

## **Minutes of the April 5, 2021 Regular Board Meeting of Sherman Township**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Sherman Township Board was held on Monday April 5, 2021 at 7:00 pm, in the meeting room of the township hall. Meeting was called to order by Supervisor-Smalligan at 7:00 pm. After the pledge of allegiance, Supervisor-Smalligan read the latest mask mandate for the MHD, requiring masks to be worn indoors. Roll call was taken and members present were Karen Berens, Doug Berens, Stan Stroven, Ken Smalligan and Jamie Kukal.

Motion was made by S Stroven and 2nd by K Berens to approve the agenda as presented. All approved, motion passed.

Motion was made by S Stroven and 2nd by D Berens to accept the minutes from the March 1, 2021 regular meeting with corrections. All approved, motion passed. Motion was made by K Berens and 2nd by D Berens to accept the minutes from the March 31, 2021 budget meeting. All approved, motion passed.

We had several guest speakers for the evening and Luke Cotton, from Newaygo Conservation District, spoke first. Mr. Cotton took a few minutes to present a survey for the public to provide their perspective in the long-term planning of conservation projects in the township.

Jim Maike, our county commissioner, followed up by first offering an invitation to Mr. Cotton to a potential partnership for future conservation projects. Mr. Maike went on to speak about the federal support money that each township should be receiving and the committee that has been formed to help decipher how those funds can be spent. Maike touched on a few other topics of interest within the county. The first being the fact that Great Lakes Energy is working on bringing fiber optics right to the customers front door. He mentioned the issue funeral homes are having with unclaimed bodies. Crandall's funeral home has 30 unclaimed bodies they are housing at this time. Mr. Maike is hoping to encourage each township to dedicate one burial plot to those unclaimed individuals for a final resting place. The last thing Mr. Maike mentioned the financial status of the county. He claimed that with all of the reductions due to COVID-19 shutdowns, the county is sitting very well financially coming into this fiscal year.

Diane Schindlbeck spoke as a district representative for State Senator Jon Bumstead. Mrs. Schindlbeck informed the group of all the committees and chairs the Senator was actively participating in. She encouraged interaction with the Senator about current bills on the floor and confirmed that the Senator was working with the committees to understand the federal relief package funds and the requirements for its use.

Amy Stockwell was our final public speaker for the night. Mrs. Stockwell updated everyone on the White Cloud Library issue with the sharing of funds with the Fremont library. The issue is currently at a standstill and all complaints should be forwarded to the Fremont library.

Treasurer-Berens presented her report and indicated that both fire protection contract payments were made for the year end and the White Cloud building payment had indeed been paid in full. Motion was made by D Berens and 2nd by S Stroven to accept the report and approve payment

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of the bills. Roll call vote was taken. Yes; K Berens, D Berens, S Stroven, K Smalligan and J Kukal. No; none Motion passed.

Clerk-Kukal had no report to give, saying her month was spent working on the budget. The job descriptions and hall rental were tabled for another month and she has not received any bids for cemetery work at this point.

Supervisor-Smalligan reported on his attendance at the Fremont Fire Department Annual Meeting. He said they are working on updating the radios to make them compliant with new regulations and the purchased new air tanks. After not receiving a grant for funding the department had to disburse the cost down to townships and therefore this past year's contract cost was significantly higher than usual and should go back down for next year. Smalligan gave next year's contract to Clerk-Kukal to have her sign and return to Todd Blake. Smalligan also mentioned the upcoming MTA virtual conference and reminded the board members to sign up if they were interested in attending. J Kukal also mentioned that she has received notice that the county household hazardous waste day was scheduled for May 15, 2021 at the Newaygo County Road Commission building.

Assessor-Story was gone on vacation and asked supervisor-Smalligan to present his report in his absence. The report confirmed the conclusion of the March Board of Review and how smoothly this year went. Story is expecting the State of Michigan to reach out to review the past AMAR deficiencies and the township's progress towards compliance. He continues to work towards a solid plan for the annual field work visits and encourages any taxpayer with questions to make contact with him.

Building Inspector-Smalligan presented his monthly report with 3 permits and 4 inspections.

Zoning Administrator-Kukal confirmed the 3 permits and reported that the Spring Junk Drive is scheduled for June 5, 2021 with new dumpster service.

For the planning committee, Doug Berens reported that there was a meeting last month and they talked a little about Short Term Rentals and a possible ordinance change. The members were supposed to do a little research and discuss it in more detail at this month's meeting.

For White Cloud Sherman Utilities, Dick Chenard reported on that day's meeting, where improvements continue to make progress and the budget should be ready to present next month.

For the cemetery, Vonda Tollefson reported that they have found no trace of a weed whipper in the shed and she is requesting the purchase of one. Motion was made by K Berens and 2nd by D Berens to approve the purchase of a weed whipper and any other supplies needed for grooming the cemetery through the township account at Ace Hardware. Roll call vote was taken. Yes; K Berens, D Berens, S Stroven, K Smalligan, and J Kukal.

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For the Fremont Fire Board, K Berens reported billings of \$4,5086.98 and collections of \$181.62.

For White Cloud Fire Board, S Stroven reported that he had turned the township's copy of the financial audits over to Clerk-Kukal. G Smalligan commented that the township should receive a thank you note from the building authority for the final payment of the township's portion for the building loan.

There was no new or unfinished business at that time.

There was no public comment at that time.

For board member comment, K Smalligan commented on the care and handling of the tangled flag, by the Neighbor Electric crew. He was very impressed with the way they handled the whole situation and the fact they did the work out of the kindness of their hearts.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Submitted by: Jamie Kukal-clerk

Visitors present:     Jerry Engel     Jim May     Butch Duer     Al Smalligan     Dich Chenard  
                         Gary Smalligan                     Jim Maike     Amy Stockwell  
                         Wayne Berens             Chad Kukal     John Borgman Luke Cotton  
                         Diane Schindlbeck and guest

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## Sherman Township Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2021

		Mar 31, 21
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
MASTER ACCOUNT		
101-001 · General Fund cash		199,257.62
203-001 · Mayo Drive cash		15,253.36
220-002 · Robinson Lake Cash		39,023.64
221-001 · Crystal Lake Cash		56,580.46
336-001 · Fire protection millage Fr & WC		7,962.78
Total MASTER ACCOUNT		<u>318,077.86</u>
151-001 · Cemetery cash		36,169.89
202-001 · Road Checking		3,115.12
249-001 · Capital acquisition cash		3,626.29
261-336 · Gerber Fire Runs Savings		30.93
401-001 · Winter Tax Account		437.37
402-002 · Summer Tax Account		9,532.92
Total Checking/Savings		<u>370,990.38</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>370,990.38</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>370,990.38</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		370,990.38