

## **Minutes of the June 6, 2022, Regular Board Meeting of Sherman Township**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Sherman Township Board was held on Monday, June 6, 2022, 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 S Stroven to accept the minutes from the May 2, 2021, regular meeting with corrections . All approved, motion passed.

For public comment, Joseph Fox introduced himself as a candidate running for state representative in the 101st district. Fox has been the director of the Commission on Aging in Newaygo County for the past 7 years. He was the principal for Fremont Christian Schools for 6 years and has 25 years of teaching and school administration experience. His campaign is based on Faith, Family and Freedom.

Treasurer-Berens presented her report of outgoing funds indicating the transfer of approved road funds. She has received the bill for the 1st payment of \$56,800 for this year's road project. Berens also reported receiving the delinquent tax payout from the county for \$18,194.94. With no other pressing financial matters, a Motion was made by S Stroven and 2nd by D Berens to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of bills. Roll call vote was taken. Yes; K Berens, D Berens, S Stroven, Ken Smalligan and J Kukal No; none Motion passed.

Clerk-Kukal presented the clerk's report, highlighting the balance sheet, the completion of the security upgrades and her election preparations. Kukal reminded everyone of the Newaygo County Tire collection coming up on Saturday June 18, 2022. She also confirmed a signed agreement by Lee Hoppa for the lawn care of both the hall and park. Kukal also reported that more security measures may be coming down for elections and she will be working on insurance renewal surveys. She will have more details for both next months.

For open positions Clerk-Kukal presented the only letter of interest received for the assessor's position. The letter was from the current assessor, Brian Story, to continue as assessor with no contractual changes. Motion was made by S Stroven and 2nd by D Berens to reappoint Brian Story as assessor through June 2024. All approved, motion passed. For the open sewer authority seat, Kukal presented the only letter of interest received from Stan Stroven. Supervisor-Smalligan reported that he had enquired the advice of our lawyer on the possible appointment and the lawyer does not recommend appointing Stroven to the board as anything other than the alternate that he currently is, due to possible conflict of interest given his relationship with the current manager, Stan Stroven Jr. MTA has no official standing on the practice, however advised that it may look unfavorable to the public. Stan said he had looked into it and he found nothing regulating his appointment in such a case. K Berens is hesitant to appoint Stroven given the issues previously dealt with over family appointment conflicts. With no motion to accept, the nomination is void and the position remains open. Stroven will remind the alternate on the sewer authority board. There were no candidates for library representative, so Kukal will run another ad for the open positions.

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There were no reports from either trustee at that time.

Supervisor- Smalligan presented his communications with Lee Hoppa over the fact that his son Wes is mowing the hall property. Lee confirmed that Wes is helping him out, due to his health issues and Lee will communicate with Wes our concerns about the lawn clippings being directed towards the building. On the subject of a possible sale of the township property, Ken reported that Cliff has been contacted and is still looking over all the logistics. However, if we consider it a resolution for the property sale would need to be drawn up and an ad would need to run for a few weeks before we even begin to consider offers. Stan expressed his concerns with selling and the possible long term liabilities the township may face. The subject was tabled for next month and Ken will continue to work with the lawyer to cover our options and all the logistics.

For ARPA expenditures, Smalligan presented the bid from Platz Electric Co. for a generator to run everything but the two air conditioning units, for \$11,162.36. Motion was made by J Kukal and 2nd by D Berens to accept the bid from Platz Electric Co. for installation of the limited generator at a cost of \$11,162.36. Roll call vote was taken. Yes; K Berens, D Berens, S Stroven, Ken Smalligan and J Kukal No; none Motion passed. Motion was made by K Berens and 2nd by D Berens to transfer the funds from the ARPA account to the general fund to write a check for the down payment of \$5,600. For broadband, Kukal expressed a desire to reach out to Great Lakes Energy for more information and she will bring an update next month. For the park bathrooms, John Borgman presented a verbal estimate for the demolition of the existing dwelling, holding tanks and new cement pad. The board asked for a written estimate at next month's meeting. For the columbarium, Stroven had provided color samples for review and said the representative had offered to attend a meeting for more questioning. Stroven will try to arrange the representative's presence at next month's meeting. For the meeting room ceiling, K Smalligan has looked into our options and is hoping to have some samples and pricing for us next month. J Kukal asked if we could make this a broader meeting room and hall improvement where some needed maintenance and repairs might be addressed. She also reminded the board about other suggestions for improvements at the cemetery, like fencing and driveway paving. The board will look closer next month.

For the Planning zoning commission, Doug Berens reported that at last month's the committee working with Mr. Coffey presented a few more ordinance changes to consider. J Kukal asked if it would be appropriate to pay the committee members an hourly wage for all their extra time spent on these revisions. Ken will make a call to MTA to see if it is appropriate. Mr. Coffey presented a sample of a stand-alone ordinance for short term rentals for review and consideration. The board had many questions pertaining to fees, regulation, violations, and enforcements. Mr. Coffey was able to answer most of those questions and the board suggested some wording changes to the document. A motion was made by S Stroven and 2nd by D Berens to table the stand-alone ordinance until August to give the committee time to make those changes.

Assessor-Story gave a short report of continued field work on most Tuesdays and Thursdays.

White Cloud Sherman Utilities, Karen Kopolces reported on the meeting earlier in the day, were they opened and reviewed the bids for the truck. None of the bids were even close to the \$40,000 blue book value of the truck, so they are running the ad again. Scoping of the city pipes should begin in July and the

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upgrades are incomplete due to some parts being on backorder still. The board is unsatisfied with the wording for hookups in our ordinance and that will be presented to the planning commission on Wednesday.

Sexton-Tollefson reported that the tree has been trimmed and no parking signs installed. She has people interested in purchasing some of the new plots, so we need to get the surveying done.

Building inspector-Smalligan reported doing 3 permits and 7 inspections last month.

Zoning Administrator Assistant-Borgman confirmed the 3 permits and a few complaints that are being addressed.

For Fremont Fire District, K Berens reported billing \$816 and collecting \$819.80.

For new or unfinished business, Paulson's were out and checked the air conditioning units and one seems to have a leak that we will need to keep an eye on.

There was no board member comment.

For public comment, Al Smalligan highly recommended looking further into the sound barrier product from Armstrong that Ken had mentioned.

Kukal mentioned that the freezer portion of the refrigerator is no longer freezing and will need to be replaced.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm

Submitted by: Jamie Kukal-Clerk

Visitors present: Gary Smalligan Wayne Berens Vonda Tollefson  
Darwen Schoonmaker Jr Karen Kopolces Al Smalligan  
Steve McQueen John Borgman Brian Story

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## Sherman Township Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2022

	May 31, 22
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
<b>MASTER ACCOUNT</b>	
101-001 · General Fund cash	225,045.00
203-001 · Mayo Drive cash	18,058.36
220-002 · Robinson Lake Cash	33,844.57
221-001 · Crystal Lake Cash	56,188.86
336-001 · Fire protection millage Fr & WC	4,443.72
MASTER ACCOUNT - Other	-8.82
<b>Total MASTER ACCOUNT</b>	<u>337,571.69</u>
151-001 · Cemetery cash	8,281.96
202-001 · Road Checking	94,752.28
249-001 · Capital acquisition cash	3,626.29
<b>260-001 · Gerber FCU</b>	
261-336 · Gerber Fire Runs Savings	2,305.70
263-001 · Gerber FCU ARPA Account	111,461.75
<b>Total 260-001 · Gerber FCU</b>	<u>113,767.45</u>
401-001 · Winter Tax Account	2.77
402-002 · Summer Tax Account	8,683.98
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>566,686.42</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>566,686.42</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>566,686.42</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>566,686.42</b>