

**SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD  
MONTHLY MEETING  
OCTOBER 13, 2020**

- Members Present:** Sharon Black, Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, Dave Johns, Pete Nemish.
- Guests:** 5 citizens.
- Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Eggle with prayer and the Pledge.
- Public Comment:** Eggle opened the floor for public comment at 7:01 PM. There was one comment suggesting we consider initiating a name change for the township, so that we might be unique and not 1 (one) of 9 (nine) Sherman Township's in MI. Public comment closed at 7:03 PM.
- Guest Presentation:** None this month.
- Clerk's Report:** The minutes from the regular meeting on September 8, 2020, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as corrected Eggle 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.
- Treasurer's Report:** Report for September was presented by the Treasurer – Checking account: Beginning balance \$112,532.42, Receipts \$15,044.06, Disbursements \$12,136.85, Ending balance \$115,439.63. Picnic Fund donated by citizens balance of \$0. CDs: Beginning balance \$131,659.55, Receipts \$1.49, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$131,661.04. General Fund Total ending balance \$247,100.67.  
Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$84,422.36, Receipts \$7.49, Disbursements \$0 Ending balance \$84,429.85. Encumbered \$54,375.  
Motion to accept the September report as presented, Johns, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bolduc. Passed.
- Bills:** Bills were presented and discussed. Motion by Johns to pay monthly bills totaling \$2,467.92 as listed by the Clerk 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. The Co has extended their state of emergency regarding Covid-19 until November 3. There is a budget hearing scheduled for October 20, 2020.
- Fire Board Report:** September Fire Board minutes were reviewed by Johns, see attached.
- Plan Commission:** Nemish reported on the October meeting. PC still discussing secretary. Considering Kettunen Center zoning questions. Several buyers might want to turn the property into other things. Are those changes a use by right or would they require a special use or change to zoning district? Information discussed will be shared with Chris Gentry. November meeting conflicting with election has been canceled. Question person hanging out in Twp Hall parking lot? Who and why? Request by a citizen to use a metal detector around the Twp Hall. Permission granted.

- Parks Comm.:** **Grove Hill** – Nothing to report.  
**Center Lake** – Drawing of proposal for redoing the beach area presented and reviewed. Kater has given a bid. Recommend we get one or two more lawn companies to give us a bid as well. RLS contract for 2021 retainer and consulting. Copies attached of invoices mailed to partners in Milfoil work.
- Road Comm.:** Meeting moved to Thursday, October 15, 2020, due to members travel. Planning to have a 2021 season proposal to present to the Board at the December meeting.
- Cemetery:** Bolduc and Calkins reported 5 cremains and 1 full burial. Eggle reviewed ordinance issue. Recommendation to have clerk and supervisor pull changes into the document and present it to the Board.
- Correspondence:** Bolduc reported receiving the following: 1) Pine River L-4029 form copy, 2) item from Eggle ref. 2 acres land split resolution to move it out of PA 116 (a farming tax designation) from the Gingrich/Martin farm, 3) notice from State of video hearing ref. Consumers Energy Co. Case # U-20889, 4) DNR Pine River water shed zoning exemption request, and 5) Center for Tech and Civic Life grant acceptance to sign.
- Resolution 20201013, see attached, partial termination of a farmland development rights agreement offered by Eggle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish, roll call vote 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution is adopted.
- Old Business:**
- Area Fire Radio:** Bolduc sent email letter. We are waiting a reply.
- Risk Mitigation:** Review of chart. Lighted exit signs are \$99 each.
- Records Retention:** Nothing to add this month.
- Open Seat:** Eggle is still looking for a willing candidate for the Road Comm.
- Hall Internet:** Nemish presented the Verizon Jetpack as an option. It would be \$20 monthly with \$99 up front to purchase the device. We would get 15 Gb of data monthly. It says unlimited but once 15 Gb is reached it slows down. Eggle moved to authorize Nemish and Bolduc to purchase one Jetpack at \$99, and engage the monthly Verizon charge of \$20 for this Internet service, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.
- Election 2020:** Bolduc reviewed absentee ballot numbers to date. Described the mess she has been dealing with getting AV applications from Sherman Township in St. Joseph County when “Common Sense Voters of America LLC” sent these voters applications with our preprinted return address on them. Presented info on a grant for \$5,000 from Center for Tech and Civic Life. Presented the need for security cameras on the ballot drop box as well as a proposal from Brooks Security. After presenting, Bolduc moved to approve the Brooks Security bid for 4 cameras installed and fully operational for \$3,340, 2<sup>nd</sup> Johns. Passed.
- Meeting of the Sherman Township Election Commission called to order by the Clerk** within the Board meeting. Clerk, Treasurer, and Supervisor present. The Clerk nominated the following Election Inspectors:  
Loretta Slocum, Deputy Clerk & Election Chair, Dem  
Elna Sherman, Rep

Cheryl Worst, Dem  
Julie Peterson, Dem  
J. Fred Calkins, Lib  
Keith Calkins, Rep  
H. John Iler, Dem, back-up and closing

Of those election inspectors two will act as Receiving Board per prior Twp resolutions forming such. Second and Passed. Election Commission meeting closed and regular Board meeting resumed.

**Cem. Grd Radar:** On hold until spring.

**Center Lake:** Bolduc mailed invoices on September 15, 2020, see attached.

**New Business:**

**BOR Positions:** Eggle nominated for reappointment Ron Belville/Belleville and Ken Neuman for seats on the BOR for a 2 year term, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bolduc. Passed.

**CL Milfoil:** The Board considered the Restorative Lakes Sciences contract for them to coordinate testing and application of chemicals for the annual retainer of \$1000 same as other years. Moved by Eggle to enter into the one year retainer contract with RLS, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.

**Assessing:** Eggle mentioned that if a twp doesn't pass the State review, AMAR, that they would be assigned a Co. Designated assessor and lose the right for 2 years to choose their own assessor. There is a path for the State and Co. to re-assess the twp. Inter agency local agreements are also possible.

**CL Beach Project:** Discussed under Parks Committee Report.

**Amend Budget:** Bolduc presented a budget amendment, see attached. Moved by Johns to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> budget amendment for FY 20/21 as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.

**Upcoming Dates:** Reviewed slide of upcoming dates. All meetings scheduled are tentative pending the State and Federal Covid-19 guidelines. Discussion of Dale G.'s term on PC. He was nominated to fill Tim L.'s place and Tim's term expires in December 2020. Will revisit next meeting.

**Announcements:** None.

**Ext. Pub Comment:** Eggle opened the floor for extended public comment at 9:16 PM. There were two comments. Public comment closed at 9:20 PM.

**Adjourn:** Black motioned to adjourn at 9:20 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bolduc. Passed.