

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
December 13, 2018

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board on Thursday, December 13, 2018 to order at 6:30 PM. Other Board members attending were Treasurer Marilyn Kastelic, Trustee Deneen Connell, Trustee Chuck Bennetts, and Clerk Adeline Schmidt. Others in attendance were Kelly Jarvi, Sherry Middlemis-Brown, Bob Pieti, Paula Jacobs, Jay Piquette, and Butch Karvonen as well as Jeff Foss--race official for the Copperdog 150, which will be held March 1-3, 2019. The Supervisor invited him to speak and he told of the plans for the Copperdog 25, which will end in Gay. It will be a race for 6-dog teams for the younger and less experienced racers. The route through town was discussed and the need for parking, for an area with warm water and lights--possibly the Fire Hall--for vets to check out the dogs at the end of the race, and for hot drinks and snacks for the racers (maybe more if the community provides). The need for community volunteers was discussed since the Fire Department members will be covering crossings for the main race. Plans are for the racers to get to Gay about 10-11 PM, Friday, March 1st. Probably the Hall will be opened for use of the restrooms and the food.

The regular meeting minutes from 11/8/18 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. Funds from the General Fund were put into a CD at Superior National Bank as well as a substantial CFR amount to the Fire Department Millage. Trustee Connell made a motion that the Treasurer's report be accepted, seconded by the Clerk, and all votes were "ayes." The monthly budget review was done next and a couple of entries discussed. Next were the bills. There was some discussion about paying the Bay Electric bill from the Sewer RRI rather than the Sewer checking. All Board members agreed it should come from the Sewer RRI. Trustee Bennetts made a motion to pay the bills, Trustee Connell seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

GENERAL FUND

Rob Middlemis-Brown 347.06	Supervisor	December salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	
Marilyn Kastelic 347.06	Treasurer	December salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	
Adeline Schmidt 347.06	Clerk	December salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	
Charles Bennetts 046.27	Trustee	Per Diem	50.00-3.00-0.73	
Deneen Connell 046.27	Trustee	Per Diem	50.00-3.00-0.73	
JT Reno	Water Plant Operator (30 days)			333.18
Charles Bennetts	Township maintenance			138.82
Rob Middlemis-Brown	Fire Chief - 12/2018			046.27
Robert Pieti	Sewer Plant Operator			194.35
Ontonagon Co. REA	Office (62.95), 17 st. lights (152.79), fire hall (71.22)			286.96
A T & T	Fire hall (54.23) Office (64.26)			118.51
Cardmember Service	Refund from FD, hydrant paint			614.25
Water Fund	Hydrant rental -12/2018			200.00
Erhart Assessing	Assessor fee - 12/2018			370.00
Governmental Business Systems	Cards programmed for 2018 November election			320.00
Keweenaw County	Township's share of election ad for 11/2018		226.00	
Krans Oil Company, Inc.	2.7 gal. of e10, 4.4 gal dyed		017.10	
Frederick Jarvi	Board of Review - 1 hr., 12/2018		010.00	
Sheryl Middlemis-Brown	Board of Review - 1 hr., 12/2018		010.00	

FIRE DEPARTMENT

General Fund	Pay cr. card- Reflective tape, lettering, decals, and replacement seatbelts for trucks			546.80
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WATER FUND

Ontonagon Co. REA 174.33	Electricity – Water plant & Hall– (784 KWH)			
General Fund 393.59	WPO salary, employer contributions			
White Water Assoc., Inc. 034.00	Water tests - E. coli (11/6 & 11/5/18)			
2018 Water Supply Savings 189.00	\$9/month water rate increase (11/27 & 12/14/18 deposits)			
RRI Water Savings 126.00	\$6/month water rate increase (11/27 & 12/14/18 deposits)			
JT Reno	Postage on 5 samples 10/18 & 11/18		019.45	
Keranen & Eskola Well Drilling, Inc.	Inspect well #1 & chlorinate		140.00	

UP Engineers & Architects, Inc.

INV 1900181 - professional services thru 11/3/18

1,238.50

SEWER FUND

Ontonagon County REA

Electricity – Sewer (1539 KWH)

308.65

General Fund

SPO salary, employer contributions 229.60

Bay Electric

Troubleshoot pump#1 and change impellers 10/18/18 1,509.25

Jim's Septic Tank Cleaning Service

Pumping and treatment plant disposal fee (2400 gal.@ .06/gal) 504.00

Sewer RRI Savings

1/4 of annual to be saved 250.00

CORRESPONDENCE: The Township received a letter saying the Uniform Chart of Accounts does not yet have to be implemented, but will probably have to be done by January 1, 2020.

At the Keweenaw County Road Commission meeting there was a discussion about the planned road closures on the Gay-Lac La Belle Road this summer to repair the washout. Wetland acreage was purchased to swap for the wetland that will be used to move the road inland.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS: The Supervisor handed out packets explaining how the federal flood insurance program works and asked the Board to review them for the next meeting. There are some ordinances that need to be passed

BOARD OF REVIEW: The December meeting of the Board of Review was held earlier in the week and ends the 2018 BOR. The current members (JT Reno, Mick Jarvi, and Sherry Middlemis-Brown) all volunteered to be on the next one and Kelly Jarvi volunteered to be an alternate. Training will be February 5, 2019 at Franklin Square Inn. The Clerk made a motion that those 4 people be approved to be on the BOR for 2019, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

SPRING CLEANUP: Plans are being made to have a Spring Cleanup maybe in May for large household stuff and roadside trash. More on it later.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The Supervisor presented a revised payment plan for the Fire Department trucks after the substantial amount that was received last month from a CFR penalty payment. A motion to approve the revised Fire Department plan for the Vehicle Replacement and Operating Expenses accounts was made by Trustee Connell, seconded by Trustee Bennetts, and all votes were "ayes." March is the earliest anything will be heard about the Micro Grant application for \$49,000 that was submitted in October to FEMA. Changes were made to update the vehicles to meet 2016 certification requirements: shoulder (3-point) seatbelts, rear chevron stripes, and numerous safety decals. This extends the useful life of the trucks. At the last FD meeting officers were chosen: Rob Middlemis-Brown as Fire Chief, Mike Jarvi as Assistant Chief, Ed Burger as Fund Raising Chairman and Training Officer, and Bob Pieti as Equipment Officer. Since the Board has to approve the Fire Chief selection, a motion was made by the Clerk to approve Rob Middlemis-Brown as Fire chief, seconded by Trustee Connell, and all votes were "ayes" with one abstention.

Since medical aid from an ambulance is at least 35-45 minutes away, Sherman Township would like to start up a Medical First Responder Unit. Any community member can do it. Currently the average age of Keweenaw County responders is 65. Being in top physical condition is not a requirement. Any heavy lifting will be done by Fire Department people who will most likely be called out at the same time. The 60-hour training program will be offered in the winter/spring of 2019 and will be over 4 weekends. 5-6 volunteers will be needed to make sure there is coverage in the community all the time. The main duty is to stabilize the person's medical condition until the ambulance does get there. While it will be separate from the Fire Department with its own vehicle, members of the FD can be on the First Responder Unit. When talking to the people at Mercy Ambulances they donated one of their older ambulances to get the First Responder Unit started. Many questions came up about where it would be parked, who would do the maintenance, how would the Unit be funded, and others.

WATER DEPARTMENT: Trustee Bennetts reported from the Water/Sewer Advisory committee that the contamination in well #1 has been taken care of, JT said there are no issues with the water system, the DEQ auditor did an onsite inspection and everything was fine. The DEQ did recommend getting a backup generator, but the Township can't afford it at this time.

The Supervisor then explained the proposed loan for the well project. Only two banks offered to lend the Township the money needed. To borrow \$82,000 will cost an additional \$20,000 over the 10-year period. However, the collateral is the entire township. Many questions came up about having private wells, amounts of water that can be used with no meters, how long the Water Ordinance will be in effect, why the Township had to get a different well, etc. To pay for the increased expense of the loan, it was decided the water rate needed to increase \$7/month or \$84/year. After a lengthy discussion Trustee Bennetts made a motion to increase the water rate an additional \$7/month starting 1/1/19 and ending when the loan is paid off in 10 years. Trustee Connell seconded the motion and, on a roll call vote, all votes were "ayes."

There is a need for a backup water plant operator so the current operator can take a vacation if he wants to. The DEQ requirement is that it be a licensed person. Anyone interested should contact the Supervisor.

SEWER DEPARTMENT: Bob Pieti reported the system is working well and no wipes have appeared. He checks it every two days or so. Possibly the new impeller blades are getting rid of the wipes. The repair of the flow meter for discharge to the drain field will be delayed until 2019.

WATER/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The Committee's next meeting will be Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM. All residents are welcome at the meetings, which are held the 3rd Wednesday each month at 6:00 PM. Committee meeting minutes are on the website: www.keweenawcountyonline.org/, "township officials"-Sherman Township

NEW BUSINESS: The Township is sponsoring a holiday party at 3PM on Saturday in the Hall. Everyone is invited--kids and adults. Donations of gifts for the kids and refreshments were sought and obtained. Craft activities and Santa are anticipated. A

discussion followed about other ways to use the Hall over the winter. One was to have a movie night, maybe even the evening of the sled dog race before the racers get here. The Supervisor made a motion that the Township sponsor the party by providing the Hall, Trustee Connell seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown made a motion that the Township collect the property taxes for the Lake Linden School District, seconded by Trustee Connell, and all votes were "ayes."

He then made a motion that the Township collect the taxes for the Copper Country Intermediate School District, seconded by Trustee Connell, and all votes were "ayes."

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM. The next regular Township meeting will be on Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 6:30 PM.