

**SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**MONTHLY MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 8, 2015**

**Members Present:** Don Akers, Sharon Black, Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, Pete Nemish..

**Guests:** 15 people including Commissioner Nehmer.

**Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Eggle. A tribute to Spencer Akers who gave his life in the line of duty ten years ago this day was read and a moment of silence requested. Prayer by Eggle followed by the Pledge.

**Public Comment:** Wilber Hammond RE Last month: I got a little heated last month and apologize for getting out of hand.

David Eggle RE Board and comments: last month during the comment section some serious charges concerning the members of the board were raised. We are elected to do our best. We expect to have some push back on some of the issues we face. That's fine its about the policies. Attacks about kick backs are accusations of criminal activities. Request that comments be kept on the policy issues please.

Harvey Langworthy RE AG opinion letter: raised questions for the second month about the ethics of the Twp attorney. Reported that Zites, SOS's lawyer, stated to date she has not received the packet or redaction as requested.

**Clerk's Report:** The minutes from the regular meeting on November 10, 2015, were read. Motion to approve minutes with correction to the spelling of Leonard's last name in the Public Comments sections beginning and ending of minutes Akers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report for November was presented – Checking account: Beginning balance \$81,417.22, Receipts \$102.71, Disbursements \$11,360.75 (+1,000.00 which was a bank error and Black will pursue having returned), Ending balance \$69,159.18. This includes \$308.75 for the Picnic Fund. CD: Beginning balance \$98,940.70, Receipts \$2.77, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$98,943.47. General Fund Total ending balance \$168,402.65.

Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$52,359.16, Receipts \$4.84, Disbursements \$32,014.00, Ending balance \$20,350.00, Encumbered \$45,256.00 billed through 9/2016.

Motion to accept November report as presented, Eggle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Akers. Passed.

**Bills:** Bills were presented and discussed. Motion to pay bills totaling \$1,960.21 from General Fund Akers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.

**Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as amended, Bolduc, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.

**Co. Commissioners:** Commissioner Nehmer was present. He discussed: Tustin EMS building open house

in early spring. The building is being used and finishing touches are being taken care of. EMS contracts have been ratified. The Sheriff office renovation project is completed. The Veterans Liaison position is still pending. Asked if anyone had questions for him? Only Eggle commenting on EMS.

- Fire Board Report:** Akers reviewed the minutes from the November Fire Board meeting, see attached.
- Plan Commission:** No permits. Center Lake Bible Camp (CLBC) is looking at some projects for possibly spring 2016.
- Parks Comm.:** Akers read a recommendation, see attached, from the Center Lake *ad hoc* committee regarding controlling invasive species. The board discussed the suggested financial split of each entity paying a quarter, Sherman Twp, Kettenun Center, CLBC, and Residents. Chris Gentry made a few comments. It is not just Milfoil it is also Starry Storm Wort. Most of the native plants will go away if we do nothing. A firm decision was not reached. A split based more on area of ownership or use was also discussed. Will review next month. Nothing more determined yet on the parking issues.
- Road Comm.:** Morton presented with Power Point, see attached, where we are currently. What we've done over the past 4 year millage and what some current areas of concern are. The Road Comm. discussed millage renewal which the Board will vote on in the next month or so. Initially we are favorable to doing this. He also discussed a little about the new State funding model and that the County might not see any of those funds until 2017.
- Correspondence:** From – (1) MTA BOR Training (not attached), (2) Copies of signed closing documents from the purchase of land adjacent to Maple Hill Cemetery, (3) Osceola Co. Clerk copy of planned amendment to 911 plan and opt out resolution of same should we want that, (4) Open letter to Board and PC from John Iler dated 11/23/2015 regarding 7.9e and wind zoning.
- Motion by Akers to send five people (BOR three members and their alternate as well as Supervisor Eggle) to the BOR training put on by MTA in Cadillac on February 25 and to register and pay now to take advantage of early bird discount rate. Total training and 1 book \$436.50, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.
- Old Business:**
- EMS Situation:** Item covered above.
- Twp Roads 2015:** Covered above.
- Center Lake Issues:** Covered above.
- Zoning 7.9e:** Communication through Twp Attorney N.P. from Kara Butters that opinion from the AG if the AG chooses to grant an opinion could be 6 to 8 months turn around time.
- December BOR:** December BOR Monday, December 14, 2015, at 9 AM to correct mutual errors of fact.

**New Business:**

**Newsletter:** Discussion of the need for a newsletter possibly in February. Led to discussion of moving the date of the March Board meeting due to the conflict with the Presidential Primary election. Motion by Eggle to change the March Board meeting from the 8<sup>th</sup> (the second Tuesday) to the 15<sup>th</sup> (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday) and set the Annual meeting for the same date to begin directly following the conclusion of the Monthly Board meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Akers. Passed.

**Twp Email:** Bolduc led a review of the proposed resolution, see attached, and the Board discussed. No conclusion reached.

**Budget FY16/17:** Eggle requested Board members to supply Bolduc with any specific needs in their departments and for Bolduc to bring a preliminary budget draft to the January meeting.

**Cemetery:** Akers reviewed the need to remove several mutant bushes from Sharon Raymond's grandparents (Gibson) graves. Discussion. Conclusion that while there are those willing to do it, liability issues indicate that it would be best for our contracted yard work firm to do the work. Bolduc and Akers will call Mrs. Raymond and Aspen Outdoors and arrange for the work to get done at Twp expense.

**Misc. Issues:** Akers noted that we need to mark the new septic cover so that we don't plow over it and wreck it. He will take care of that if we'd like.

Suggested that we check with Waste Management and see if we can get a reduced picked up and price over the winter months when there is less need.

Akers reported that the display case for the antique plat book has been made. He requests that the Twp pay for the glass to be installed (*in it*) at Brinks in Cadillac for \$130.63. It will be museum quality glass. Motion by Eggle 2<sup>nd</sup> Black to purchase glass as recommended. Bolduc will check into scanning each page and creating a digital document.

**Announcements:** At the last Road Comm. meeting Floyd Justice resigned his position on the committee.

**Ext. Pub Comment:** Kimberly Leonard RE Energy: read from news article that the State has changed its former Mandate to a non-binding Goal of 30% from renewable sources and conservation of energy.

Keith Calkins RE Cemetery trees & Septic freezing: remembered being with Bolduc when the Sexton reviewed the Gibson lot and the trees/bushes in question and said he would take care of it. Not sure what happened. Mentioned that why the septic line froze last winter was the lack of insulation over the line from the building to the tank but since that line goes under the sidewalk and part of the parking lot it poses a bit of an issue with snow removal.

Art (Mike) Black RE Septic line: It's a never ending issue due to where the line is in relation to the sidewalk.

Harvey Langworthy RE AG opinion letter: "I was hoping the Twp Attorney would be

here. Apparently he chose not to attend.” Letter sent to Senator Booher was not sent to Atty Zites. SOS Atty (Zites) said they were never sent a copy or consulted. Questioned if a new letter with the item where Zites is mentioned redacted as per her request had been sent to Senator Booher?

**Adjourn:** Motion by Akers to adjourn at 8:51 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bolduc. Passed.