

MILLEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 6, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Millen Township Hall

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

- a. Board: Denny Smith-Supervisor, Barb Bartlett-Treasurer, Jeff Somers-Trustee, Cathy Ostrander- Clerk
Absent: Scott Kosal – Trustee
- b. Other Attendees: Jim Dorr, Terry Small, Rod Cordes, Sheriff Scott Stephenson, Mike Davio

3. Public Comments –

Sheriff Stephenson:

- a. Update on the contract to enforce the Noise Ordinance. Rough draft to be reviewed with the Supervisor. Millen Township Attorney Gulden to be contacted. Fines to be reviewed with the attorney. Sheriff may charge on a per call basis and court time. Millen Township is the first township to move forward with noise ordinance fines. Greenbush will also address noise ordinance with the support of their local constable. Supervisor Smith commented that this would be an available tool for Millen and hoped it would not be necessary.
- b. Sheriff currently supports the Alcona Schools on a halftime basis due to disability of an officer. Once that officer returns to duty, it is planned to have full time officer at the school.
- c. Sheriff is approaching the County Commissioners on following up on the duties of the Commissioners and not just campaign promises.
- d. Sheriff looking for new recruits and retention of current officers.

4. Reports

- a. Clerk:
 - i. Motion to approve meeting minutes Township Board December 5, 2022. Motion by Somers to accept both sets of minutes. 2nd by Bartlett. Motion carries.
 - ii. Motion to approve meeting minutes Township Board January 2, 2023
Motion by Somers to accept both sets of minutes. 2nd by Bartlett. Motion carried.
- b. Treasurer:
 - i. General Income Fund: \$88,658.20
 - ii. Road Fund: \$64,637.74
 - iii. Fire Fund \$5,584.66
 - iv. ARPA Fund \$19,694.42
 - v. Total: \$178,575.02
 - vi. Motion to accept Treasurer Report, subject to audit. Motion to accept subject to audit by Somers, 2nd by Ostrander. Motion carried.
 - vii. Motion to pay bills, subject to board's post-audit policy authorizing payment: Checks # 11671-11692; Wages, EFPTS, Consumers, FOE (rent), Assessor, USPS (Clerk PO Box), BC Fire Dept., Election Source, Lincoln Sand & Gravel, USPS, MTA (training). Motion to pay the bills by Somers, 2nd by Bartlett. Motion carried.
 - viii. Treasurer and Clerk Balance - Yes
- c. Road Committee: No updates.
- d. County Commissioner: T. Small
 - i. PILT money. March-April Payment expected by the Deputy Treasurer that is working on the PILT breakdown.
 - ii. Broadband update – Lines are being laid in Cheboygan. No timeline for our area.
- e. Zoning/Planning: Gillies (not available)
 - i. Supervisor Smith would like to have Rich address the set back and noise level for Solar Panel utilizing the Gustin ordinance amendments. Should we include in Millen Solar Ordinance? (Gillies)

- ii. Consumer Dam ordinance – required to subcontract 50% of the solar energy.
- iii. 1600 Walker Road – Living in camper and multiple unlicensed vehicles, junk cleanup. Davio to investigate and contact property owner.
- f. Cemetery Sexton Update: B. Bartlett
 - i. Working with Everett Leeseberg on bid for new lots in north section and cleanup on Burns Road. Cost to be reviewed in detail at the Budget Meeting February 6 (public welcome)
 - ii. Green Burials – Suggestion from Funeral Home is not to include this type of burial in the Maple Ridge Cemetery due to the current layouts and requirements of Green Burials (vault requirements/changes). Suggest to add restriction to the Cemetery Ordinance.
- g. Fire Department: Chief Cordes
 - i. New pagers on order by the end of this week using grant
 - ii. Station Construction Update - heat and insulation were completed last week. On March 6 the station sign will be installed. Electricians are currently working. Floors were poured in shower room and tile expected soon.
 - iii. Chief Cordes sent a new grant request for a new vehicle.
 - iv. Calls in January: 1 mutual aid run with Curan for a house full of smoke; 3 medical calls.
 - v. AAA Grant paperwork may require supervisor’s support letter.
 - vi. Supervisor Smith Question – Any update on EMT Training? No significant feedback other than one returning EMT recognized.

5. Unfinished Business

- a. PILT Payment from Alcona County. Timing expected to be April or May 2023. (item tabled)
- b. Unpaid Taxes - Personal Property Tax of BC Bar- Forms due 2/21/2023 to Randy Thompson. (item tabled)
- c. ARPA Grant– Project Planning
 - i. Cemetery – Spring project planning expansion bid. \$2000 for expansion of north lot, remaining cost breakdown for Burns road stump grinding/grass seeding and sign/planter/shed roof to be reviewed at budget meeting.
 - ii. Pavilion teardown – completed.
 - iii. Park Ballfield Fence Post Repairs and Bleachers repair of wooden seats. – (Tabled until Spring)
 - iv. Stump Removal at the rear of the ballpark leftfield fence is required to clean up area. – (Tabled until spring) New home owners are in the home. Stump removal to be quoted.
 - v. Remaining ARPA Grant Funded Project Proposals, Repaint the upper Pavilion – 2023 when weather permits. - (Tabled until Spring)
 - vi. Supervisor Smith suggested adding some type of lighting in the BC Park such as mercury vapor lighting. Table until spring.
- d. Bartlett informed the Board that Alcona Schools pays the Township \$3.00/parcel for collection the summer taxes. Should the AMA be charged for collection on their behalf? Hawes Supervisor Cordes suggested to ask Marlena MacNeil and get feedback from Alcona County Township Supervisors/Treasurers. Barb to send email to Marlena.

6. New Business –

- a. Land Division Contract 2023 with Alcona County. Motion to accept agreement by Bartlett, 2nd by Bartlett. Board Vote – Ayes – Smith, Somers, Bartlett, Somers. Nays – None. Board approved. Clerk to forward to county.
- b. Green Burials – To be restricted in the Cemetery Ordinance. Amendment to be brought before the Board for a vote.
- c. Upgrade Clerk and Treasurers computers (10 yr. old system) – Board spending approval of a do not exceed \$4000. 2 computers and software per breakdown working with Mike’s Computer Repair (MCR)– Lincoln. MCR bid was \$455 less than Bartlett’s direct purchase of equipment by the Township. Motion by Somers to

approve the do not exceed \$4000 spend for new computers, software and installation. 2nd by Bartlett. Motion carried. Funds to come from transfer from current remaining Park budget funds.

- d. Township Credit Card – held by Treasurer. Motion by Somers for a Huron Bank Credit Card to be used for Township immediate expenses only. Motion 2nd by Bartlett and motion carried. **One credit card to be issued for Millen Township to Barbara Bartlett, Treasurer. All credit card transactions will be documented in the Treasurer’s Report and recorded in the monthly Millen Township Minutes.**
- e. Bartlett asked for review of current township attorney policy in light of Sheriff’s review of ordinance. Supervisor Smith reminded that the attorney contact must be preapproved at the Board or in emergency by Supervisor Smith.

7. Public Comments –

- a. Rod Cordes – Hawes Township website (hawestwp.com) up and running.
- b. Rod thanked Bartlett and Ostrander for attending the MTA Alcona Township Chapter Meeting representing Millen Township.
- c. Supervisor Smith asked Chief Cordes about the recent deaths of children from fires and the need for smoke detectors and training. Chief Cordes stated with support of the community for installations, more could be done as the smoke detectors are usually provided at no cost.

8. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Somers, 2nd by Bartlett. Motion carried

***Next Meetings:** February 7 & 21, 7:00 pm – Budget Planning Meeting

March 6, 6:45 pm – Public Budget Hearing

March 6, 7:00 pm- Millen Township Board Meeting

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk, Cathy Ostrander

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