

**MILLEN TOWNSHIP
2022-2023 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING & BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

Date: March 7, 2022

Time: 6: 45 PM and 7:00 PM

Place: *Millen Township Hall*

• **Budget Hearing- 6:45 p.m.**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

a. **Board Members:** Supervisor Smith, Treasurer Bartlett, Trustee Somers, Trustee Kosal, Clerk Ostrander

b. **Others:** Rodney Cordes, Rich Gillies

3. Public Comments not on the agenda – Rodney Cordes, Hawes Twp. Budget Hearing is tomorrow and Hawes did add an increase for park and cemetery contribution to Millen Township per Supervisor Smith’s request.

4. Property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget

5. Truth in Taxation Review and signature by Supervisor Smith

6. Adjourn Budget Hearing – Motion by Kosal to adjourn, 2nd by Bartlett and motion carries.

• **Board Meeting- 7:00 p.m.**

7. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

a. **Roll Call Board Members:** Supervisor Smith, Treasurer Bartlett, Trustee Somers, Trustee Kosal, Clerk Ostrander

b. **Others:** Rodney Cordes, Rich Gillies, Mike Davio

8. Public Comments - none

9. Budget Resolution (2022-12 Millen Township General Appropriations Act) - Motion by Kosal to adopt, 2nd by Somers. **Roll call vote:** Aye- Kosal, Ostrander, Bartlett, Smith, Somers. Nay – None. Motion carries. (Clerk file in resolutions and minutes)

10. Reports

a. **Clerk:**

i. Motion to approve meeting minutes: Motion by Kosal to accept all three minutes as written, 2nd by Somers. Motion carries.

a. Township Board Meeting, February 7, 2022 - resolution number added to item 9b – Road Millage roll call vote

b. Budget Planning, February 8, 2022

c. Budget Planning, February 22, 2022

b. **Treasurer:**

i. General Income Fund: \$98,695.39

ii. Road Fund: \$96,315.23

iii. Fire Fund \$0

iv. ARPA Fund \$20,387.44

- v. Total: \$215,398.06
- vi. Motion to accept Treasurer Report, subject to audit by Somers, 2nd by Kosal
- vii. Motion to pay bills, subject to board's post-audit policy authorizing payment: Checks #11371- 11390 for Wages, EFPTS, Consumers, FOE (rent), BC Fire Dept., Quill, Alcona County Review, Alcona County Treasurer. Motion by Somers, 2nd by Kosal. Motion carries.
- viii. Treasurer and Clerk Balance – yes
- ix. Budget discussion – 2022/2023 Proposal accepted with line item updates to be filed with minutes. Motion to accept by Somers, 2nd by Kosal. Motion carries.
- x. ARPA Reporting – Auditor to file
- c. **Road Committee** - Supervisor Smith to talk to Campbell and complete the drive for road projects. Project suggestions: Walker Road, Bean Hill south, Ross Road, potential for Trask Lake Rd., Louis Lane
- d. **Zoning/Planning**
 - i. Blight/Unlicensed vehicles stored in yards – Davio
 - 1. Burgess Road blight. No update.
 - ii. Jewell Lake Dr. Fire Damaged Property – Davio. Supervisor Smith believes the house is being sold and torn down.
 - iii. Rich Gillies – Noise Ordinance. NEMCOG was contacted and Sheriff Stephenson by Gillies. Sheriff is taking discussion to Alcona County to make a countywide ordinance that the Sheriff Dept. would enforce if adopted. Kosal points out that we need to bring Terry Small into the discussion. Gillies to follow-up with Sheriff Stephenson.
- e. **Cemetery Sexton Update** – B. Bartlett receiving calls for more lot sales in the spring. Kosal asked about steps to layout the new area. Plan is for Bartlett to meet with Everett Leeseburg and measure out the areas and mark. Survey is completed for the corners. Layout plan this summer.
- f. **Fire Department – Chief Cordes,**
 - i. Monthly had 12 medical calls and no fire calls.
 - ii. Received a \$5000 grant for new SCVAs. Reviewing with other local departments. Total \$16,400 for requirements.
 - iii. Defibrillator also needs replacing for \$2900. Cordes is working on other grants to help support the increasing replacement costs.
- g. **Alcona County -T. Small** (Small had called Supervisor Smith, Terry is ill and not in attendance.)
 - i. Gypsy Moth Ballot – Ballot Timing at County is April 26 for a new millage proposal per County Clerk. No update on ballot language or review at County.
 - ii. Broadband - Kosal made comments – PIE&G document that was previously discussed by county was not a contract but rather a non-disclosure agreement that allowed the County to discuss the broadband installation technology. No plans for a next meeting on PIE&G broadband at the County level. Alcona County board of Commissioners is willing to listen to a plan from All Band if they make a written proposal.

11. Unfinished Business

- a. **Unpaid Taxes - Personal Property Tax of BC Bar** – Nothing new. Bartlett updated tax bill mailed to owners.
- b. **Mr. Ron Siegel – All Band.** Supervisor Smith spoke to Siegel. He has a new position within All Band. Siegel has a preliminary cost estimate. PIE &G is working in the area also and this is overlapping with All Band work. Could be an issue as the government will not let two companies

overlap areas. All Band willing to come back to talk to Millen Twp. Board. Supervisor Smith talked to the Alcona County Board of Commissioners about the strain on area without broadband. No comment back from the County.

- c. **ARPA** –Project and Expenditure Report, Due April 30, 2022. Auditor to file. No specific projects approved by board at this time. Broadband, Cemetery and Park Pavilion repairs have both been discussed. More information on cost and planning required.
- d. **Pavilion #2 Damage** (Table until springtime) – Supervisor Smith has requested PILT funds back and hoping that the PILT funds will help cover the cost of repairs. Smith to start getting bids for repairs. Pavilion will be assessed to check posts that are heaved up/down. Estimate is to dig under post to determine why post heaved. Wrapping in felt to correct the posts to alleviate the ice forming on the post has been suggested. More details to follow with bids. Township also plans to paint both pavilions as part of overdue maintenance.
- e. **Noise Ordinance** – discussed during Planning/Zoning report (see item d.iii)
- f. **Treasurer/Assessor Process Changes** coming in 2023 – Bartlett to bring back in April/May meeting.
- g. **Kosal – New grant proposal**. Submitted.
- h. **Assessor Annual Reporting of 20% Property Review with Findings** –Smith to review assessor contract for 2022-2023 and have more discussion with Assessor Thompson to highlight contract requirements.
- i. **Gerald Pennington Dead Trees along Trask Lake Road**- A registered letter was sent to Pennington regarding hazard of dead trees. He has received the letter (return/receipt filed). Smith discussed with the Pennington that the homeowner is responsible for the trees. County also stated property owner is responsible. Smith confirmed that the trees measure in the property area and owner is responsible. Pennington took names of three local tree services. Pennington stated goal is to have trees removed by Memorial Day.

12. New Business

- a. **PILT Money** – Alcona County Board of Commissioners. Supervisor Smith presented on March 2 to the Board of Commissioners. (Presentation attached). Smith offered County three Options:
 - i. Do nothing, Millen Township spend-down budget while operating township.
 - ii. County returns PILT money to Millen Township (\$14,000/year). A vote by all Commissioners is required when all members present in person. Gauthier return and an April 6 vote with all members may take place. Smith to request on Commissioner’s agenda.
 - iii. Go to taxpayers and have an increase in the General Operating Fund millage.
- b. **General Operating Fund, Millage Increase – Resolution 2022-11**. Current fixed allocated operating fund is 0.7 mill (or 0.5297 with rollback). Board proposal is to add a new Operating Fund millage proposal to the November 2022 ballot. This additional 0.5 mill to bring the operating millage back to the Michigan Constitutional minimum of 1.0 mill. Discussion to update the ballot proposal to 8 years (not 4 years). Motion by Kosal and 2nd by Somers to adopt the ballot proposal with changes. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Ostrander, Kosal, Bartlett, Smith, Somers. Nay – None. Motion carries.
- c. **Bartlett – State Revenue Sharing will go down** based on the updated 2020 census population decrease in Millen. Estimated decrease of State income is \$9,000.

13. Public Comments – none.

14. Adjourn – Kosal motion to adjourn, Somers 2nd. Motion carries.

***Next Meetings:** April 4, 7:00 pm Millen Township Board Meeting
TBD April 6:30 pm - Planning and Zoning Meeting

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk, Cathy Ostrander