

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
June 8, 2023

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board to order on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 6:35 PM in the Sherman Township office. Other Board members attending were Clerk JT Reno, Treasurer Marilyn Kastelic, Trustee Deneen Connell, and Trustee Sondi Mathews. There were also 2 members of the public attending.

The Clerk made a motion to approve and discuss the agenda, Trustee Mathews seconded. Purchasing a lawn mower, and extra funds being allocated to the Community Hall Roof Project were added to the agenda. All votes to approve the agenda, with the additions, were “ayes.”

There was no public comment at this time.

The minutes from the May 11, 2023 regular meeting were presented. Trustee Connell made a motion to approve the minutes, the Treasurer seconded, and all votes to approve were “ayes.”

A motion was made by the Clerk to approve and discuss expenditures, Trustee Mathews seconded. The power bills did not come in yet. Bills from Patriot disposal, Municipal Emergency Services for thermal imaging cameras, credit card payments to Menards, and a payment to LAB for a down payment on a VFD fan unit in the water plant were added to the expenditures. There was also a bill for a FD physical and a payment for another physical will be preapproved. All votes to approve expenditures with the additions were “ayes.”

There was a long discussion on the new groundwater discharge permitting costs for the drainfield and new sampling requirements. Also, the operational life expectancy of the field is only approximately another 10 years, so a financial plan needs to be created to fund the replacement. The water advisory committee will be contacted to reconvene the members. There was input from a community member that a possible solution would be to let the system fail and require residents to install their own septic systems.

There was an update from the Supervisor about the power failure last month at the water plant and news that the fire pump/hydrants should be back online soon. A fire pump switch installation on the outside of the water plant is being planned as well. The water/sewer system has also started using LAB electric as their primary electricians.

The Fire Dept. was awarded the Michigan Fire Grant for traffic safety vests, helmet flashlights, and personal thermal imaging cameras. The Portage Health Foundation Grant was also awarded for EMS supplies for three new first responders. The FD community breakfast made \$977.

A community hall usage agreement was signed with the Auxiliary for the sale season 5/22-9/15.

\$30,000 in donations were received by the township, \$15,000 for the FD, \$8,000 for the community hall roof project, and the remaining \$7,000 into the General fund.

There was a motion made by the Clerk, seconded by the Supervisor, that the FD employee training cost and mileage be paid from the General fund for required training. All votes to approve were “ayes.”

The Supervisor made a motion to approve creating a grounds and maintenance assistant position at \$12/hr, mowing of the drainfield will be added to the job description. Trustee Mathews seconded and all votes to approve were “ayes.”

A motion to update the FOIA Fee Structure was made by the Supervisor, seconded by the Clerk, with all votes to approve as “ayes.”

Donation funds are being awaited before the slide for the park can be ordered.

The Supervisor made a motion, seconded by the Clerk, to approve appropriation of ARPA funds (\$6,935.86) towards the Community Hall Roof Project. All votes to approve were “ayes.” Another motion to allocate extra funds for the entryway and rolled roofing sections of the Community Hall made by the Supervisor and seconded by the Treasurer. All votes to approve were “ayes.”

There was a motion by the Supervisor, seconded by Trustee Mathews, to purchase a self-propelled walk-behind mower for the township. It should cost approximately \$500. All votes to approve were “ayes.”

A motion to adjourn was made by the Clerk at 8:20 PM, Trustee Mathews seconded.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on July 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM.

