

# MILLEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 2, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Millen Township Hall

## 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

## 2. Roll Call

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

b. **Others:** Terry Small, Mike Davio

## 3. Public Comments: None

## 4. Reports

### a. Clerk:

- i. Motion to approve meeting minutes, Township Board April 4, 2022. Motion to approve by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett and motion carries.
- ii. Motion to approve meeting minutes, Special Board Meeting April 18, 2022 w/ updated resolution number 2022-13. Motion to accept minutes with updates by Somers and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett and motion carries.

### b. Treasurer:

- i. General Income Fund: \$104,891.79
- ii. Road Fund: \$105,812.51
- iii. Fire Fund \$0
- iv. ARPA Fund \$20,387.44
- v. Total: \$231,091.74
- vi. Motion to accept Treasurer Report, subject to audit by Somers and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ostrander. Motion carries.
- vii. Motion to pay bills, subject to board's post-audit policy authorizing payment: Checks #11416 -11439 for Wages, EFPTS, Consumers, FOE (rent), Alcona Co. Review, Everett Leeseburg (Burials); BCIA (4<sup>th</sup> July Ad), Barton City Fire Dept., B&S Software. Motion to accept by Bartlett and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Somers. Motion carries.
- viii. Treasurer and Clerk Balance – Yes
- ix. ARPA Reporting – Report Filed by auditor on behalf of Millen Township on April 27, 2022. Great work by Treasurer Bartlett getting documentation to auditors for submission to the Federal Government prior to deadline.

### c. Road Committee:

- i. **2 Road Projects** - Signed contracts with the County for two road projects this year. Only two projects in the budget due to large cost of main road projects.
- ii. **Mill Roadway Reclassification Request** -Discussion with Joe Schmidt at the Mill regarding potential reclassifying of the roads to the Mill for weight restrictions. During Seasonal Road Restrictions it has been very limiting to the productivity of the company due to half loads of timber. Supervisor Smith to work with the County to determine next steps on possible updates to the road classification.

### d. Zoning/Planning:

- i. **Blight/Unlicensed vehicles stored in yards** - Davio
  1. Burgess Road blight – no new update.
  2. "Chicken House" – Trask Lake road near the BC Park is cluttered with yard junk. Owner is starting to address the need for cleanup.
  3. Cordes trucks have been moved and clean up started.

- ii. **Jewell Lake Dr. Fire Damaged Property Demolition** – Davio. House to be demolished and removed once road restrictions are off. Demo Prep started by striping house contents/siding.
- iii. **Noise Ordinance County Sherriff Feedback- Gillies.** Supervisor Smith reported that each Township would need a common ordinance in place and then the County can enforce with an inter-agency agreement with the Sherriff's department.
- e. **Cemetery Sexton Update (B. Bartlett):**
  - i. **Lot Sales/Burials** - Cemetery sold 3 lots, 1 cremains burial, 1 full burial (w/Sherriff Deputy on call to keep the peace with a family disagreement).
  - ii. **Tree Removal at Cemetery, Bids**
    - 1. Bid from Rick's Tree Service to Supervisor Smith. Rick's Tree Service also updated to an increase due to number of trees making the new bid \$5,500.
    - 2. Tree Bids by Griff in Glennie last year for \$6,800 without the increase in number of trees.
  - iii. **ARPA Project/Spending** - Bartlett to ask auditor if ARPA Funds may be used for the tree removal. Motion by Somers to accept the \$5500 bid, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bartlett and motion carries.
  - iv. **Tree Removal Work** - Bartlett will coordinate the timing of the removal to not interrupt cemetery services.
  - v. **Cemetery Expansion** - Expansion of new cemetery area to be plated. Everett Leeseburg will be bid cost to plat grave sites.
- f. **Fire Department (Chief Cordes):** No update.
- g. **Alcona County (T. Small):** Gypsy Moth will not be on the August Ballot.

#### 5. Unfinished Business:

- a. **Unpaid Taxes** - Personal Property Tax of BC Bar. No updates. Smith to reach out to owners.
- b. **Mr. Ron Siegel – All Band.** No new feedback from All Band.
- c. **ARPA – Project Planning.** Bartlett to gather forms/template for project planning/documentation to meet Federal requirements. Cemetery Tree Trimming and Pavilion Repair are project candidates.
- d. **Pavilion #2 Repairs/Bids** – 2 roofing bids submitted (\$9000 roof repairs only). Smith worked with the construction members and has put together a material list for posts, paint and hardware. Material cost alone total \$2500. Smith would like to start project with the post correction to level structure using township volunteers and cover only material costs. Motion by Somers to accept spending up to \$2500 from the ARPA funds for material cost to level pavilion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett and motion carries. The Mill in town will donate/loan bracing materials.
- e. **Treasurer/Assessor Process Changes coming in 2023.** - Comparison of processing cost made by Bartlett. Whitlock at \$1468.84 and Alcona County Review cost at \$1391. Bartlett recommends accepting the Alcona County Review to spend up to \$1391. Bartlett says advantage of processing by Alcona County Review is ability to crosscheck tax bills by confirming address/mortgage escrow changes and avoid multiple mailings for parcels with same owner. This will save rework time after the fact by avoiding corrections. Motion to accept Alcona County Review as supplier and spend up to \$1391 made by Somers. A 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith and motion carries. This will be the first year processing with the new method and will be evaluated again next year for possible changes.
- f. **Kosal - New Grant/Par Plan Risk Reduction Grant/Park Pavilion Repair Cost** - No update.
- g. **Assessor Annual Reporting of 20% Property Review with Findings** – Smith to follow-up with assessor.
- h. **PILT Review at County Commissioners** – Smith presented request for the return of PILT funding to the Township levels at the April 20<sup>th</sup> Alcona County Commissioners Board Meeting. All Commissioners were in attendance to vote at this second presentation by Smith. Vote resulted in approval to return 25% of the PILT income funds from Alcona County starting in 2023. This will result in approximately \$7,000 income to

Millen Township. Budget planning at County is September 2022 and the Township should follow-up to make sure budget line item is maintained by Alcona County to return money to Townships.

- i. **Bois Blanc Letter & Resolution for small community exemption for in-person meeting requirement.** Discussion by Smith that members could listen to meetings remotely per current process. No remote voting. No additional support on this Bois Blanc resolution.
- j. **Park Clean-up** - Once again the Millen Township Park Spring Clean-up was an overwhelming success. We had scheduled three days to complete the job and it was completed in a day and a half due to all of our volunteers we had once again this year.

Thank you to all that assisted with the project, we can be proud of our community park:

Barton City General Store (Gary and Mo), Stout's Lawn Service (Ron Stout), Mark Keller, Jim Pangonis, Jeff Anderson, RuthAnn Couperthwaite, Paul Lauth, Jeff Lauth Lawn Service, Rod Cordes, Karen Sutton, Rob Sutton, Corkey Brown, Tom Davis, Ron Stout, Roy Somers, Mark Malanyn, Trish Miller, Pete and Cathy Ostrander, Dennis and Sheryl Smith

**6. New Business:**

- a. **State of Michigan Revenue sharing** will be adjusted down by \$7400 income due to count reduction during 2020 Census (404 to 362 residents). Smith to send letter to Ostrander to potentially challenge the Census count as the total number of registered voters is 371 (18 and older) and would not include any children.
- b. **Operational Millage Ballot Increase (0.5 mill)** - Smith to have letter to all residents to explain the ballot increase of 0.5 millage for operational cost.
- c. **Davio – Asked if Pavilion work is starting with volunteers first.** The answer is yes and then contract as appropriate. Davio asked by BCIA about planning park activities for July 4<sup>th</sup>. Smith planning to complete this "leveling work" by the end of May. All Pavilion updates to be completed by July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Public Comments:** None.

**8. Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. Motion carries.

**\*Next Meetings:** May 16, 6:30 pm - Planning and Zoning Meeting  
June 6, 7:00 pm Millen Township Board Meeting

*Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk, Cathy Ostrander*