

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
November 9, 2017

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board to order on Thursday, November 9, 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, John Kastelic, and Butch Karvonen. The regular meeting minutes from 10/12/17 were presented. Trustee Connell made a motion to accept the minutes, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes." Next the Treasurer's report was presented. Trustee Bennetts made a motion that the Treasurer's report be accepted, Trustee Connell seconded, and all votes were "ayes." The bills were presented next. None of the electric bills and one phone bill had not yet come. Trustee Connell made a motion to accept the bills, with pre-approval for the utility bills when they come, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

GENERAL FUND

Rob Middlemis-Brown	Supervisor	November salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Marilyn Kastelic	Treasurer	November salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Adeline Schmidt	Clerk	November 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(10/1-10/31), Grounds Maintenance			413.70
Charles Bennetts	Sewer Plant Operator - 10/2017			185.10
Mike Jarvi	Fire Chief - 10/2017			046.27
Ontonagon Co. REA	Office (47.69), 17 st. lights (171.02), fire hall (74.09)			292.80
A T & T	Fire hall (43.45)			043.45
Mark Erhart	Assessor – Nov. 2017 fee			370.00
Water Fund	Hydrant rental - 11/2017			200.00
Card Member Service	W/F & FD refunds-truck parts, postage, supplies			426.40
A-1 Toy-lets, LLC	Services on outhouse - 9/7, 9/20, 10/4, 10/18/17			140.00
Quality How-to Hardware	Supplies - grease, hasp, WD-40, rubber gloves			051.94

FIRE DEPARTMENT

General Fund	Reimbursement - new fire truck parts/supplies	285.89
Mark Truck Service	Service call on brakes, repairs on valve & shift cylinder	740.78

WATER FUND

Ontonagon Co. REA	Electricity – Water plant & Hall– (998 KWH)	221.99
General Fund	WPO salary, empl. contri.,credit cd. - postage & supplies	425.90
White Water Assoc., Inc.	Water tests (INV 155732)	034.00
State of Michigan	Annual permit for water usage	403.61

WATER AMORTIZATION

USDA - Rural Development	Loans 91-09 & 91-11 Interest(3,175) principal(2,200)	5,375.00
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SEWER FUND

Ontonagon County REA	Electricity – Sewer (1175 KWH)	255.18
General Fund	SPO salary, employer contributions	218.68

CORRESPONDENCE: A distribution box from the old sewer system in front of the first house on Main St. has become a dangerous situation. The road commission hit it with a snow plow, breaking the concrete and dislodging the cover. They said they will check it out next spring and probably fill it in so that no small children or animals can fall into it.

The road commission said the secondary streets in Gay may be resurfaced next year. It will depend on their budget. They also warned that the guard rail along a section of the Gay-Lac La Belle Road north of Big Betsy is just hanging due to lake erosion and that the road may soon be washed out in that area.

The full press release about the stamp sands situation is available on the web site. There is also a link on the web site for the Keweenaw County Recreational Plan survey. The Township's website is

www.keweenawcountyonline.org/, then "township officials"-Sherman Township

2028 FIRE STATION MODIFICATION: Supervisor Middlemis-Brown explained more about the proposed changes to the Fire Hall and how the fund would work. The fund would be similar to the Community Hall Fund, under the oversight, approval and project management of the Sherman Township Board with input from the Auxiliary. Funds would come from the Township, the Auxiliary, grants, and other donations. When the modifications are made, if all the funds collected are not needed, they will be

returned to the original source. The groups supporting the fund may withdraw from the agreement at any time. Some of the modifications that will be needed will be determined by the height and length of newer trucks obtained in the future.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Supervisor Middlemis-Brown reported that there were 4 callouts on October 24th due to the wind--two were tree fires, one was a fallen power line on a vehicle on 5th Street. The pumper repairs are done and the tanker brakes were fixed. Saturday will be a training day: use of the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, change all the batteries in the SCBA's, and training on the new truck.

WATER DEPARTMENT: Water Plant Operator Bob Strykowski reported that the plant is running as it should--no problems. The DEQ visited recently and did not voice any complaints. He asked them how often the expensive copper/lead tests have to be done. When two consecutive sets of tests show good results, the tests can be stopped for a while. One set sent in a while back was good and a second set was sent in recently. The results have not been received yet. He winterized the fire hydrants and turned off the water to the Park. He also expressed appreciation to people who plan to be gone for several months in the winter calling and asking him to turn off their water because it saves time if he has to look for a water leak later.

SEWER DEPARTMENT: Sewer Plant Operator Bennetts said the sewer system is working okay. Recently he and Supervisor Middlemis-Brown were going to check the filters, but he found a recommendation online that the filters only be pulled for inspection when the tanks have been pumped. Otherwise, floating solids might run out into the leach bed, plugging it. They did check the tank solids--less than 12", and readjusted the digestion tank vent pipe after the recent wind storm. They found some low areas on the perimeter where the drainage is not good--an issue that will have to be addressed in 2018. The smell was negligible while they were there. The Groundwater Discharge Permit will be renewed April 2018 by Chris at UP Engineers.

WATER/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Trustee Bennetts said the Committee is looking for a written maintenance program or recommendations for the sewer system which was referred to at a recent meeting. He also commented that there may be plans to put bathroom facilities in the Schoolhouse Museum. A discussion followed about the terms that were agreed to when the sale took place. The Committee also wants to have a map of the main water valves in town in case something needs to be turned off in an emergency. The Committee's next meeting will be Wednesday, November 15th--at 6:00 PM in the Office. Committee meetings minutes can be viewed online at the website.

NEW BUSINESS: There will be a trustee position available in January when Trustee Bennetts becomes supervisor. Some people have volunteered in a way, but not definitely--most from the Board of Review members. If one of them becomes trustee, they will have to be replaced on the BOR. Since no one definitely said "I want the job", the decision was tabled until the December meeting. The next Board of Review meeting will be December 12, 2017 at 3:30 PM.

With the arrival of the new fire truck, space has become limited in the Fire Hall and the Township's tractor now has to be stored in the old fire station. The doors of the old fire hall were modified in order to be opened from the outside. Hopefully the tractor will still start easily.

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM. The next regular Township meeting will be on December 14, 2017 at 6:30 PM.

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Rob Middlemis-Brown, Supervisor

Adeline Schmidt, Clerk