

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
April 11, 2019

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called to order the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board on Thursday, April 11, 2019 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 Sherry Middlemis-Brown, John Kastelic, Chris Korhonen, Butch Karvonen, Paula Jacobs, and Ed Burger. No additions were added to the agenda. When public comment was asked for, no comments were made.

The regular meeting minutes from 3/14/19 were presented. One correction was made to the amount of money donated by the Auxiliary. \$425 was actually donated by them. Trustee Connell made a motion to accept the minutes, Treasurer Kastelic seconded, and all votes were "ayes." The minutes for the 3/14/19 Truth in Taxation meeting were presented. Trustee Connell made a motion to accept the minutes, Treasurer Kastelic seconded, and all votes were "ayes." Next the Treasurer's report was presented. Treasurer Kastelic reported the interest earned on the CD was \$139 and was posted the end of February. The next posting will be the end of May. The Clerk made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes." The bills were discussed next. Trustee Connell made a motion to pay the bills, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes."

GENERAL FUND

Rob Middlemis-Brown	Supervisor	April salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	
			347.06
Marilyn Kastelic	Treasurer	April salary 375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Adeline Schmidt	Clerk	April 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
JT Reno	Water Plant Operator (31 days)		344.29
Charles Bennetts	Township maintenance		143.45
Rob Middlemis-Brown	Fire Chief - 4/2019		046.27
Robert Pieti	Sewer Plant Operator		200.83
Ontonagon Co. REA	Office (65.90), 17 st. lights (152.79), fire hall (77.90)		296.59
A T & T	Fire hall (56.59) Office (66.64)		123.23
Cardmember Service	Refunds from CHF & S/F, postage, supplies, tractor repairs		
			1,703.96
Water Fund	Hydrant rental -4/2019		200.00
Erhart Assessing	Assessor fee - 4/2019		380.00
Mark Erhart	Postage, personal property notices, & real property notices		150.71
Sheryl Middlemis-Brown	Board of Review - 1 hr.		010.00
Frederick Jarvi	Board of Review - 1 hr.		010.00
JT Reno	Board of Review - 1 hr.		010.00
MI Municipal League Workers' Comp. Fund	Workers' Comp. Fund (G/F-277.68, W/F-287.04,S/F 59.28)		624.00
State of Michigan	Unemployment insurance		018.63
Water Fund	Funds transfer-delinquent taxes payment from County		817.60

COMMUNITY HALL FUND

General Fund	Pay cr. card - floor coating materials and supplies		1,159.49
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SHERMAN TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPT.

General Fund	Pay cr. card - Antenna & cable		205.41
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WATER FUND

Ontonagon Co. REA	Electricity – Water plant & Hall– (765 KWH)		170.95
General Fund	WPO salary, employer contributions, Workers' Comp.		689.80
White Water Assoc., Inc.	Water tests - E. coli (3/21/19)		034.00
JT Reno	Postage water samples 3/21, phosphate tester, conference 5/14		407.72
RRI Water Savings	\$6/mo. water increase on 4/12/19 deposit, 1/4 of annual to be saved		1,251.50
2018 Water Supply Well Savings	\$9/mo. & \$16/mo. water rate increase on 4/12/19 deposit		1,444.00

2018 WELL CONSTRUCTION FUND

Keranen Well Services, Inc.	Payment #2 on well drilling		7,299.61
Water Checking Account	Reimbursement for checks # 2270, 2271, 2294, & 2324		6,356.26

SEWER FUND

Ontonagon County REA	Electricity – Sewer (1767 KWH)		349.22
General Fund	SPO salary, employer contributions, Workers' Comp., repair parts		473.20

PREVIOUS BUSINESS: The Supervisor asked for a volunteer to attend the April 17th meeting of the County on the federal flood insurance program because he could not attend. Trustee Bennetts volunteered.

The property transfer of part of the drain field to the Township was discussed. The owners' request for a formal easement for access across township property to a parcel they own in exchange for the 1/4 acre that the drain field is on was clarified by the MTA. Currently people can access the township's property--walking without specific permission. However, a formal easement or mechanical easement would mean trucks could drive across township property and it would be a permanent easement. Also, it becomes a non-public land and the Township would be taxed. After more discussion the Supervisor made a motion to deny any formal easement, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes." Public access is still available.

The 2019 Spring Cleanup was discussed. A dumpster would cost \$350 and nothing could be put in it that should not be put in a regular bag of trash. Large items like appliances can be picked up by special request to the trash service hauler. Bagged road side trash can be dropped off at the Township Office. In the end the Board decided not to get a dumpster.

The four bids for Phase II of the revised plan for the Fire Department expansion were discussed next. The range was from \$21,090 to \$26,322. Funding for the expansion will come from the CRRP (Capital Renovation & Replacement Plan) Fund and the pad in front from the PA48 funds. The bathroom will be paid for from the donation the Auxiliary is holding for the Fire Department. The motion to accept the bid from Reed Construction using the proposed funding was made by Trustee Connell, seconded by Trustee Bennetts. On a roll call vote all votes were "ayes."

The floor in the Hall will be recoated Friday, April 26th and May 2nd and 3rd. It should be cured by the date set for the pancake breakfast. The coating material is already there, bought out of the Community Hall fund.

The Board of Review met March 20th to finish up their business. One piece needs to be done at the July meeting.
FIRE DEPARTMENT: There has been a problem getting radio and phone signals inside the Fire Hall which is a double layered metal building, especially since the 800 radios were put into use. It's called the Faraday cage effect. A special antenna (passive system) was installed but did not work. A better system would cost a lot more (about \$2000). The 911 Committee has been approached for funding. There were no call-outs the previous month.

The pancake breakfast will be the Saturday before Mothers' Day, 5/11/19, from 8:30 until noon. Shorewaves has offered to sponsor the breakfast, donating \$100 initially, demonstrating their system at the breakfast, and donating an additional \$50 for anyone who signs up at the breakfast or just after. Their service is available by line of sight and may not be available to everyone.

NEW WELL: The drilling on the new well is done - 165 feet with a volume of 12 gallons/minute. Initially the older wells produced about 20 gallons/minute. After the water quality test was done the DEQ said the "radionucleatides" combined with the "gross alpha numbers" were too high. Different ways to make the water useable are to treat it (expensive), fill the well in partially and test at less depth (volume may be lost), or a blending option (diluting it with water from the other wells which would require frequent, expensive testing). A lengthy discussion followed about which option to choose and how to find out the various costs.

WATER DEPARTMENT: The report from JT Reno is that the water system is running fine. He is sending water sample reports to Andy at DEQ to figure out water softening.

SEWER DEPARTMENT: Since Bob Pieti was ill, the Supervisor reported that a circuit board and a battery were replaced, and the lift station warning light is now back on. The flow meter will be repaired this summer.

WATER/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The Committee's next meeting will be Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 6:00 PM. All residents are welcome at the meetings. Since there is not a lot happening the meetings will now be held the 3rd Wednesday every other month at 6:00 PM. An operation manual for the Water department is being set up by Eric and Jackie Smith. They started one with Bob Strykowski before he left, taking pictures and making notes of what the tasks were. It will help when there is a transition of people working there. Trustee Bennetts plans to work with Bob Pieti to do one for the Sewer system--checking filters, agitating them, and reading meters.

Committee meeting minutes are on the website:

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

COMMUNITY HALL KITCHEN LICENSE: The Community Hall kitchen has to be approved every year by the Health Department and licensed annually. In the past the Auxiliary was the only organization using it and they had paid for the license. But now the Fire Department and the Township use it for various things--pancake breakfasts, Copperdog 150.

After a discussion, it was decided that the Township should pay for it. A motion for the Township to pay the \$345 for the license of the Community Hall Fund was made by Trustee Connell, seconded by the Clerk, and all votes were "ayes."

ASSESSOR CONTRACT: A new contract was received from the assessor. Treasurer Kastelic made a motion to approve the contract for 5/1/19 through 4/30/22, seconded by Trustee Connell, and all votes were "ayes."

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM. The next regular Township meeting will be on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 6:30 PM.