

**SHERMAN TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**MONTHLY MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2016**

- Members Present:** Don Akers, Sharon Black, Bethany Bolduc, David Eggle, Pete Nemish.
- Guests:** 14 people including commissioner Jack Nehmer.
- Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Eggle with prayer by Akers followed by the Pledge.
- Public Comment:** Eggle opened the floor for public comment at 7:05 PM. There was one comment and public comment closed at 7:09 PM.
- Ket Center Access:** Diverted from normal agenda to hear a proposal from Kettunen Center Director Chris Gentry for access across a portion of Township Hall property for logging purposes, see attached document. Motion by Eggle to approve agreement as presented with Kettunen for access across Township Hall property, 2<sup>nd</sup> Akers. Passed.
- Clerk's Report:** The minutes from the regular meeting on September 13, 2016, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as presented Eggle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.
- The minutes from the special meeting on August 16, 2016, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes as presented Akers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Black. Passed.
- Treasurer's Report:** Report for September was presented – Checking account: Beginning balance \$93,547.67, Receipts \$792.86, Disbursements \$10,469.30, Ending balance \$83,871.23. This includes \$173.75 for the Picnic Fund. CD: Beginning balance \$99,316.22, Receipts \$2.78, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$99,319.00. General Fund Total ending balance \$183,190.23.
- Voted Millage Account (Fire and Roads): Beginning balance \$40,005.07, Receipts \$4.75, Disbursements \$0, Ending balance \$40,009.82. Encumbered \$ (blank on report).
- Motion to accept September report as presented, Bolduc, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.
- The Treasurer brought up the issue of long outstanding checks. She and Bolduc will follow up, but a policy may need to be instituted in the future. Nothing but low interest rates to report on the question of getting another CD. Black will bring specific information next month.
- Bills:** Bills were presented and discussed. Motion to pay bills totaling \$1,646.53 from General Fund, Akers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.
- Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as presented, Bolduc, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Passed.
- Co. Commissioners:** Commissioner Nehmer attended and reviewed what items the county is currently

working on – Certificate of appreciation given to Peggy Hoard regarding the Tire Clean up events. Marion Council on Aging building purchase and proposed renovations. Several Commissioners including Nehmer are against the price tag. The lowest bid was \$286,000.00. Commissioners have requested the project particulars be trimmed and re-submitted. Dan Massy has helped home owners in the Evert and Reed City area get a loan (paid back after the sale of the home in the distant future) for home repair.

**Fire Board Report:** Akers presented September Fire Board minutes, see attached.

**Plan Commission:** Nemish reported on the PC. There was recently one building permit for a pole barn. Discussion on the Zoning document and its format and accessibility.

**Parks Comm.:** Akers reported that Blue Rug Juniper is recommended to plant in the fall with top soil. This will take place shortly. Porta Potty reduced to one unit for winter. Iler recommended as we create our budget for next year including a park clean-up line item. Discussed moving the rail ties used for parking designation at Center Lake for the winter and stacking them out of the way of any plowing needs.

**Road Comm.:** Ed Morton – attended Co. meeting. Co. is wrapping up summer projects. It will be December before new blade truck is in. Co. has not found alternate gravel sites and the “Hand” pit in Highland Twp is nearly depleted. Co. recommending that 150<sup>th</sup> section between Jeffery Hill South end up to County Line North end needs to be seal coated in the Spring.

Twp Road Comm. looking at projects during the millage just voted in. 160<sup>th</sup> between 20 and 21 Mile roads, and 21 Mile black top section along with the 150<sup>th</sup> section mentioned above to receive seal coating. Then focus on gravel roads. A ride around to review roads and plan priorities is scheduled for October 18 at 10 AM. Road Comm. also discussed the board’s rejection of the 2<sup>nd</sup> brine application (special meeting August 16, 2016) and wondered if there was some aspect of the presentation or unanswered question which can be resolved in future presentations?

**Correspondence:** 1) Note from Dean Enter looking for caregiver which came with his absentee ballot application. 2) Osceola Co. regarding parks. 3) financials for last FY for Maple Hill Cemetery. 4) checks from Kettunen Center and Center Lake Bible Camp for Milfoil issue. 5) renewal of contract from Restorative Lake Sciences for services for next year. 6) report from Restorative Lake Sciences for 2016 water quality and 2017 recommendations.

**Old Business:**

**Park Projects 2016:** **Grove Hill** – Akers and Nemish reviewed what needs to still be done. More stone and dirt needed. Nemish will contact Joshua Salisbury about this. Once the landscaping is completed the posts will either be reset or replaced to keep people from driving outside the designated area.

**Center Lake** – Original estimate for milfoil treatment for 2016 was \$4,175. Total paid to date \$3,650. Projected cost for 2017 same as this year. Applications of chemicals to eradicate the Milfoil were placed on May 25 and August 30. See document references above in correspondence. Request for Clerk to get agreement from Kettunen Center and Center Lake Bible Camp for payment next year same as this

year.

Tim Liponoga is interested in bringing in a presenter to talk on invasive species (other than Milfoil) affecting northern MI. Tim provided a color handout with details of various species common in our area. Presentation would be possibly 20 min or so during a regular meeting and/or at the picnic next summer.

**Cemetery:** Received further estimate from Aspen Outdoors for the remaining tree removal. Eggle and former Sexton John Langworthy walked the cemetery with Tim Simerson to evaluate all trees which are dead, dying, or diseased. Analysis showed 16 additional trees for \$4,656 additional cost. Board reviewed and following discussion including Nemish request for bids from other sources motion by Black, 2<sup>nd</sup> Akers to move forward with trees removal (total of 22 trees) by Aspen Outdoors. Passed 4 yes, 1 no.

Bolduc presented a resolution 20161011, see attached, for Initiation Reclamation of Cemetery Plots with substitute service. Bolduc has been working with Cynthia Wotilla Atty on this issue as well as Ruth Calkins as a resource of Cemetery/Township History and Genealogy. Motion by Akers to approve this resolution, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nemish. Roll Call vote 5 yes, 0 no. Passed.

**Elections:** Bolduc reported Absentee ballots to date 69 issued / 18 returned. The Public Test for the November election is scheduled for Wednesday, November 2 at 10 AM! Following Board meeting the Election Commission (Bolduc, Eggle, Black) will meet to vote on Election Inspectors.

**New Business:**

**Zoning Ordinance:** Tasha Lapinski will write the letter to the County Planning Comm. regarding the changes to the Zoning Ordinance we voted on in August. That should be done yet this week. Huge THANK YOU to John Iler for giving the Township access to his electronic copy (from the time he was on the PC) of the Zoning Ordinance with updates to reflect the changes we voted on. This has saved the Township many hours of additional work!

**Ket Center Access:** Discussed near beginning, see above.

**FY Budget Review:** Per internal control protocols Bolduc provided the Board with a copy of the current FY budget to date for review. Some areas appear to need funds shifted which summary of suggested shifts will be presented in November.

**Upcoming Dates:** Eggle reviewed on a power point slide upcoming meetings and important dates.

**Announcements:** None.

**Ext. Pub Comment:** Eggle opened the floor for extended public comment at 9:17 PM. There were 2 comments, and public comment closed at 9:19 PM.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Nemish to adjourn at 9:20 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Akers. Passed.