

# MILLEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 3, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Millen Township Hall

## 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

## 2. Roll Call

a. Board: Barb Bartlett-Treasurer, Cathy Ostrander-Clerk, Dennis Smith-Supervisor, Jeff Somers – Trustee  
absent: Scott Kosal-Trustee

b. Other Attendees: Terry Small, Rich Gillies, Mike Davio, Rod Cordes, Ron Stout

## 3. Public Comments – Ron Stout, Stout's Lawn Service submitted the only closed bid for 2023 season. Mowing bids covered BC Park and Cemetery at \$450 per each mowing. Bid also included a \$450 per clean-up at cemetery (bid same as last year's fees). Motion to accept Stout's Lawn Service by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. Motion carried.

## 4. Reports

### a. Clerk:

i. Motion to approve meeting minutes Budget Hearing and Township Board Meeting March 6, 2023. Motion by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. Motion carried.

### b. Treasurer:

i. General Income Fund: \$103,211.42

ii. Road Fund: \$99,621.07

iii. Fire Fund \$0

iv. ARPA Fund \$19,694.42

v. Total: \$222,526.91

vi. Motion to accept Treasurer Report, subject to audit. Motion to accept the report subject to audit by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ostrander. Motion carried.

vii. Motion to pay bills, subject to board's post-audit policy authorizing payment: Checks # 11710 - 11741; Wages, EFPTS, Consumers, FOE (rent), Assessor, Whitlock, Fire Dept., Alcona Review, Internet payments. Motion by Bartlett to pay bills subject to audit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Somers. Motion carried.

viii. Treasurer and Clerk Balance - Yes

c. Road Committee: No updates from County. Supervisor Smith received Walker and Bean Hill road complaint from resident Dick Champagne. Road conditions are extremely muddy due to spring thaw in that area of the road. Supervisor Smith recommends adding recycled asphalt as a potential road project for this road pending materials and budget. Smith to ride with County RC Campbell for road project review.

d. County Commissioner: T. Small, June PILT disbursement planned.

e. Zoning/Planning: Gillies

i. Updates and formatting corrections to the Zoning Manual and Zoning Map printing – Somers completed the update. Copy was presented to the Board. Final review for publication approval in June P&Z Meeting.

ii. 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). Expect that it is a 50 ft. setback using NEMCOG input. Rich to follow up. Rich confirmed the setback shall be 50 ft. from road right away and all lots per current publication.

iii. 1600 Walker Road – Living in camper and multiple unlicensed vehicles, junk cleanup. Davio to investigate and contact property owner. Davio update: Owner contacted on cleanup. Owners plan to clean up this spring once weather improves. Owner asked about a 48 ft. grain bin conversion as a home. Davio instructed owner to submit building plans to County for reviewed and approval.

- iv. Fowler and Stout Rd.– Property has abandoned vehicles. Owner died and estate must remove junk vehicles. Davio to send a letter to owner. Registered letter to be mailed 4/4/23 to the owners.
- f. Cemetery Sexton Update: B. Bartlett
  - i. Everett Leeseberg bid for the cemetery expansion, Burns Rd grading/seeding and perimeter overgrowth clean-up. ARPA detailed project plan of \$14,000 including all sexton's purchased lot markers. Motion by Ostrander, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Somers. Motion carried. (ARPA Plan details available in plan book for auditors).
- g. Fire Department: Chief Cordes
  - i. Monthly Fire Run Summary - 8 medical, 1 fire call
  - ii. Fire Hall Building nearing completion. Second floor is complete. Carpet/tile to be ordered this week for remaining areas. The kitchen is near completion.
  - iii. Cordes applied for a grant with letters of support from Supervisor Smith, Sheriff Stephenson, EMT team members and MSP Grimshaw. New jaws of life/battery operated spreader equipment are planned pending grant.
  - iv. Mutual Aid department support will now become automatic for BC Fire Dept. to support all other local townships as many have very low volunteer numbers.

## 5. Unfinished Business

- a. PILT Payment from Alcona County. Timing expected to be April or May 2023. June disbursement timing.
- b. Unpaid Taxes - Personal Property Tax of BC Bar- Forms due 2/21/2023 to Randy Thompson. Barb sent 2019 – 2022 back taxes to residence with return receipt. Owners received. Assessor did not receive forms to date, but forms may be submitted during BOR in March. No updates.
- c. ARPA Grant– Project Planning
  - i. ARPA Report Filing with Auditor. Copy signed by Supervisor Smith and Bartlett to submit in April.
  - ii. Park Ballfield Fence Post Repairs and Bleachers repair of wooden seats.
  - iii. Stump Removal at the rear of the ballpark leftfield fence is required to clean up area. New homeowners are in the home. Stump removal to be quoted. Smith to mark stumps for bid mow that snow has cleared.
  - iv. Remaining ARPA Grant Funded Project Proposals, Repaint the upper Pavilion – 2023 when weather permits.
  - v. Supervisor Smith suggested adding some type of lighting in the BC Park such as mercury vapor lighting. Requesting bid from electrical companies.
  - vi. Lower Concrete Refurbishing – Pickle ball, other? Ostrander to get measurements and bid from *ProSurface* the company used by Alpena Apex for pickle ball court surfacing.

## 6. New Business –

- a. Noise Ordinance Agreement from Sheriff Stephenson
  - Agreement Approval by Board. Motion to accept Sheriff's proposed contract by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. Motion carried. Next steps to send to attorney.
  - Next steps with Attorney review – Smith to request attorney review.
- b. L-4029 Review (Ostrander)/Tax Processing due date processing (Bartlett)
- c. Mowing bid and contracts – see public comments.
- d. Cemetery Grave Excavation bid and contract - See above
- e. C&S Dust Control Contract – Motion to accept the bid by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. Motion carried.
- f. BCIA July 4<sup>th</sup> Advertisement by Board –Motion to spend \$90 for half page (same as 2022) by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. Motion carried.
- g. Township Email password updates and storage capacity cleanup. Password changes required and to be filed with Bartlett.

- h. Supervisor Smith – EV Charging Station grant funding offered by Senator Gary Peters. Board does not support the investment at this time.
- i. Davio asked about new underground lines being run on M72. Cordes stated he believes new fiber optic system to run as far as tower at Bean Hill Road.
- j. Smith – Asked Terry Small about the upcoming Rural Internet Meeting in Mio, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Terry Small to review for attendance.
- k. Smith/Cordes – Tax Board of Review is currently held by Hawes and Millen Township separately. Suggestion made to combine meetings in 2024 to better utilize time/money spent at BOR. Few properties have been reviewed in the past several years and there would be little or no delay to property owners. By law, the townships could combine since they are adjoining Townships. The assessor is the same for both Hawes and Millen Township. More details to follow on BOR Members and Secretary for the meetings. Motion to combine BOR in 2024 made by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. Motion carried.

7. **Public Comments** – None.

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

***\*Next Meetings:***

*April 17, 6:30 pm - Planning and Zoning*

*May 1, 7:00 pm- Millen Township Board Meeting*

***\*\*\* Minutes respectfully submitted by Clerk, Cathy Ostrander***