

# MILLEN TOWNSHIP BUDGET HEARING AND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 1, 2021

Time: 6:30 PM and 7:00 PM

Place: *Millen Township Hall (FOE Area) following Covid-19 Social Distancing and masks requirements*

## **Budget Hearing- 6:30 p.m.**

- **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Roll Call Attendees:**
  - **Board:** Supervisor Dennis Smith, Clerk Cathy Ostrander, Treasurer Barbara Bartlett, Trustee Jeff Somers, Trustee Scott Kosal
  - **Other Officials:** Rich Gillies, Mike Davio, Rodney Cordes, Terry Small
- **Public Comments not on the agenda** - None
- **Property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget** – Bartlett to review with County and provide copy for Budget file.
- **Truth in Taxation Review and signature by Supervisor Smith** – Copy to Budget file
- **Adjourn Budget Hearing** – Motion to adjourn by Kosal, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ostrander. Motion Carries.

## **Millen Township Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.**

- **Call to Order**
- **Roll Call Attendees:**
  - **Board:** Supervisor Dennis Smith, Clerk Cathy Ostrander, Treasurer Barbara Bartlett, Trustee Jeff Somers, Trustee Scott Kosal
  - **Other Officials:** Mike Davio, Rich Gillies, Rodney Cordes, Terry Small
- **Public Comments not on the agenda** - None
- **Budget Resolution roll call vote** – Smith made motion to conduct Roll Call vote on approving 2021-2022 Budget for Millen Township
  - **Ayes:** Ostrander, Kosal, Smith, Somers, Bartlett
  - **Nays:** none
- **Reports**
  - Clerk:
    - i. Motion to approve meeting minutes February 1, 2021 Millen Township Board Meeting; February 8 and 11, 2021 Budget Planning Meetings - motion to approve all three meeting minutes as presented made by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kosal. Motion carries.
  - Treasurer:
    - i. General Income Fund: \$89,580.50
    - ii. Road Fund: \$142,343.38
    - iii. Fire Fund: \$
    - iv. Total: \$231,923.88
    - v. Motion to accept Treasurer Report, subject to audit. Motion by Kosal, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Somers. Motion carries.
    - vi. Motion to pay bills, subject to board's post-audit policy authorizing payment: Checks #11033-11058; Wages, EFPTS, Consumers, FOE, Alcona County Review, MTA, Barton City Fire Dept., Huron Bank, Dust Control (re-issue check); VOIDED Checks -11046, 11048; STOP PAYMENT CHECK#10903. Motion made by Bartlett to approve the paying of the bills as listed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kosal. Motion carries.
    - vii. Treasurer and Clerk Balance - Yes

- Road Committee -
  - i. Smith contacted J. Campbell. Campbell just received the material budget list, bids are in process. Campbell to contact Smith at appropriate time to meet with Smith/Somers on road projects.
  - ii. Campbell currently reviewing Burns road easement for tree removal at Cemetery. Main trunks of trees will be stacked for township to dispose.
  - iii. Smith working with Campbell to determine which roads may be suitable for reclaimed asphalt.
- Zoning/Planning -
  - i. Unlicensed vehicles stored in yards – Davio. Two registered letters will go out this week to properties on Walker road and Jewell Lake Drive that have junk vehicles.
  - ii. Verizon Cell Tower Update - Davio also updated the board that Verizon is adding antennas to the cell tower on M72.
  - iii. Stout Rd Property Owned by Nuns - Nuns called Davio to inquire about someone else having their street address also. Davio advised them to contact the Building Dept.
  - iv. Ostrander notes that there is an ordinance written to address the burned house on Jewell Lake Drive corner. Davio to notify the owners that they have 2 years to correct damage.
  - v. Ordinance updates – Gillies
    - Next Board of Appeals is Monday, April 19 at 6:30
    - Tiny House ordinance publication is still in process. Requirements to indicate less than XX sq. ft. Reference of construction to a current variance procedure.
    - Short Term Rentals – Alcona Twp. is nearing completion of their ordinance and may use this as a reference when considering one for Millen.
    - Gravel Ordinance is currently good. May consider adding a lot size.
- Cemetery Sexton Update –
  - i. Four burials to be made in April/May timeframe
  - ii. Donaldson plots – still need to mark out sites once the weather breaks to determine if request to change lot locations can be approved.
- **Unfinished Business**
  - Cemetery/Park Tree Trimming Bids – Smith
    - i. Smith working 2 bids and County Road Commission on Burns road.
    - ii. Grants to be submitted in July, issued in September if selected.
    - iii. Smith suggested that board members meet at the cemetery so they all could walk the west side along Burns road to see what needs to be done with the tree cutting and cleanup.
  - Remaining Contract Renewals/Bidding per Budget Planning
    - i. Cemetery Grave Digging – Mailed, waiting response. Ostrander to call Leeseberg.
    - ii. Mowing – Park and Cemetery need proof of insurance to finalize contract
    - iii. Dust Control – Contacted, Same contract price
- **New Business**
  - T. Small updated the board that the discussion on returning the PILT money to the townships from the County will take place at the December budget meeting. He is building plan now. Kosal raised support to attend the County’s December meeting in support of Small.
  - T. Small informed the Board that he sits on the NE Mental Health Board and the District Health Dept. Board. Specifically stating that the vaccination clinics are going well. However, they vaccine supply has been very limited.
  - BC Fire Department - Rodney Cordes updated that the Richardson/Trask Lake property deed is in the process of being updated and the Fire Department will receive ownership to access to the lake.

- BC Fire Department DNR Grant- A \$5000 grant was received from the DNR. This will go towards the \$34,000 upgrade to the “Turnout Gear” to outfit the department.
- BC Fire Department Construction is back underway.
- All Fire Department staff has received both doses of Covid-19 vaccines, if they wanted to receive one.
- The Fire Department is also helping to distribute the vaccines at the vaccination clinics. Rodney stated the clinic locations may be moving to a more central location at Hale High School.
- Bids are out for a new 4x4 Pickup Truck for the department.
- A new (returning to town) firefighter joined/returned to the department.
- **Public Comments** – none.
- **Adjourn** – motion to adjourn by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kosal. Motion carries.
- \***Next Meetings:** April 5, 7:00 pm - Township Board Meeting  
April 19, 2021 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month at 6:30) - Zoning and Planning

*Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk, Cathy Ostrander.*