

Minutes of the July 1, 2019 meeting of the Sherman Township Board

The regular meeting of the Sherman Township Board was held on Monday July 1, 2019 at 7:00pm in the meeting room of the township hall. Meeting was called to order by supervisor-Miller at 7:05pm. After the pledge of allegiance, roll call was taken and members present were; Doug Berens, Karen Berens, Ken Smalligan, Roman Miller and Jamie Kukal. No members were absent.

With an unexpected visit from State Representative Scott VanSingel a few additions were need for the agenda. Miller suggested adding Mr. VanSingel to section A,4 and the topic of our Wi-Fi updates to section D,2,G. A motion was made by K Smalligan and 2nd by K Berens to approve the agenda with the additions. All approved, motion passed.

State Representative Scott VanSingel spoke to the attendees about his progress in Lansing. He reported that progress is being made on the future road plan for Michigan and what roll the new Governor is playing in that progress. He reported that a budget has yet to be set and agreed upon due to the continued negotiations of all parties involved. Miller asked about the purposed gas tax and how it would be applied. VanSingel answered that 100% of that money would be applied to the road budget. However, the road budget encompasses more than just maintenance costs, so there is no guarantee that the public would recognize how the money was being spent. S Stroven asked how the funding increase would affect our local roads. VanSingel responded that it would result in more money for the county and then the county would then choose how to apply it within their districts, possible as matching funds for townships. Mr. VanSingel was very open to any public inquires and offered his contact information and access to an email-newsletter. That information can be found on his website at: <https://www.svs4rep.com/> Supervisor-Miller thanked Mr. VanSingel for taking the time to come and speak with for the public and welcomed him back anytime.

The minutes were presented from the June meeting and a motion was made by K Berens and 2nd by K Smalligan to approve the minutes as they were presented. All approved, motion passed. For public comment Miller brought up the official minutes of November 5, 2018, page 3 Paragraph 4, and the appointment of Wallace as assessor and the term duration. After a short discussion it was determined that this information was no longer relevant due to it being addressed at the June meeting and the topic was dropped.

Treasure-Berens presented the report highlighting that the June junk drive brought in \$845. A letter from William & Virginia Bowen, wherein they donated their time and trailer for the use at the junk drive. They also generously covered the cost associated with the delivery of said trailer and waste to Padnos Shoreline Recycling & Supply. A motion was made to accept the treasure's report and approve all future payments for the coming month. Roll call vote taken, yes; K. Berens, D. Berens, K. Smalligan, R. Miller, J. Kukal no; none. All approved, motion passed.

Clerk-Kukal reported that both the new deputy clerk, Sandy Tanis, and herself attended the Election Official's Accreditation two-day course. Both had further online training and an exam to take proceeding that two-day event and have sense finished and passed the exam. Kukal also attended a training for the qualified Voter File Software system last month and can officially begin registering voters. Kukal also reported that she is in the process of getting Notary Bonded and should be all set by next month's meeting. The treasure and clerk are setting up a meeting with the auditor to clean up the bookkeeping system and prepare for future audits. Kukal presented new forms for both time sheets and reimbursements to be used for future transactions.

Minutes of the July 1, 2019 meeting of the Sherman Township Board

Supervisor-Miller presented the date for the 2020 Junk Drive of the 2nd Saturday. That would make it June 13, 2020. Miller asked if anyone had any more input as to if the drive should continue as it is or be free next year. C Kukal had supplied a sample of Lincoln townships add and commented that Garfield township ended up with 13 dumpsters at their drive. J Borgman commented that Ashland ended up with 22 dumpsters and had drivers available to run all day. J Borgman also suggested that maybe we implement the first load is free and you pay for any additional load and tires with a driver on site to haul any full bins. An option of a donation jar was also discussed. It was agreed that more research was needed and that C Kukal would investigate securing the date with the parties needed.

Miller updated the board on the Insurance renewal, explaining that all but one form, on cyber security, was completed and returned to be processed and that a representative would be present next meeting to speak. Miller also read an old report about the possibility of coverage for personal vehicles used for township business. It appears that a claim could be made as a secondary to any personal coverage claim, up to \$1,000, but this will need to be clarified by the rep next month.

Miller reported on the progress of maintenance on Bingham road and claimed it was looking good. The contact at the county road commission confirmed that the county road commission was the place to contact for any future issues and they have a plan in action for that road.

With the resignation of M Stocking a new appointment was needed for the Zoning Board of Appeals. K Smalligan offered to take that position. A motion was made by J Kukal and 2nd by K Berens to appoint Ken Smalligan to the board.

Last Month it was brought to the board's attention that Stan Stroven was the contact handling the retirement account, due to the resignation of M Stocking. Miller had done some inquiring with MTA and found out that the representative did not have to be a board member, but all representatives must be approved by the board. After much discussion K Smalligan motioned and 2nd by J Kukal, that the primary representative be the clerk and the secondary representative be the treasurer from this point forward. All approved, motion passed.

S Stroven reported on the Wi-Fi situation and updates. A new router and Wi-Fi system was installed by Luke of Fremont Computer. This new system should be much more compatible with printers and more secure than the old system.

K Smalligan presented both bids for updates to the phone system. He explained the difference in pricing and systems each were looking to do and how the biggest difference was in the systems they would run off. The one from Windemuller would run as a voice over system that runs through our computer system and may make it more susceptible to issues if systems went down. The one from BonCom would be through our current AT&T system and quite compatible to what we currently use. Both companies could get right on the work and would require 12 as down payment. A motion was made by K Smalligan and 2nd by D Berens to go with BonCom for the new system and to send out the down payment tomorrow. Roll call vote taken, yes; K Berens, D Berens, K Smalligan, R Miller, J Kukal, no; none. All approved, motion passed.

Minutes of the July 1, 2019 meeting of the Sherman Township Board

K Berens reported that \$937.79 was billed last month for Fremont fire runs and \$409.21 was collected for a chimney fire.

D Berens reported that the planning commission is progressing on the revisal and reprinting of the master plan. Miller mentioned that the MTA is hosting a Planning commission workshop series in August and hoped someone would attend. A motion was made by K Berens and 2nd by K Smalligan to pay for anyone interested in attending that workshop in August. Roll call vote taken, yes; K Berens, D Berens, K Smalligan, R Miller, J Kukal no; none All approved, motion passed.

G Smalligan reported that as building inspector he issued 9 permits and performed 10 inspections last month. He also brought up an issue with Trillium Springs looking for a copy of the certificate of occupancy and the fact that the company that built it is no longer in business. G Smalligan was looking for board opinion on reissuing a duplicate copy for their records. After much discussion it was suggested that G Smalligan check with Mr. Cruzan and go with his recommendation.

C Kukal reported as zoning administrator they had to deny a permit to Don Clark and there may be need for an appeal meeting in the future. Kukal also provided a copy of the letter from our attorney to Ms. Bowlby concerning the recent complaints made to the township zoning administrator. With that complaint the township is working through the legal processes and current occupants, that complaint it lodged against, are currently unavailable. Kukal confirmed that he was still working on a resolution. Miller brought up the opt out ordinance for marihuana and where the commission was on addressing it. Kukal said he would address it and bring it back to the board.

D Chenard reported that there was a white Cloud Sherman Utilities meeting earlier that day and they are getting closer to an agreement.

Assessor-Wallace reported that her previous training sessions were very informative and was looking forward to using the new technology in the future. She is currently working on the upcoming AMAR audit preparations and was hoping for a Board of Reviews meeting next Monday at 11am.

In Karl DeVisser's absence D Berens reported an "ALL GOOD" status for the cemetery report. C Kukal reported that it would be \$1,500 to have the North-South line and first new crossroad surveyed for the expansion. A motion was made by K Smalligan and 2nd by J Kukal to spend up to \$1,500 to have the North-South line and first new crossroad surveyed. Roll call vote taken, yes; K Berens, D Berens, K Smalligan, R Miller, J Kukal no; none All approved, motion passed.

There was nothing to report from either fire district boards for this month.

Miller read a letter from a disabled veterans group looking for permission to solicit in our area. With it being a residential area, no one felt it would be appropriate to even respond to the suspicious group.

For public comment Dick Chenard wondered what Miller knew about the gypsy moth issue being prominent in the area. After some discussion Miller said he would investigate it more and come back with some information and asked others to do the same.

Minutes of the July 1, 2019 meeting of the Sherman Township Board

Meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm. Submitted by: Jamie Kukal, Clerk

Visitors to the meeting; Sandy Tanis Lee Hoppa Bill Bowen Gary Smalligan Dick Chenard
 Scott VanSingel Cindy Wallace Jerry Miller Chad Kukal Stan Stroven