2) a strange letter from MI Dept of Treasury regarding our Michigan Sales, Use, and withholding account. It was not addressed properly although it did have the correct account (EIN) number she has referred it to Mike Cool at BC&B, 3) info from the City of Cadillac a biosolids application notification, 4) notice that the Osceola County PC intends to prepare a master plan, 5) notice that the Wexford Joint PC intends to create a master plan, 6) from Rose Lake RE: Maple Hill Cemetery financials for the preceding year.
- Old Business:**
- Area Fire Radio:** TAFD plans to move forward on this in March time frame.
- Risk Mitigation:** Reviewed slides; we have not moved the needle on this.
- Records Retention:** January/February a good time of year to work on a project like this.
- Trash:** Nemish provided a detailed update. He did call WM to cancel service. They countered (from customer loyalty dept. which was 4 people deep into the call) with a locked in contract price of \$54 per month for 3 years. That is much lower than other services he has researched. Services can still be placed on hold in the winter if we wish. We discussed. Can we can break the contract if they provide lousy services, like last year? Eggle moved that we go for the three year contract at \$54 per month if we can get an "out" if they have service issues, 2nd Nemish. Passed. Should everything not line-up, mention was made that Salisbury Trucking uses a company called Fair Salvage which we had not heard of and could investigate if needed.

- Port-a-john:** Nemish also reported on his conversation with VanPolen Portables (VPP). They indicated that the unit was used last winter. Ken from VPP indicated that it doesn't work well to just lock and leave in place over the winter. Discussion. Bolduc would like to see if VPP can put us on an automatic cycle. Nemish moved that we annually go to one unit between November and March and two units April to October current cost is \$100 for the handicapped unit (the one we would keep all year long) and \$90 for the regular unit per month, 2nd Johns. Passed.
- Open Seats:** Eggle is still searching for someone to serve on the RC.
- Flag Duty:** Question if Akers had signed the waiver of compensation form and if not if it could be provided to him to sign.
- New Business:**
- Roads Plan 2020:** Eggle prepared several slide copies which are attached. Eggle reviewed the slides which outline the various sections of roads which need attention and what the road committee, working with Luke Houlton from the county, proposes the Twp do and at what estimated cost. Discussion.
- Eggle moved to approve the contract (and asked for authority to be the signatory for the township) to purchase \$43,120 worth of gravel price not to exceed \$5.75 per ton, 2nd Neimish. Passed.
- Eggle moved to fog and chip seal a section of the roads 130th, 23 Mile (not named on the contract specifically) and 135th from near the driveway of the 9 & 10 property north and west to M-115 contract provided and contingent on amendment being approved by the county that the total township cost not to exceed \$19,500 without prior approval, 2nd Black. Passed.
- March Mtg Schedule:** Last month Bolduc pointed out date conflicts with the Presidential primary election in March and suggested a date of March 24, 2020 the 4th Tuesday of the month as a date which would provide the Treasurer and Clerk enough time to finalize the month and get the annual information ready, so we could do the monthly meeting as well as the budget hearing and annual meeting all together. Discussion. Eggle moved that we set our annual meeting, budget hearing, and monthly March meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 7 PM, 2nd Black. Passed.
- BOR Training:** MTA has announced their annual BOR training schedule. Eggle moved that we send 4 people, himself, Ken Neuman, Ron Belleville, and Julie Peterson to the Cadillac training session and purchase one book, total cost \$410.50, 2nd Nemish. Passed. Bolduc will do the registration.
- Hall Internet:** Eggle has begun looking into what options we might have for internet service at the Twp Hall. Election requirements are such that we have to have something (in November the Clerk provided something that she personally had available) and other elements such as ZBA local training using MTA's online training videos make having internet more of a need than a luxury. Peggy Hoard from Middle Branch Twp told us that they have Casair at \$65 per month. Another option to explore is Viasat.
- Election 2020:** Bolduc mentioned that the State is requiring all absentee applications for primary elections also include the option for the voter to additionally request the ballot for the

later general election. Some clerks across the state feel that this will cause confusion for elections that are separated such as March and November by another election. Bolduc reviewed the changes to the envelopes. She is purchasing the needed items and will get them imprinted with our address to cut down on the time and cost of labels. She is also getting envelopes for the return of applications printed with the clerk's address. This is not a requirement, but it will greatly aid the voter in accurately returning the application.

We should plan on putting the Road Millage on the August primary ballot and the Fire Millage on the November general ballot.

Library Services: Bolduc had previously reported that Cadillac Wexford Public Library (CWPL) is changing their fee structure and will be charging for out of county library cards. She spoke to someone recently at the CWPL about this, and it was further explained that yes the penal fines from Burdell Twp, Village of Tustin, and Sherman Twp do go to the CWPL, and because of this, our Twp residents were not included in a recent mailing that explained this change. Citizens from Sherman can continue to use the CWPL without additional fees. It was also mentioned that Marion Library charges \$50 annually. We should continue to support the Tustin Library as we have done in the past with an annual donation.

Upcoming Dates: Reviewed slide of upcoming dates.

Announcements: None.

Ext. Pub Comment: Eggle opened the floor for extended public comment at 9:10 PM. There was one comment, and public comment closed at 9:12 PM.

Adjourn: Motion by Black to adjourn at 9:12 PM, 2nd Nemish. Passed.