

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING
APRIL 13, 2021

Members at Hall: Sharon Black, Deputy Clerk Loretta Slocum, David Eggle, and Pete Nemish.

Member participating remotely:
Bethany Bolduc

Member Absent: Dave Johns.

Guests: 7 citizens.

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Eggle with prayer and the Pledge.

Public Comment: At 7:04 public comment opened, and there were no comments and public comment closed.

Guest Presentation: Emma Costantino from North Country Coop. Invasive Species Management. Presentation with time for Q&A.

Clerk's Report: The minutes from the regular meeting on March 9, 2021, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as presented Eggle 2nd Black. Passed.

Amendment to January 2021 meeting minutes to include the approval of Ron Moesta and Tasha Lapinski's renewal of terms. Motion by Eggle to affirm their nomination and vote, 2nd Nemish. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Report for March was presented by the Treasurer – Checking account: Beginning balance \$111,121.00, Receipts \$52,954.73, Disbursements \$19,066.11, Ending balance \$145,009.62. Picnic Fund donated by citizens balance of \$0. CDs: Beginning balance \$131,668.39, Receipts \$1.35, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$131,669.74. General Fund Total ending balance \$276,679.36.

Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$33,150.77, Receipts \$83,789.42, Disbursements \$13,603.08 Ending balance \$103,337.11. (delinquent amount \$4,304.06 = \$ 107,641.17) Encumbered \$65,000.

Motion to accept the March report, Nemish, 2nd Eggle. Passed.

Audit planned to begin May 5th, 2021.

Bills: Bills were presented and discussed. Motion by Nemish to pay monthly bills totaling \$4,328.30 as listed by the Clerk from General Fund, 2nd Black. Passed.

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

Co. Commissioners: Commissioner arrived late and updated during extended public comment time.

Fire Board Report: Johns could not attend. Art (Mike) Black commented. Minutes will be provided next meeting.

Plan Commission: PC finally met. They did not do any virtual meetings. Meeting was some catch up. Report of permits since last report (October), camper, house Zondalc, and a mobile home, pole barn Swiler permitted late so fined \$200, home Goodman, solar panels Jennings, single wide violation in Dighton which is being worked through, and a sign violation. Teasel weed issue, an invasive species seen on 140th between 18 & 19 Mile.

Parks Comm.: **Grove Hill** – Nothing at this time.
Center Lake – John Iler and Jim Peterson reporting on the progress of beach renewal. Involved in aquatic plant management monitoring the Milfoil. Review of beach issue. 4x4x4 hole in the beach. Suggested improvements, see handout. Railroad ties found at local supplier. Bid for work, see attached, from Benz Excavating, LLC. Add concrete to boat launch and a new grill in picnic area. The DEQ and DNR rules regarding beach sand have been reviewed. Nemish motion to proceed with Benz’s bid up to \$6,000 including concrete, 2nd Black,. Loons are back! Nemish motion \$300 grill replacement, 2nd Eggle. Passed. It will be nice to do this work in Spring, so everyone can enjoy the new beach this summer.

Road Comm.: See later in meeting under New Business.

Cemetery: Slocum reported that she and Bolduc are going to spend some time in the cemetery this year to create a 5 year plan for planting trees/bushes and renewing the border, etc.

Correspondence: There are several items of correspondence: 1) audit engagement letter, audit to begin May 5, 21, 2) Notice of Policy Change from Municipal Underwriters of MI (MI Twp Par Plan) regarding excluding Communicable disease that the policy shall not apply to any...., and 3) emails with Luke Houlton regarding township road work.

Old Business:

Risk Mitigation: Potential grant to get exit and emergency lighting. Work in progress.

Records Retention: Nothing to report.

Roads Open Seat: Nothing to report.

Cem. Ordinance: Nothing to report.

Center Lake: See earlier item 8 e.

New Business:

Roads: Eggle provided a packet of information. Balance \$103,335 in Road Funds. Encumbered \$65,000. Balance will be \$38,335. Peterson went to the Road Commission meeting where they met with each township the end of March. The county indicated that we are the last in our quadrant to get brined this year. Potential brine which we might pay for which could be done mid May would be \$20,250. It is recommended by the Road Committee. Dry winter and spring there was a lack of snow pack. Dust conditions will be as bad as they ever are. Gravel costs initial estimate went up from 6.50 per ton to an actual 6.85 per ton. County recommendation is to work on the roads in the south east part of the township. Motion by Slocum (Bolduc) to approve brine application to 2nd Eggle. Discussion. Roll call vote, 1 no, 3 yes. Passed.
Gravel purchase and spreading proposal, see attached, almost 4 miles, 210 loads

projected at 50 ton per load, \$71,925 for gravel. 18 Mile for 2 miles at 109 loads, 19 mile for 1 mile at 55 loads, 21 mile just less than 1 mile at 46 loads. Board members each had time to comment. Motion by Black to proceed with this plan, 2nd Nemish. Passed. Brine plus grave equal \$92,175. Ending balance \$11,160 plus any delinquent tax amount received from the county.

Mowing Contracts: Review of bids from Kater for Cemetery, Hall, Grove Hill and Center Lake with cover letter and copy of insurance coverage. Recommendation is to approved contract. No increase from last year. Nemish moved to approve Kater mowing contract, 2nd Black. Passed.

Planning Comm. Nemish summarized that Tasha Lapinski has wanted to step down from being secretary. Sarah Pagels has shown interest in the community. PC discussed adding another member to the PC. Or adding Sarah as a paid non member secretary. More research need with a decision at a later time, possibly next month.

Review of Dates: Review of upcoming meeting date.

Announcements: None.

Ext. Pub Comment: Extended Comment was opened at 8:15 PM with one comment and closed at 8:35 PM.

Mark Gregory came late because he was also at Burdell Twp meeting. Twp should be receiving \$102,293 stimulus funds from the Federal government with no current guidance. There may be things we can't use it for. Cases of covid in our county are going up. County state of emergency has been renewed. County state of emergency will cover any township who needs to hold a virtual meeting.

Adjourn: Nemish motioned to adjourn at 8:35 PM, 2nd Black Passed.