

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING
MAY 12, 2020
Held on the Zoom Internet platform.

Members Present: Sharon Black (zoom from home), Bethany Bolduc (zoom at hall), David Eggle (zoom from home), Dave Johns (zoom from hall), Pete Nemish (zoom from home).

THE MEETING STARTED WITH TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES, AND AT ONE POINT DURING THE MEETING THE CLERK AND TRUSTEE AT THE HALL LOST CONNECTION FOR A FEW MINUTES.

Guests: 3 people came to the Hall. The Twp Sexton Keith Calkins, brother to the Clerk, J. Fred Calkins, and Bill Downey who also joined the Zoom meeting on his phone. Also joining the meeting on Zoom was Luke Houlton Supervisor of the Co. Road commission. And John Iler representing Center Lake interests.

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM by Eggle with prayer and the Pledge.

Public Comment: Eggle opened the floor for public comment at 7:14 PM. There was one comment and comment closed at 7:16 PM.

Guest Presentation: None this month.

Clerk's Report: The minutes from the regular meeting on April 14, 2020 were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as presented Eggle 2nd Black. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Report for April was presented by the Treasurer – Checking account: Beginning balance \$120,977.19, Receipts \$15,248.73, Disbursements \$11,494.86, Ending balance \$124,731.06. Picnic Fund donated by citizens balance of \$0. CDs: Beginning balance \$130,861.90, Receipts \$354.64, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$131,216.54. General Fund Total ending balance \$255,947.60. Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$88,201.02, Receipts \$11,494.57, Disbursements \$5,740.12, Ending balance \$93,955.47. Encumbered \$64,125. Motion to accept the April report as presented, Nemish, 2nd Bolduc. Passed.

Bills: Bills were presented and discussed. Motion by Johns to pay monthly bills totaling \$5,761.77 as listed by the Clerk from General Fund, 2nd Nemish. Passed.

Agenda: Motion to approve agenda as amended, Black, 2nd Johns. Passed.

Co. Commissioners: Commissioner Gregory spoke earlier with Eggle on the phone. Nothing of consequence to report.

Fire Board Report: Johns reported that the Fire Board canceled their in-person meeting and voted to pay the bills on email after a list was provided. They anticipate having an in-person meeting in May.

Plan Commission: Nemish reported no May meeting.

Parks Comm.: **Grove Hill** – mowing discussed along with cemetery mowing.
Center Lake – see Milfoil update.

Road Comm.: No meeting due to Covid-19. Summer projects for 2020 are already set per prior discussions and votes.

Cemetery: Bolduc and Calkins presented more details on the ground penetrating radar project for double checking the reclaimed plots prior to making them available for resale. More information and specific quotes including the shipping and handling requested. Eggle would like to know if other cemetery management entities have used this and if they felt it was worth the funds and efforts. The mowing discussion has it's own place on the agenda. The review by our lawyer, Cindy Wotilla, of the Cemetery Ordinance rewrite is almost finished. Bolduc hopes to be able to email it to everyone so they will have time to read it prior to our June meeting. Recent full burial went very well. The re-sodding looks very good!

Correspondence: 1) email of calls etc. in our Twp from the Osceola Co. Sheriff's office, 2) letter from MI Dept of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs reference transfer of ownership SDD & SDM licensed business at The Dighton General Store LLC.

Old Business:

Area Fire Radio: We found out that a couple of the fire fighters took it upon themselves to install this radio on a tower located just outside the county at the Franke Septic business. Johns spoke with Chief Rose. We have entered into a contract with the Fire Dept. Johns will ask some questions at the next Fire Board meeting and suggest that if they wish to abandon this project it would be nice if they refunded us the amount of our legal fees to prepare the contract.

Risk Mitigation: Nothing further at this time.

Records Retention: No update.

Open Seats: No update.

Hall Internet: Nothing further at this time.

Election 2020: Bolduc is preparing the application to be sent to the Permanent Absentee List Voters by May 21.

Twp Clean-up: Nemish reported on Fair Salvage prices to provide 40 yard containers which would be \$640 each. Recommendation to wait until the June meeting to decide. Keep on agenda.

Center Lake: John Iler joined the meeting. We reviewed an estimate of costs to continue Milfoil treatments this summer, see attached. Center Lake Association will contribute their 1/6. Bolduc is still looking for the grant which would reimburse the chemical application permit fees. Eggle moved that the Township commit to funding the Milfoil treatment this summer up to a maximum of \$3,000, 2nd Black, motion carried.

Gravel update: Luke Houlton joined the Zoom meeting. The county is upping the gallon per mile from approx. 2000 to 3000. This is one pass each way and another pass down the center. Our rotation is 3rd. Application of brine is about .15 cents per gallon. We can do less gallons per mile (go back to the 2000) which would cost less than the estimate of \$20,250. Discussion. Decision was to wait and see how much rain we get and how quickly we get our county paid application. We may still want to do this, but later in the season which allows us to defer the decision.

Cem. Lawn Care: The renewed bid from Kater Lawn and Snow was reviewed. The mowing prices were the same, but it included a cost for grave digging at \$550. We discussed costs and schedules of mowing. We can put controls on Kater. They could do it on a will call on our schedule. Suggested that two Board Members to meet with their representative (likely John), and discuss Kater's proposal. Nemish volunteered. Johns indicated he would be willing, too. Sexton will be included. We are interested in a one year NOT a four year contract. Nemish and Johns will coordinate the meeting time, etc, and will call Kater to ask them to mow one time prior to entering into a contract. Bolduc reviewed that Kater's original proposal in January did not include burials. This new one did, but at a significantly higher price. We already raised our burial fees this year. Bolduc said the Sexton is willing to hand dig at the current rate and did a great job with the sod on the most recent burial. Johns moved to appoint J. Fred Calkins, brother of the current sexton, as Assistant Sexton, 2nd Black, motion carried. Request that we check that both are covered with our insurance. Special cemetery jobs should come to the board for consideration.

Ground radar discussion and review of email sent by Bolduc.

Zoom connection from the Hall lost for nearly 10 minutes. Once connection was regained...

Discussion on Ground radar continued with question and answers. The Board would like specific prices on cost including shipping and would like info from other cemetery management organizations (twps or cities) that have used this, so we can better decided if this will provide the info we need. We will look at this again next month.

New Business:

ZBA Annual Mtg: The annual organizational meeting of the ZBA needs to be scheduled as soon as we clear the stay home stay safe guidelines.

Upcoming Dates: Reviewed slide of upcoming dates. All meetings scheduled are tentative pending the State and Federal stay home guidelines for protecting against the spread of Covid-19.

Announcements: The new edition of the MTA "little red" book has arrived at Bolduc's home. They can be picked up as board members have opportunity.

Ext. Pub Comment: Eggle opened the floor for extended public comment at 8:42 PM. There were no comments, and public comment closed at 8:42 PM.

Adjourn: Eggle motioned to adjourn at 8:43 PM, 2nd Nemish. Passed.