

REGULAR MEETING
Sherman Township Board
October 8, 2020

Supervisor Middlemis-Brown called the regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board to order on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the Community Hall. Other Board members attending were Treasurer Marilyn Kastelic, Trustee Chuck Bennetts, and Clerk Adeline Schmidt. Trustee Deneen Connell was absent. Also attending were Kelly Jarvi, Nancy Sanderson, Bob Pieti, and JT Reno. The supervisor asked for additions to the agenda. A discussion followed about a man thinking of buying a local property and wanting to connect to the water system. The property is not in the assessment area, but next to it. He would have to pay that. The USDA will have to be contacted to see if the water district can be expanded. There were no public comments.

The minutes from the September 10, 2020 regular meeting were presented. Treasurer Kastelic found one error where a bill was actually paid for out of the Fire Dept. fund rather than the General Fund. Treasurer Kastelic made a motion to approve the minutes, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes." The Treasurer's report from September was presented next. A discussion about deposits followed and included a discussion about the budget review. Several bills already paid appeared to be in the wrong category and needed to be recoded. The Clerk made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Trustee Bennetts seconded, and all votes were "ayes." The bills were discussed next. There was a 2-month bill for electricity for the sewer because a check was missed by the power company. A discussion followed about paying the power company online. A motion to pay the bills was made by Trustee Bennetts, Treasurer Kastelic seconded, and all votes were "ayes." There was no correspondence.

GENERAL FUND

Rob Middlemis-Brown	Supervisor	Oct salary	375.00-22.50-5.44	347.06
Marilyn Kastelic	Treasurer	Oct salary	500.00-30.00-7.25	462.75
Adeline Schmidt	Clerk	Oct salary	500.00-30.00-7.25	462.75
Charles Bennetts	Trustee	Per Diem	50.00-3.00-0.73	046.27
JT Reno	Water Plant Operator(9/2020 - 30 days)			444.24
Rob Middlemis-Brown	Fire Chief - (9/2020)			046.27
Robert Pieti	Sewer Plant, Twp. maintenance(9/2020)			479.40
JT Reno	Assistant Clerk(9/2020)			183.25
Ontonagon Co. REA	Office(43.68),17 St lights(152.79), Fire Hall(104.85)			301.32
Erhart Assessing, LLC	Assessor fee - 9/2020			400.00
Cardmember Service	Stamps, MTA books, parts for 2000 & 2009 trucks			2,670.47
A T & T	Office& fire hall phones			154.42
Telrite Corporation	Phone - long distance			006.72
State of MI	Unemployment insurance			009.00
Water Fund	Hydrant rental (10/2020)			200.00
Fire Safety USA	Kussmaul pump & Provenger nozzle			1,570.00
Pomasl Fire Equipment	pump test, flexlites, butterfly valve			2,822.64
Gleaners Life Insurance Co.	11/19-10/20 Board/employee retirement contributions			3,739.08
Municipal Retirement Sys.	Annual bookkeeping fee for Gleaners acct.			260.00
Keweenaw County	Township's share of election ads published by County			155.45

FIRE DEPARTMENT

General Fund - Sherman Twp.	Credit card reimbursements	772.01
Pomasl Fire Equipment, Inc.	Water display & mount for 2000 pumper	632.00
Brindle Mountain Fire Appar.	Broker fee for sale of 1993 GMC pumper	1,650.00

SHERMAN TWP. FD MILLAGE

General Fund - Sherman Twp. Credit Cd., Pomasl, & Fire Safety reimbursements	4,377.33
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WATER FUND

General Fund	Water plant operator salary	517.15
White Water Assoc.	INV 171364	051.00

JT Reno	Reagents for tests	037.10
Ontonagon County REA	Water plant & hall electricity - 1332 kWh	271.83
State of MI - EGLE	INV 761-10518199	018.00

SEWER FUND

Ontonagon County REA	Electricity – Aug. Sewer (937kWh)(check lost in Sept.)	201.55
Ontonagon County REA	Electricity - Sept. Sewer (1305 kWh)	267.02
General Fund	Sewer plant operator salary 9/2020	323.22

PREVIOUS BUSINESS: The anonymous \$10,000.00 donation was discussed. The Supervisor discussed applying for a DNR Passport Grant for development of recreation areas and equipment for the Township Park and using the donation for the Township's match. Nancy mentioned there used to be a tennis court behind the office. Several other ideas were discussed for recreation improvements and increases. Trustee Bennetts asked: would this improvement be to make Gay a destination or would it be mostly for Township residents, who would maintain it (such as a skating rink), and would the insurance increase. Snow removal problems for those areas were mentioned. Many other questions came up. An exercise circuit was also suggested. The grant application has to be in by April 1, 2021. Before that the Board has to have a recreation plan, a capital improvement plan, and other paperwork. People mentioned that in the winter there won't be light for use of the park in the evening by the kids who were in school all day, they would need an area to warm up, to sit and change into skates if there is an ice rink, and other circumstances to take care of. The community needs to be asked for ideas--maybe at the Halloween party.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The business meeting was held October 7th. Fire Safety Week is October 4-10. The FEMA grant provided an LED sign and 3 roadside recruitment banners. Free smoke detectors, with installation by the Fire Dept., are being offered to residents through another grant. The 1995 pumper is repaired and in service. Also, the 2000 type 3 pumper is repaired and in service. The 1993 pumper was sold and transported to California for the wild fires. The 1992 tanker may be transferred to a local fire department, if they agree to renting it and the DNR okays it. A discussion followed about what will be required to do the transfer.

WATER DEPARTMENT: JT Reno reported that two water samples came back high in copper. He and Rob had a meeting with EGLE and the Health Dept. He will have to take more water samples and do lead/copper testing 2X a year rather than just once. He will also have to change the polyphosphate level to decrease corrosion. He is not allowed to change houses where he gets the water samples. Older faucets often show higher readings of copper, but filters for it are available from the Health Dept. Otherwise the system is working okay. The Township is responsible for replacing galvanized piping (if present) to homes. He will be meeting with an excavation company soon about possible places needing it.

SEWER DEPARTMENT: Bob Pieti, Sewer Plant Operator, reported the flow is good, but there is an increase in wipes, pieces of plastic, and cigarette butts as if peoples' trash is being flushed. The timer on the blower has not yet been fixed, so he continues to activate it manually. A question came up about blowing out the lines annually for maintenance, whether it was required or did damage. He'll contact UP Engineers for clarification.

WATER/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Trustee Bennetts said there haven't been any problems to discuss and meetings have not been held. After discussion, it was decided to suspend the committee until there is a need to have a meeting. Committee meeting minutes are on the website:

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

NEW BUSINESS: The Board of Review will meet in December (12/14-12/18). No date has been set yet. Kelly Jarvi has been asked to replace JT Reno on the Board for a 2-year term.

Swearing in for the her and for the elected Board members will take place at the next Township Board meeting.

The Halloween party is still planned for October 31st at the Township Pavilion. All community members are invited and donations of candy are encouraged. Restrooms will be available in the community hall during the party. The park bathroom will be closed for the season starting November 1st.

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM. The next regular Township meeting will be November 12, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the Community Hall.