

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
October 12, 2017

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board to order on Thursday, October 12, 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, Clyde Casler, John Kastelic, Eric Smith, Butch Karvonen, Frank Kastelic, Dudley Martin, and Ann Gasperich (Zoning Administrator, Keweenaw County).

The regular meeting minutes from 9/7/17 were presented. Trustee Connell made a motion to accept the minutes with one minor correction-"Roger" to "Rodger", Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes." Next the Treasurer's report was presented. Treasurer Kastelic commented that she had opened the new savings account for the increased water charge and it would appear on the next Treasurer's report. Trustee Bennetts made a motion that the Treasurer's report be accepted, Trustee Connell seconded, and all votes were "ayes." The bills were next presented. Trustee Connell made a motion to accept the bills, Treasurer Kastelic seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

GENERAL FUND

Rob Middlemis-Brown	Supervisor	October salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Marilyn Kastelic	Treasurer	October salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Adeline Schmidt	Clerk	October 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(8/1-8/14), Grounds Maintenance		369.27
Charles Bennetts	Sewer Plant Operator - 8/2017		185.10
Mike Jarvi	Fire Chief - 8/2017		046.27
Ontonagon Co. REA	Office (47.22), 17 st. lights (160.65), fire hall (55.09)		262.96
A T & T	Office (63.53), Fire hall (33.24)		096.77
State of MI-UIA	Unemployment Insurance		039.82
Range Bank	Printing of deposit tickets		040.71
Mark Erhart	Assessor – Oct. 2017 fee		370.00
Water Fund	Hydrant rental - 10/2017		200.00
Card Member Service	W/F, FD, & FD grant refunds-truck parts, postage		443.40
Krans Oil Company, Inc.	24 gal. diesel		050.48
A-1 Toy-lets, LLC	Services on outhouse - 8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30/17		175.00
Keweenaw Petroleum	Prepay - 1314.3 gal. propane @ \$1.47/		1,932.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT

General Fund	Reimbursement for truck title transfer	015.23
Ed Burger	Reimbursement - supplies for 10/7/17 pancake breakfast	194.24
Pomasl Fire Equip., Inc.	Foam concentrate, auto eject connector, adapters	611.83

WATER FUND

Ontonagon Co. REA	Electricity – Water plant & Hall– (1024 KWH)	217.03
General Fund	WPO salary, empl. contri., pay credit cd. - postage	358.22
White Water Assoc., Inc.	Water tests (INV 155335 & 155069)	384.00
RRI Water Savings	1/4 of annual to be saved	687.50
Keweenaw Petroleum	Prepay - 485.7 gal. propane @ \$1.47/	714.00

SEWER FUND

Ontonagon County REA	Electricity – Sewer (1056 KWH)	222.72
General Fund	SPO salary, employer contributions	218.68

CORRESPONDENCE: A request from Ed Burger to the DEQ to allow him to build a retaining wall on the Tobacco River in front of his house was denied even though the river recently has washed away 3 ft. of the bank.

The DEQ did approve a permit for the removal of the stamp sands from the Traverse River area, hauling it across the sand to the Gay Park Road area, and piling it 5 ft. deep over a 30 acre area. It will be done next spring before the tourist season. More information will be coming this winter.

Three building permits were received from the County for the Township.

COUNTY RECREATION PLAN: Ann Gasperich (Keweenaw County Zoning Administrator) presented what has happened on the designing of a new County Recreation Plan. The idea is to have a south end meeting and a north end meeting (between 11/1-11/9/17) where interested participants can give suggestions--similar to the Land Use

Planning meetings that took place last year. A preliminary draft will then be available online at the County site for people to make comments on. Quite a few areas were already discussed and decided on during the Land Use Plan development.

She then presented some new zoning ordinances that have been written concerning the formation of campgrounds and extra living arrangements being built on property after the primary house is built. More information can be obtained at Ann's new email address: codes@keweenawcountyMI.gov.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS: The auditor made a minor correction to the financial statement. A copy is online: www.keweenawcountyonline.org/, then "township officials"-Sherman Township

Trustee Chuck Bennetts was the only volunteer candidate to take over as interim Supervisor in January when Supervisor Middlemis-Brown plans to step down and take over as Fire Chief. Trustee Connell made a motion that Chuck Bennetts be appointed as interim Supervisor starting January 1st, the Clerk seconded. On a rollcall vote, all votes were "ayes." There will be a trustee position available in January.

Brownfield sites were discussed next. In order for the Township to request a grant for a specific property it must be owned by the Township. Currently there are no sites identified as needing aid.

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown presented a plan to remodel the current Fire Hall in 2028: changes that need to be made and why, and the financial plan to come up with the funds by then. A lengthy discussion followed both for and against making any changes, other ways to make the changes needed, and where/how the money will be saved in an account dedicated to the Fire Hall renewal.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Supervisor Middlemis-Brown reported that the \$7000 grant from USDA - RD had been received and used for the new truck. Receipts have been turned in and everything documented. The final step is for someone to come from the USDA to check out the truck. At the FD pancake breakfast October 7th, about 130 people came through and \$1100-\$1200 was made. The government representatives, State Representative Scott Dianda and US Representative Jack Bergman, both showed up and stayed for a while talking to everyone. The next pancake breakfast will be the Saturday before Mothers' Day next May.

WATER DEPARTMENT: Water Plant Operator Bob Strykowski reported that the last batch of water tests for lead and copper were fine; however, he received a letter today from the DEQ insisting that the same tests be run one more time from the same houses. The bottles have been ordered and he will try to get the samples done before anyone leaves town for the winter. Other water tests have come back fine and the system is running satisfactorily.

SEWER DEPARTMENT: Sewer Plant Operator Bennetts reported the sewer system appears to be working okay. The Groundwater discharge permit expires in 2018 and will need to be renewed. Chris at UP Engineers will be taking care of the paperwork for it. SPO Bennetts mentioned that the filters will need to be pulled and cleaned before the snow flies. The Supervisor proposed doing it when he returns soon.

WATER/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The Committee's next meeting will be Wednesday, October 18th-- at 6:00 PM in the Office. Committee meetings minutes can be viewed online at the website: www.keweenawcountyonline.org/, then "township officials"-Sherman Township

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Middlemis-Brown used existing water and sewer ordinances to come up with a definition of "user"--any lot with a habitable or useable building onsite that has access to either system, whether actually connected or not. The Board determined that all "users" will be sent bills for water and/or sewer depending on what systems they have access to. The Board also determined that only the owner can determine if the building is habitable. But, if the owner says the building on the lot is not habitable or useable, they should take it down. After a lengthy discussion Trustee Bennetts made a motion to approve the definition, Trustee Connell seconded and all votes were "ayes."

Keweenaw Petroleum sent a letter about buying prepaid propane. A discussion followed about how much money is in the budget for it, how much prepaid is left from last year, and how much was used in recent years. The Clerk made a motion that the Township buys 1800 gallons of propane this year, Trustee Bennetts seconded the motion, and all votes were "ayes."

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM. The next regular Township meeting will be on November 9, 2017 at 6:30 PM.