

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
June 8, 2017

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board to order on Thursday, June 8, 2017 at 6:30 PM. Attending were Supervisor Rob Middlemis-Brown, Treasurer Marilyn Kastelic, Trustee Deneen Connell, Trustee Chuck Bennetts, and Clerk Adeline Schmidt. Others in attendance were Ann Strykowski, Bob Strykowski, Ed Burger, Sherry Middlemis-Brown, Eric Smith, Butch Karvonen, Lynne Karvonen, Clyde Casler, and John Kastelic.

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown asked for public comment. Butch Karvonen said someone was doing a lot of shooting across the river from him, frightening his family quite a bit, and he asked if the Township could do anything about it. Eric Smith suggested that the Township might need ordinances for this and other problems such as blight. Supervisor Middlemis-Brown commented that enforcing local ordinances would be the main problem. It was suggested that fines be issued, possibly placing them on taxes if disregarded. A lengthy discussion followed about ordinances in the County.

The regular meeting minutes on 5/11/17 were presented. Trustee Bennetts made a motion to accept the minutes, Trustee Connell seconded, and all votes were "ayes." The Treasurer's report was presented next. The Clerk made a motion that the Treasurer's report be accepted, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes." The bills were presented next. There was a discussion about the reduced electric rates. Trustee Connell made a motion to accept the bills, Treasurer Kastelic seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

GENERAL FUND

Rob Middlemis-Brown	Supervisor	June salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Marilyn Kastelic	Treasurer	June salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Adeline Schmidt	Clerk	June salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Charles Bennetts	Trustee	Per Diem 50.00-3.00-0.73	046.27
Deneen Connell	Trustee	Per Diem 50.00-3.00-0.73	046.27
Robert Strykowski	Water Plant Operator, Grounds Maintenance, Fire Chief		459.97
JT Reno	Sewer Plant Operator, WPO sub		185.10
Ontonagon Co. REA	Office (38.44), 17 st. lights (112.88), fire hall (47.00)		198.32
A T & T	Office (62.16), Fire hall (31.87)		094.03
Telrite Corp.	Long distance calls		006.55
Mark Erhart	Assessor – June 2017 fee		370.00
Card Member Service	W/F & Aux. refunds-supplies, postage & solar light		153.96
Wards Husqvarna Sales	Repairs & oil change on Township's tractor mower deck		354.80
MI Township Association	2017/18 annual dues and legal defense assessment		186.43
MI Municipal League Liability - Property & liability insurance & MML member fee			6,597.00
MI Municipal League Workers' Comp. - Workers Compensation Fund - 7/17-7/18			361.00
Krans Oil Co., Inc.	27.4 gals. Diesel		055.71

WATER FUND

Ontonagon Co. REA	Electricity – Water plant & Hall– (983 KWH)	154.15
General Fund	WPO salary, empl. contri., pay credit cd. - postage	414.43
White Water Assoc., Inc.	Water samples (INV 152974)	034.00

SEWER FUND

Ontonagon County REA	Electricity – Sewer (1336 KWH)	198.80
General Fund	SPO salary, employer contributions	218.46
Sewer RRI Savings	1/4 of annual to be saved	250.00

RRI SEWER SAVINGS

Tony Burcar Contracting	Labor (3 days), materials, etc., Sewer field repairs	7,904.72
-------------------------	--	----------

CORRESPONDENCE: The Township received a copy of Schoolcraft Township's request for a permit from the DEQ and the Corps of Engineers to remove 4500 cubic yards of sediment (stamp sand) from the mouth of the Traverse River. They did not receive grant money for it this year.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS: Supervisor Middlemis-Brown presented a request to the Auxiliary for funds for Hall repairs. They agreed to pay \$2700 for the swale to be put in and \$1264 for a waterproof coating to be put on the foundation. However, when contacted, Contractor John Hyrkas agreed to do the swale for \$1980. Also, the foundation coating was purchased for \$200 and spray painted on by Supervisor Middlemis-Brown. The contract for

the swale has been signed and sent in with a deposit. The job will be done in August. The leak in the roof of the Community Hall was recently fixed by the contractor --John Hyrkas--at no charge.

The Park was opened May 27th. Weed killer has been applied to the parking area. Also, various places on Township property that needed painting were painted. Supervisor Middlemis-Brown requested that anyone who notices the Park outhouse is getting too full, please call A-1 Toylets directly to let them know.

A violation notice was issued to the person on the Gay Park Road for the small house that was moved in without any permits (building, potable water, sewage disposal, size below minimum required for single family dwelling, moving of a building, etc.) Also issued were a DEQ citation and a notice of violations from the Western Upper Peninsula Health Department. The structure, which actually got put on the neighbor's property, is supposed to be removed by June 23rd. The County is handling it. He is also being told that the area is not zoned for gas stations or small convenience stores.

Recently Supervisor Middlemis-Brown met with a representative of the Township's insurance company (MML) which had changed agents recently. The new agent will visit the next week or so.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Chief Strykowski reported there were no incidents the past month. All the equipment is operational. There will be a training day June 24th at Menco to practice using the extrication equipment. On July 22nd the Sheriff's Department will host a Keweenaw County Safety Day at the Mohawk Park from 10 AM - 2 PM. The Fire Dept. plans to participate in it by showing what equipment the Township has, maybe using the extrication equipment. A DNR grant is being pursued to buy additional wildland gear for some firemen and a new "skid unit" (mini-pump and tank) for the back of the brush truck. A lengthy discussion followed: the Supervisor put in a federal grant for a newer, multi-passenger brush truck which is needed because of the scarcity of repair parts on the old one due to its age; how the pumper and tanker trucks cannot go very far off road because of size and weight thus limiting their use; what gear is available in the State from the DNR, and the costs for new equipment. July 4th plans also were discussed at length.

WATER DEPARTMENT: Water Plant Operator Strykowski reported that the water plant was running okay, except on June 6th when the amount of water used for the day jumped from about 3,000 gallons to about 7,000 gallons for no apparent reason. The lead/copper samples will be finished when a few more residents return. Supervisor Middlemis-Brown then discussed the plans for the new supply well project and gave estimates for the costs. His presentation was followed by a long group discussion. Everything will be presented again at the public meeting of the Water and Sewer Advisory Committee that will be held July 19th at 6 PM and again on August 2nd at 6 PM.

SEWER DEPARTMENT: Sewer Plant Operator JT Reno reportedly is quitting at the end of the month. The job is available. Everything appears to be working okay. This spring the system was renovated so that it could be flushed. The "y's" were installed, much of it dug by hand, and it recently was flushed with compressed air and water.

WATER/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Trustee Bennetts commented that just about everything had been discussed during the Township's meeting. The advisory committee's next meeting will be Wednesday, June 14th--at 6:00 PM in the Township Office. The public is welcome. Minutes of the Committee meetings can be viewed online at the Township's website: <http://keweenawcountyonline.org/township-sherman.php>.

SUMMER TAX BILLS: Supervisor Middlemis-Brown came up with an insert for the summer tax bills. Questions often asked, along with the answers, will be printed on the back side of the tax bills.

JULY 4TH PORTABLE TOILETS: The Township will be providing 2 toilets for the July 4th shindig. They will not be needed for the music fest because there will not be one this year.

NEXT MEETING CHAIRPERSON: Since the Supervisor will not be here next month, he asked for a volunteer to chair the meeting. Trustee Deneen Connell volunteered.

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM. The next regular Township meeting will be on the regular date- July 13, 2017 at 6:30 PM.

Rob Middlemis-Brown, Supervisor

Adeline Schmidt, Clerk