The regular scheduled meeting of the Sherman Township Board was held on Monday June 7, 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, roll call was taken and members present were Karen Berens, Doug Berens, Stan Stroven, Ken Smalligan and Jamie Kukal.

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

Motion was made by K Berens and 2nd by D Berens to accept the minutes from the May 3, 2021, regular meeting with corrections. All approved, motion passed.

There was no public comment.

Treasurer-Berens presented her report of outgoing funds, highlighting the need for money transferred to the road account to cover the first half of the scheduled road work for $50,751.94. Motion was made by J Kukal and 2nd by S Stroven to accept the report, approve payment of bills and authorize the transfer of $60,000 to the road account. Roll call vote was taken. Yes, K Berens, D Berens, S Stroven, K Smalligan and J Kukal No; none Motion passed. Karen reported on the junk drive where $1,061 was collected. J Kukal commented that some changes need to be looked at before next year, larger items like sofas and recliners need to have a fee, because they take up too much room. Berens also reported that the dumpster is at Crystal Lake, and she sent a thank you note to Bob Delano for taking out the roots and cement block that he had previously reported was a hazard on the beach.

Clerk-Kukal asked for any questions on her previously supplied clerk’s report. With no questions she moved on to job descriptions. Motion was made by K Berens and 2nd by D Berens to approve the Job description template as presented. All approved, motion passed. Kukal will now present the approved descriptions to individual employees for signatures. Hall rental changes were tabled pending the July updates on protocols. There were no bids for the excavation needed at the cemetery. Chad Kukal asked the board if they could accept a bid from him for the excavation. Smalligan said he would check with MTA and make sure it would not be a conflict of interest and report back to the group at the special meeting. Jamie commented that she missed the upcoming appointment of the WCSUA position that will expire June 1 and is due June 15. After discussion it was decided by the board to run an ad for the open positions and have a special meeting on June 15, 2021, at 6:30 pm to fill those positions. Kukal also reported that the Newaygo County Hazard Management Plan has been updated and with full participation from all townships in Newaygo County. She is waiting on a printed copy to provide to the board for adoption approval next month.

Trustee-Berens asked about the gutter down spout that was damaged, Kukal confirmed that it was done by the lawn mower tire running over it. Trustee-Stroven asked if Smalligan would also check with MTA about township obligations when renting of the hall resumes.

Supervisor-Smalligan thanked all that showed up to help with the junk drive. He reported that after last month’s meeting, he contacted the road commission about the hazard issues Bob Delano had brought to light, and the road commission confirmed that they would not be sending anyone out to help with those issues. Smalligan is signed up to attend a webinar for the spending of the relief funds and will report back next month. He received notice of one parcel up for tax sale if anyone is interested.

Assessor-Story was not in attendance, so Smalligan read a prepared letter from Brian. July Board of review is scheduled for Tuesday July 20,2021 and is for qualified clerical errors, poverty exemptions and disabled veteran exemptions only. The AMAR follow-up has been filed and he is awaiting a response.

He is continuing with field work.

Building inspector-Smalligan reported doing 10 inspections and 5 permits last month.

Zoning Administrator-Kukal confirmed the 5 permits and the estimated cost for the junk drive dumpsters is $1,000.

Sexton-Tollefson reported on cemetery business of many burials from winter deaths, and they are all current with both burials and headstone bases. She also reported that the warranty for the lawnmower is up in July and recommended having it serviced before it expired. The board agreed with that recommendation. Tollefson has yet to find a replacement weed whip.

Dick Chenard reported on the White Cloud Sherman Utilities meeting earlier that day. There are only 2 stations left to update and 7 generators are currently on back order. The board is considering rate increases for the future. Karen Koprolces reported that there are a few easement disputes that the board is currently dealing with.

For Fremont Fire District, K Berens reported billing $963.34 and collecting $614.40. For White Cloud, S Stroven had nothing to report, and Gary Smalligan confirmed that all townships have fulfilled their financial obligations for the building and that the city of White Cloud is the only one left to pay their portion off.

There was no new or unfinished business to discuss.

For public comment, Jim Kloet spoke. He first commented on why the board would hold off on fulfilling the WCSUA positions and have a special meeting. He thought the job descriptions were a great idea and encouraged the use of such guidelines for employees. Jim asked about the statue of his hand delivered letter and complaint about a neighbor burning and causing obnoxious smoke. He finally requested to have the meeting agendas published prior to meetings. Chad Kukal responded that he had received the complaint and was following up on it accordingly. Jamie Kukal responded that she usually only posts the approved agenda and minutes on the website, however she would try to accommodate the request. Ken Smalligan commented that he could post on the outside board after he finalized the agenda.

Cheryle Kloet spoke about their complaint with the neighbor’s burning of wet materials. She felt it was a health hazard and had contacted the sheriff's office, where she was told it was an open burn day and there was nothing the sheriff’s office could do about it. The Kloets are pushing for the township to address the issue and ensure that it does not happen again.

Jackilyn Roseberry, director of the Fremont Public Library, spoke about some of the summer programs and extended hours. Karen Koprolces commented that she appreciated the summer craft program.

For board member comment, Stan Stroven asked if the burn issue would fall under the wood stove/burn ordinance and Ken Smalligan confirmed that it did not.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm

Submitted by: Jamie Kukal-Clerk

Visitors present: Vonda Tollefson Gary Smalligan Dick and Betty Chenard Chad Kukal John Borgman Jerry Engel

 Jim May Jackilyn Roseberry Jim and Cheryle Kloet

 Karen Koprolces

