

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING
February 10, 2015

- Members Present:** Don Akers, Sharon Black, Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, Pete Nemish.
- Guests:** 13 guests.
- Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Eggle with Prayer by Akers followed by the Pledge.
- Public Comment:** None.
- Agenda diversion:**
- Commissioners:** Both Commissioners, Jack Nehmer and Mark Gregory attended the meeting and Eggle invited them to address the board and group in attendance. Both indicated that it was a pleasure to be invited and to attend the meeting, and that while they won't be able to come to every meeting, as several other Twp's have their meetings on the same night, they will be frequent attendees at our meetings.
- Clerk's Report:** The minutes from the regular meeting on January 13, 2015 were read. Motion to approve minutes as presented, Eggle, 2nd Black. Passed.
- Treasurer's Report:** Report for January presented – Checking account: Beginning balance \$64,744.75, Receipts \$352.31, Disbursements \$5,640.35, Ending balance \$59,456.71. This includes \$373.75 for the Picnic Fund. CD: Beginning balance \$98,716.24, Receipts \$2.78 Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$98,719.02. General Fund Total ending balance \$158,175.73.
- Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$1,860.16 Receipts \$.23, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$1,860.39, Encumbered \$0.
- Motion to accept January report as presented, Akers, 2nd Bolduc. Passed.
- Bills:** Bills were presented and discussed. Motion by Akers, 2nd Nemish. Passed.
- Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as amended, Bolduc, 2nd Black. Passed.
- Co. Commissioners:** In attendance. Spoke at beginning of the meeting.
- Fire Board Report:** Akers reviewed minutes from the January Fire Board meeting, see attached. Annual Fire Board meeting will be March 18 at 7:30 PM.
- Plan Commission:** Nemish reviewed the PC meeting. One permit to Spring updating a cell tower. Lenards came to the meeting in reference to property they are trying to get re zoned so they can use it for a use car sales business. They are trying to push that forward. PC discussed 7.9e specifically: distance between turbines – leave as proposed, property value protection – Moesta found info from Canada indicating that property

values didn't drop that much in areas with wind "farms". The PC felt they would not add any property protection at this time, distance from unleased property and building etc. which is currently proposed at 5 times tower height. PC had much discussion and felt that making it a longer distance up to 10 times the tower height was appropriate, but would like to do more research before moving forward.

Follow up per Eggle with the local wind farm near McBain and find out what their land values are doing. It is farm land which is going up in value regardless of the wind turbines.

The board discussed. Eggle handed out an article referencing oil well drilling near homes, see attached.

Eggle recommends to PC to continue to investigate property value protection and continue discussing what it might look like.

Parks Comm.: Nothing yet on Grove Hill tree thinning. Re Center Lake Park, Elna Sherman text messaged Bolduc asking the board to consider placing the porta potty closer to the beach so that parents can help one child with restroom needs and keep an eye on other kids still playing in/near the water. Bolduc proposed to ask the company servicing the equipment about placement so they can adequately service it as that will have a large impact on where we can put it, but placement is adjustable.

Road Comm.: Morton reported on Co. meeting he attended. The County is short-handed especially at the North garage. There are also issues with personnel dealing with the Co. Road Comm. members when they need to deal with the manager, Luke Houlton. Tension in the shop. Employees not following chain of command. Our Twp Road committee has no meeting until April.

Correspondence: From– Municipal Retirement Systems, Inc. information of a change in contact. Former fund manager Ann Bunting is retiring and Blamer Financial Services, Inc. group headed by Dan Blamer is taking over.

Paper work referencing a change in cemetery lot ownership for J14.

Osceola Co. Road Comm. referencing yearly meetings with Twps.

Eggle referenced a discussion at BOC with Rep. From Osceola Lake Conservation Dist. re: HAZMAT clean up and a push that they are coordinating to advertise it more extensively for the 2015 pick up date. In 2014 three families from Sherman used the HAZMAT service.

Also at BOC was mentioned info about building Fred Meijer State Park and White Pine Trail.

Old Business:

EMS Situation: Eggle attended BOC where the engineer presented some building options. BOC approved one of the designs. BOC representative visited with Village of Tustin planning personnel.

Twp Roads 2015: No update beyond Eggle and Bolduc signed the revised contract with the county immediately after the last meeting.

Matthewson FOIA: After consultation with Nathan Piwowarski, Bolduc and Eggle decided to voluntarily

review their emails for those which would fit within the parameters of the FOIA request and ask all other Twp personnel to do likewise. The pages which were found, not all officials had emails, were taken to Piwowarski's office where he and his staff redacted what items would fall under Atty. client privileged info. A letter was sent to Atty. Zeits indicating that the pages are ready for her client upon payment of the remaining \$197 owed on the original documents and the additional amount of \$157.69 for the email pages. No payment has been received to date; therefore, the email pages have not been handed over and are waiting at Bolduc's office.

- BOR Training:** Board of Review training coming up February 17th and/or February 23rd, all registration has been taken care of.
- New Business:**
- Annual Mtg:** Announcement that Annual meeting will be Tuesday, March 10, 2015, in conjunction with our monthly meeting.
- FY15/16 Budget:** The clerk presented a revised second draft budget for FY15/16, see attached. The board discussed and reviewed element by element. Motion by Eggle to approve FY15/16 budget as presented in this second draft, 2nd Black. Passed.
- BOR Dates:** Motion by Eggle to conduct the March 2015 Board of Review organizational meeting 9 AM Tuesday, March 3, 2015, Petition Hearings on Tuesday, and Thursday, March 10 and 12, 9 AM to 3 PM the first day and 3 to 9 PM the second day, 2nd Akers. Passed.
- BOR Resolutions:** **Asset Test Resolution #2102015**, see attached for wording. Motion by Bolduc for resolution 2102015 asset test for poverty exemption for BOR to use, 2nd Black. Roll call 5 yes, 0 no. Passed.
- Resolution to allow BOR petitions in other formats than in person #2102015-B**, see attached for wording. Motion by Bolduc to allow BOR to received petitions by phone, in writing, or by personal representative, 2nd Black. Roll Call 5 yes, 0 no. Passed.
- Mileage Rate:** Motion by Eggle to follow IRS business mileage rates as presented in a table from the IRS website, see attached, which increase to 57.5 cents per mile for 2015, 2nd Akers. Passed.
- Renew Moratorium:** A current moratorium on Utility Wind systems expires on April 12, 2015, not wanting to have a moratorium lapse for even a short time while the PC is hammering out 7.9e, Bolduc consulted with Piwowarski and brought for review a resolution which would be a new moratorium on Utility-Grid Wind Energy Systems in Sherman Twp, see attached. The resolution was read and discussed. A couple of changes were indicated, adding exact date of former moratorium expiration and date this becomes effective, before motion by Eggle to adopt resolution number 2102015-C a moratorium on Utility-Grid Wind Energy Systems in Sherman Twp Effective April 12, 2015, 2nd Nemish. Roll call 5 yes, 0 no. Passed
- Announcements:** None.

Ext. Pub. Comment: Jack Nehmer RE May election: advise from Karen Bluhm Co. clerk to have Twp officials contact State Senators and Representatives to encourage them to provide for the State to cover the costs of the upcoming May election as it is a State issue driving the need for this election.

Ed Morton RE Wind turbines: talked with an acquaintance who lives in Gratiot Co. who described their first hand issues with flicker and noise from turbines.

Mike Black RE HAZMAT: took him three hours to find the address last year.

Harvey Langworthy RE Wind energy, oil wells and 7.9e: commented on the newspaper article Eggle handed out referencing the oil well drilling in residential areas. Said that he addressed the PC last week. Referencing a statement made by Moesta regarding a wind developer appealing to the ZBA, SOS posed this question to their lawyer, K. Zeits, who responded and which response HL copied and handed out among the board. It refutes what Moesta had stated. HL wants 7.9e to have property value protection. Gave the board a 13 page Internet document refuting the document by Mike Barnard which Moesta had referenced during the PC meeting about property values. The document HL presented claims that Barnard is not a authority in wind issues at all. HL also handed out a copy of CAPCON article "One Lawsuit settled, but no truce in Wind Energy Debate".

Adjourn: Motion by Akers to adjourn at 8:56 PM, 2nd Nemish. Passed.