

**SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**MONTHLY MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 11, 2018**

- Members Present:** Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, Dave Johns, Pete Nemish.
- Member Absent:** Sharon Black
- Guests:** 4 people.
- Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Eggle with a few comments remembering our troops and Christmas past, then prayer by Bolduc, followed by the Pledge.
- Public Comment:** Eggle opened the floor for public comment at 7:04 PM. There were none and public comment closed at 7:04 PM.
- Guest Presentation:** None this month. (We would have had Jason Patterson our assessor, but he had a schedule conflict with another township for which he is assessor.)
- Clerk's Report:** The minutes from the regular meeting on November 13, 2018, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as corrected (*p. 2 times to items, p. 3 discussed to discussion no change on "verbiage" based on research that this is the correct spelling*) Eggle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.
- Treasurer's Report:** Report for November was provided by the Treasurer and read by the Clerk – Checking account: Beginning balance \$97,630.47, Receipts \$53.61, Disbursements \$16,440.02 Ending balance \$81,244.06. This includes the Picnic Fund as donated by citizens \$143. CDs: Beginning balance \$130,156.86, Receipts \$4.46, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$130,161.32. General Fund Total ending balance \$211,405.38. Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$54,642.36, Receipts \$120.49, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$54,762.85. Encumbered \$63,360. Motion to accept November report as presented, Nemish, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.
- Bills:** Bills were presented and discussed including:  
Large bill for Election Source because of our 6 ballot styles.  
  
Motion by Johns to pay monthly bills \$4,218.83 from General Fund, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.
- Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as amended, Bolduc, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.
- Co. Commissioners:** Commissioner Nehmer attended and updated the Board on items which the BOC is dealing with including changes with the building inspector as the former inspector's contract was not renewed. On going issues with the termination of the COA (council on aging) director. EMS purchase of Lucas devices (a mechanical form of CPR). And the Co. applied for a \$10,000 grant for Veterans services.
- Fire Board Report:** Johns reviewed the minutes of the November Fire Board meeting, see attached.

Reviewed where we stand on the location of a fire radio repeater tower at Twp Hall.

- Plan Commission:** Nemish reported on the PC meeting. There were two permits in October and November. Lapinski is resigning as PC secretary effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. Tim Liponoga will be taking over secretarial duties. The Public Hearing was held as planned and proposed changes to the zoning ordinance were reviewed. The PC voted to pass the ordinance along to the Township Board for their adoption. The Board is now waiting for the 30 day time period during which the county can comment or not. PC plans to take up the discussion of a marihuana ordinance.
- Parks Comm.:** **Grove Hill** – on hold for winter.  
**Center Lake** – on hold for winter.
- Road Comm.:** Eggle reported that the RC is working on plans for the 2019 work season and reviewing where to plan for gravel placement. Possibly two miles of chip seal. Inviting Co. Road Commissioners and or Luke Houlton to the January 7<sup>th</sup> Road Comm. Mtg.
- Cemetery:** Calkins reported the cemetery driving gates are closed for the season. He and the Clerk are working behind the scenes on revising the Cemetery Ordinance, finalizing paper work from the 2018 burial season, and a proposal for initiatives in 2019.
- Correspondence:** Eggle had two items 1) email invitation from Kettunen Center and Center Lake Bible Camp to a holiday appreciation dinner, and 2) Muskegon River water shed letter requesting donations to fund their conservation and communication efforts.
- Bolduc had three items 1) financial page from Rose Lake Twp regarding Maple Hill Cemetery, 2) Consumers Energy regarding tree trimming in our area, and 3) Mike Cool of Biard, Cotter and Bishop regarding our Chart of Accounts numbers to bring them into alignment with the State revised master chart of accounts (letter archived with financials).
- Old Business:**
- Zoning Ord:** Eggle asked Nemish if the Board was ready to vote on this at their January 8, 2019 meeting?
- Area Fire Radio:** Already reviewed.
- Risk Mitigation:** Reviewed power point chart. Suggestion, from Nemish, to contact Patrick Foster a retired firefighter who does assessments and makes recommendations to entities regarding lighting, signs, fire extinguishers, and smoke detectors. Bolduc and Calkins to work on revising the Cemetery Ordinance and seeing to the water related signs. Update on progress next month.
- Nominations Road Committee, Board of Review, & Zoning Board of Appeals:**  
Motion by Eggle for Steven Pentces to serve on the Township Road Committee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.  
Eggle received a resignation notice from Patrick Kochanny from the BOR. He is moving out of the area.  
Eggle is working to fill–

One additional person on the Zoning Board of Appeals,  
A full member for BOR, and  
An alternate for the BOR.

**Budget season:** Eggle requests Bolduc to bring a first draft next month for the FY 2019/2020 as we begin reviewing budget elements for that annual cycle.  
As a tag along with the budget, we will review salary levels. January will allow for the 30 days or more before the annual meeting should the board vote to raise salaries.  
Eggle and Bolduc to review salaries of other townships both locally and through MTA.

**Assessment Review:** Eggle reviewed a letter from Jason Patterson, see attached. This element has been completed.

**New Business:**

**Marihuana:** Bolduc pointed out an article in the recent MTA magazine regarding how townships are impacted by the changes voted in Proposal 1 of November 2018.

**Assessments:** Eggle reviewed a letter from Jason Wentworth State Rep for our area regarding several elements of proposed changes from the State on down in how property assessments are handled.

**Budget FY18/19:** Bolduc presented, see attached, a page outlining amendments to the current budget, FY 2018/2019. This represents Change 1 to this budget. Motion by Eggle to approve the budget changes as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.

**Upcoming Dates:** December BOR on Tuesday, December 11, 2018, at 9 AM. There are six Principal Resident Exemptions (PRE's) expected as well as time allowed to deal with mutual mistakes of fact.

**Announcements:** January PC meeting is Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January rather than on the normal day which is a holiday. This change was previously published as it was decided when our meeting dates were set for the fiscal year at our annual meeting.

Stamps will be going up the end of January by 5 cents each.

**Ext. Pub Comment:** Eggle opened the floor for extended public comment at 8:15 PM. There were two, and public comment closed at 8:20 PM.

One comment came from Commissioner Nehmer and was regarding the dam in Marion. It has been 20 years since the DNR started pressuring Marion to remove the dam. Marion is currently working to redo the dam, but the DNR keeps changing their requirements. They are hiring an engineer and doing fund-raising as well as looking at grant funding.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Nemish to adjourn at 8:20 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.