

REGULAR MEETING  
Sherman Township Board  
December 14, 2017

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board to order on Thursday, December 14, 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, Sherry Middlemis-Brown, John Kastelic, Butch Karvonen, Lynn Gerhardt, Clyde Casler, Bev Spehar, Rodger Dukart, Linda Griffin, Dudley Martin, and Frank Kastelic.

The regular meeting minutes from 11/9/17 were presented. One correction was made--the team working on the sewer recently included Bob Strykowski. 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. The phone bill for the office for last month and this month was paid on the credit card. Paper copies were not received; and, when called, the phone company suggested paying it by credit card. Some bills were to be paid out of the Fire Dept. Millage savings account. To pay those bills with checks the money had to be transferred to the General Fund account. Trustee Connell made a motion to pay the bills, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

GENERAL FUND

Rob Middlemis-Brown	Supervisor	December salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Marilyn Kastelic	Treasurer	December salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Adeline Schmidt	Clerk	December 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	(11/1-11/16), Grounds Maintenance	273.02
Charles Bennetts	Sewer Plant Operator	- 11/8-11/30/17	138.82
Mike Jarvi	Fire Chief	- 10/2017	046.27
JT Reno	WPO (11/17-11/30), SPO (11/1-11/7)		175.84
Ontonagon Co. REA	Office (52.54), 17 st. lights (160.65), fire hall (77.12)		290.31
A T & T	Fire hall (43.45)		043.45
Erhart Assessing, LLC	Assessor – Dec. 2017 fee		370.00
Water Fund	Hydrant rental - 12/2017		200.00
Card Member Service	W/F & FD refunds-truck parts, postage, supplies		636.32
Krans Oil Co., Inc.	diesel 52.5 gal., LF gas 24 gal.		179.72
Mark Erhart, Assessor	Reimbursement- July & Dec. tax bills, paper & postage		258.89
JT Reno	Board of Review - 1 hr.		010.00
Frederick Jarvi	Board of Review - 1 hr.		010.00
Sheryl Middlemis-Brown	Board of Review - 1 hr.		010.00
Mark Truck Service	Repairs on engine & air lines on new tanker truck		361.33
Pomasl Fire Equipment, Inc.	Repairs to SCBA		174.50

FIRE DEPARTMENT

General Fund	Cr.Cd. refund - batteries for SCBAs, motor oil &supplies	056.00
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FIRE DEPT. MILLAGE

General Fund	Pay cr. cd., Pomasl Fire Eq. & Mark Truck	629.61
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WATER FUND

Ontonagon Co. REA	Electricity – Water plant & Hall– (667 KWH)	153.52
General Fund	WPO salary, empl. contri.,credit cd. - postage & supplies	537.71
White Water Assoc., Inc.	Water tests (Invs 156210 & 156435)	159.00
JT Reno	Mileage to Marquette & back, WPO test	076.88

SEWER FUND

Ontonagon County REA	Electricity – Sewer (1399 KWH)	283.75
General Fund	SPO salary, employer contributions	218.68
Sewer RRI Savings	1/4 of annual to be saved	250.00

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters had been received from the Lake Linden-Hubbell School District and the Copper Country ISD requesting that the Township collect the school millages for them. The Clerk made a motion that the Township Treasurer collects the millage taxes for Lake Linden-Hubbell Schools, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes." Supervisor Middlemis-Brown made a motion that the Township continues to collect the millage taxes for the Copper Country ISD, the Clerk seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

SUPERVISOR AND FIRE CHIEF POSITIONS: In the past the Supervisor and the Fire Chief by law could not be the same person because of possible conflict of interest. But a recent change in the laws for townships of less than 40,000 now does not prohibit them from being the same person. Therefore, Supervisor Middlemis-Brown withdrew his resignation from the supervisor position and plans to fill out the term. He then requested that a position be established as Deputy Supervisor or

Supervisor Intern. After some discussion Supervisor Middlemis-Brown made a motion that the position be established, the Clerk seconded, and all votes were "ayes." It was mentioned that any Board officer not planning to run again should have a deputy or someone in training who is interested in the position.

COE/DEQ PUBLIC MEETING ON STAMP SANDS: The recently scheduled meeting was cancelled due to blizzard like weather. It will be rescheduled in January. Some of the information that was going to be covered is available at the Township's website:

[www.keweenawcountyonline.org/](http://www.keweenawcountyonline.org/), then "township officials"-Sherman Township

BOARD OF REVIEW: The Board of Review met for an hour on Tuesday and corrected 3 errors. There may be some refunds.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: On the advice of the MI Township Association, Supervisor Middlemis-Brown made a motion that the Board approves any member of the Board being allowed to also hold the position of Fire Chief. Trustee Connell seconded the motion and all votes were "ayes." Fire Chief Middlemis-Brown cautioned people to check their extinguishers. There has been a recall on Kidde brand that has a push button on the top and a curved plastic handle. More information is available online about the recall. In the last month the Fire Dept. obtained another tanker from the DNR at no cost except for being put into service. He explained what steps need to be done to it to put it into service: repainting, lights, sirens, striping, and shelter. He also explained how it will save the Township money by extending the life of the current tanker by about 6 years. Many questions came up from people in attendance and were answered.

WATER DEPARTMENT: Water Plant Operator Bob Strykowski reported that the plant is running fine with no problems. However, the results came back from the second set of copper/lead tests. All of the houses except one had very good results. The one exception has no lead pipes or fixtures, yet had a very high lead reading--20 times higher than the other houses. Previous readings from the same house were okay. The lab redid the test with similar results. A request for bids on a new well will go out in January or February.

SEWER DEPARTMENT: Sewer Plant Operator Bennetts said the sewer system is working okay. The Groundwater Discharge Permit will be renewed April 2018 by Chris at UP Engineers.

WATER/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Because of the holidays there will not be a meeting in December. The Committee's next meeting will be the third Wednesday of January at 6:00 PM in the Office. Everyone is welcome. Committee meetings minutes can be viewed online at the website.

NEW BUSINESS: The Board received a request to use the Hall January 27th for a birthday party for a Township resident. A lengthy discussion followed about how to go about it--should there be a charge or a deposit, will they need to use the snow-covered ramp, does the insurance cover it, will they use the utensils. Many suggestions were made. In the end it was decided to charge a refundable deposit of \$200; allow use of the refrigerator, stove, and coffee pots; and they clean up the place, removing their own trash, and shoveling off the ramp for an emergency exit. A written contract will be written up.

ONLINE INFORMATION: Trustee Bennetts asked if the Township tax information could be put online as some communities do. He also questioned the correctness of the property numbering system in town and asked why there has to be two tax statements each year, mentioning that it is a double expense. Treasurer Kastelic then mentioned the assessor had informed her there will be a hardware compatibility problem within the year and he recommended a hardware update.

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL 124 REROUTED: Because of obstacles and water on the sands, the groomers asked to move Trail 124 to Park Road, then Lake St., and not go out on the sands. To continue on the trail it would go behind the Township buildings. Trustee Bennetts said Trail 124 is supposed to be closed due to logging. Many attendees objected, saying snow mobile drivers will not follow the route, instead will noisily go all over town at all hours of the night.

BOARD TABLE AND CHAIRS: Supervisor Middlemis-Brown had changed the table setup to facilitate discussion. He also suggested getting task chairs with rollers and had found some at a reasonable price. His motion to buy new chairs was seconded by Trustee Bennetts, and all votes were "ayes."

2018 BOARD MEETING DATES: After a brief discussion Supervisor Middlemis-Brown made a motion that the meetings continue to be on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM. The next regular Township meeting will be on January 11, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

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Rob Middlemis-Brown, Supervisor

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Adeline Schmidt, Clerk