

**SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**MONTHLY MEETING**  
August 11, 2015

- Members Present:** Don Akers, Sharon Black, Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, Pete Nemish.
- Guests:** 16 guests.
- Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Eggle with Prayer by Bolduc followed by the Pledge.
- Public Comment:** None.
- Center Lake:** Deviation from agenda for presentations and discussion on Center Lake Milfoil & Park issues.
- Carl Baumgrass from the Osceola Park Committee discussed the history of the Center Lake Park issues and what we can do. The location of the Park and private properties and the road make it difficult to secure with a gate. Posting signs is good. Ask for more support from the Co. Sheriff office. Changing the parking to indicate clear parking spaces and signs that indicate when parking is full the park is full. Sign that says max capacity for beach such as is seen for buildings. Recommended a group “Macpro” for legal info regarding parks.
- Clerk’s Report:** The minutes from the regular meeting on July 14, 2015 were read. Motion to approve minutes as presented, Eggle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.
- Treasurer’s Report:** Report for July was presented – Checking account: Beginning balance \$82,012.30, Receipts \$2,882.07, Disbursements \$9,219.16, Ending balance \$75,785.21. This includes \$638.75 for the Picnic Fund. CD: Beginning balance \$98,839.13 Receipts \$93.33 Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$98,932.46. General Fund Total ending balance \$174,717.67.
- Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$65,571.42 Receipts \$8.08, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$65,579.50, Encumbered \$29,000.00.
- Motion to accept July report as presented, Akers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bolduc. Passed.
- Bills:** Bills were presented and discussed. Motion to pay bills, Akers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.
- Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as presented, Bolduc, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.
- Co. Commissioners:** Commissioner Neimer present. He discussed; the EMS building in Tustin which is progressing well, renovation to the Sheriff office, the Veterans’ Liaison, and invited questions and gave answers. Comm. Gregory did not attend this month.
- Fire Board Report:** Akers reviewed minutes from the July Fire Board meeting, see attached.

- Plan Commission:** Nemish reviewed the PC meeting. There were no permits issued. Moesta spoke with MTA and their recommendation is that the Zoning Ordinance is not the place to locate Property Value Protections (PVP). Centerville, who's zoning document was shared with us by H. Langworthy as an example of good zoning, did not feel they needed PVP. Requested approval of funds to send 5 members to a MTA training seminar in Cadillac on Aug 25, 2015. Motion by Eggle to approve \$505 (\$101 per person) to attend this seminar, 2<sup>nd</sup> Akers. Passed.
- Parks Comm.:** John Iler and Chris Gentry, Kettenun Center, update about the Eurasian milfoil. Restorative Lake Sciences Co. reviewed and gave an estimate of \$1,000.00 for the first step which is to Map the Lake. Eggle and Akers, discussion of splitting that cost with Kettenun Center, Center Lake Bible Camp (CLBC) and residents by donation. Mentioned that Diamond Lake in Burdell Twp has special assessment on lakeside property owners to fund issues such as this. Twp willing to act as pass through for other entities so that the Restorative Lake Sciences can bill one place. Motion by Nemish for the Twp to pay one third 1/3 of the proposed mapping fee of \$1,000.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> Akers. Passed.
- Request Clerk to contact Baird, Cotter and Bishop to find out the best way to account for this pass through of funds.
- Road Comm.:** Morton reported on the committee and road work activities. County will pay for some crack seal around the Twp. 145<sup>th</sup> paving project on hold. Report on Keith Calkins presentation of issues regarding abandoned or decommissioned former state/county/twp road as main driveway. Several other Twp residents in similar circumstances.
- Correspondence:** From– USDA invitation to opening of Baldwin/White Cloud Ranger District Office on Sept 21, 2015.  
IRS over payment letter and check. Final word from Baird, Cotter and Bishop to accept and deposit.  
MI Dept of Ag. Gingrich farm building conform to site selection GAAMPs.
- Old Business:**
- EMS Situation:** EMS structure in Tustin taking shape on schedule.
- Twp Roads 2015:** Nothing further.
- Maple Hill Cem:** Final cost breakdown total purchase price of \$16,000.00 for 10.7 acres adjacent to the South and East of Maple Hill Cemetery on Mackinaw Trl. with Twps paying closing costs estimated at \$500.00 total. Sherman's share of purchase price \$4,000.00 portion of closing \$125.00. Motion by Akers to purchase addition to Maple Hill as stated for \$4,000.00 and up to \$200.00 for closing costs which is one quarter of the total, authorization given to David Eggle Sherman Supervisor, to sign documents and purchase land on behalf of the Twp., 2<sup>nd</sup> Bolduc. Passed.
- Tech:** Working to install BS&A software for tax and assessing on the Twp Hall computer. Sherry to ask R. Kissinger and work with him and BS&A if necessary.
- Cemetery Issue:** Gloria Langworthy presented ideas, see attached, for placing corner markers on all driveway corners within the Cemetery. Proposal would use 4 inch steel pipes, with

3 foot in ground and 4 foot above. Each weighs 75lb. Cost for product including a colorful covering for each pipe \$969 including freight, but no installation. Discussion. Board felt that the only corner with much of an issue was the corner which Tammy Stoner and family came a few months ago to talk with the Board about (NE corner of main older section). Akers suggested that he would put in a more permanent wooden post in that corner, and we could trim some trees to encourage people to keep to the driveways. Akers will use a treated post, paint it, and add reflectors.

**Tire Clean-Up:** Clean-up concluded as planned with good attendance. See attached numbers.

**OLS:** Tasha Lapinski has asked to postpone until next year. We will reconsider summer of 2016.

**Center Lake Issues:** Eggle recap of discussion to date. Bolduc review of the history of our ordinance governing Center Lake Park. Eggle review of his discussion with Mike Wood from Meauwataka Lake Park (MLP). MLP is a much larger area than our Park. MLP includes an overnight camping area as well as the swimming area. They hired someone to be Camp Host and live at the camp ground for the season. They installed trail cameras which they put up themselves. They were able to catch someone who stole several picnic tables due to the trail cameras being in place. Cameras average \$50 each. Non Resident use fees were put in place which were \$3 per person over age 14. Have had some complaints. \$2,230.00 direct cost for staffing.

Consensus is to keep working this issue to have something in place for next summer.

**Zoning 7.9e:** Eggle reported on the research he did regarding Property Value Protection (PVP) and 7.9e. Nathan Piwowarski reviewed a copy of our ordinance. In his opinion didn't see any authority in the State Planning Enabling act to add PVP. He is aware of the political situation and risk management issues in Sherman. Do we put something in and risk a suit by a developer or do we not put it in and risk a referendum or suit from citizens or citizen groups such as SOS? He said it was up to the Board.

Reported on discussing the PVP with the Supervisor from Pleasanton Twp, Carol Merrill, whose zoning document we have modeled ours after. Eggle asked if what we were looking at with the PVP was the version which was voted. She was unsure which version we had and will mail an official copy of that section to Eggle. Their document was written by Attorney Brian Graham from Elk Rapids, and he felt he could defend it in court.

Eggle spoke with MTA and received the same recommendation as was previously reported by Moesta.

Eggle contacted Missauwake Co. Equalization department to ask about property values. They reported that since the wind turbines were installed that property values have gone up in the area.

Board would like a written opinion from Nathan Piwowski. And for him to look at Pleasanton's voted ordinance. Keep this issue on the agenda for further consideration next month.

Comment by Moesta.

Several guests had comments/questions and due to the nature of the topic we allowed for them to voice those at this time: John Burns, Doug Langworthy, Adam Hundley, Harvey Langworthy. Questions regarded ZBA allowable changes to ordinance, and the will of the people.

Nemish, the PC has listened to the will of the people.

Eggle complemented all on the discussion remaining civil and talking nicely.

**New Business:** None.

**Announcements:** Bolduc working on thank you for the 1878 map book donated by V. F. Salisbury.

**Ext. Pub. Comment:** Keith Calkins RE: Cemetery. Spruce needs to be pruned up to help keep people on the roadways.

Doug Langworthy RE: Roads. 21 Mile and Mackinaw Trl has trees growing and restricting visibility at the corner.

Ed Morton RE: Grove Hill funds, Cemetery, 7.9e. Asked if the Grove Hill funds would be or could be spent on Center Lake Park needs? Board affirmed yes. Commented on posts and sleeves for treated posts such as proposed for the cemetery. Had a question on the process of the ZBA.

Harvey Langworthy RE: zoning. Detected bitterness in Black's comments and is sorry that Black feels the way she does. No one is paying HL to attend the meetings and his gas etc. He does it because the people have asked him. Stated, "I've compromised." He does not want bitterness.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Eggle to adjourn at 10:11 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bolduc. Passed.