

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
February 8, 2024

Clerk JT Reno called the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board to order on Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6:30 PM in the Sherman Township Hall. Other Board members attending were Treasurer Marilyn Kastelic, Trustee Deneen Connell, and Trustee Sondi Mathews. There were also 11 members of the public in attendance.

The Clerk made a motion to appoint himself as chairperson of the meeting, Trustee Connell seconded, and all votes to approve were “ayes.”

A motion was made by Trustee Connell, seconded by Trustee Mathews, to discuss and approve the agenda. Funding for a virtual FF1/Hazmat ops class for Keweenaw County, discussion of an office assistant position, drainfield mowing and “free” water use customers were added to the agenda. All votes to approve were “ayes.”

There was no public comment at this time.

Trustee Connell made a motion to discuss and approve the minutes from the January 11, 2024 regular meeting, Trustee Mathews seconded, and all votes to approve were “ayes.”

A motion was made by the Clerk to approve and discuss expenditures, Trustee Connell seconded. There were no additions, but the power bills have not arrived, all votes to approve expenditures were “ayes.”

The Draft Budget for FY 2024-2025 was presented by the Clerk. Water and sewer operational expenses have increased from last year and a rate increase of \$15/month for water and \$5/month for sewer would be needed to make the revenue/expenses equal, based on the current draft budget.

There was public comment about the budget, water revenue, and the candidates for the Supervisor position.

The Clerk made a motion, seconded by Trustee Connell, to approve the FD to apply for a \$5000 grant from Copper Shores Foundation for SCBA tank replacement. A local 50/50 match will come from the FD checking account or the FD auxiliary. All votes to approve were “ayes.”

A motion to allow the League of Women Voters to give a presentation after the Board meeting in April was made by the Clerk and seconded by the Treasurer. After a short discussion the Clerk and Treasurer both voted “aye,” Trustees Connell and Mathews both voted “nay.” The motion failed to pass.

The Clerk made a motion to approve spending of \$500 from the FD checking account to contribute to a hybrid FF1/Hazmat ops class sponsored by Keweenaw County. The state, Copper Shores Foundation, Keweenaw Area Community Fund, along with Grant and Sherman Townships are all donating funds. Trustee Mathew seconded and all votes to approve were “ayes.”

There was a discussion about creating an hourly office assistant position for the township to hold office hours for bill payment. Input from residents at the meeting made it clear they did not want the added expense to payroll.

It was confirmed that the mowing of the drainfield was the responsibility of the assistant grounds/maintenance person.

The barn on 5th St. with the free water service was discussed. It was suggested that the barn be charged a water fee like all other users connected to the system. A vote on it will be added to the March agenda.

After a short discussion, Trustee Connell made a motion to appoint John Wilhelm to the position of Township Supervisor. The Treasurer seconded the motion and all votes to approve during a roll call vote were “ayes.”

A motion to adjourn was made by the Clerk at 7:11 PM, Trustee Connell seconded.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on February 8, 2024 at 6:30 PM.

John Wilhelm, Supervisor

JT Reno, Clerk