

# MILLEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 2, 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 (remote due to illness), Dennis Smith-Supervisor, Scott Kosal-Trustee, Jeff Somers – Trustee
- b. Other Attendees – Mark Keller, Mike Davio, Rich Gillies, Rod Cordes, Jim Burger

## 3) Public Comments – Jim Burger representing VFW 8135 requested support for the roof repair on the VFW Hall. Asking for \$1000 of support for the new roof which cost in excess of \$11,000. Otherwise, they will lose the insurance and must abandon the post. This post serves Millen Township. Add this to the agenda next meeting. Kosal asked if this could be out of the next year's fiscal budget.

## 4) Reports

- a. Clerk:
  - i. Motion to approve meeting minutes Township Board Meeting September 5, 2023. Motion by Kosal, 2nd by Somers. Motion carried.
- b. Treasurer:
  - i. General Income Fund: \$102,970.81
  - ii. Road Fund: \$20,774.61
  - iii. Fire Fund \$0
  - iv. ARPA Fund \$7,570.04
  - v. Total: \$131,315.46
  - vi. Motion to accept Treasurer Report, subject to audit. Motion to accept subject by Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kosal. Motion carried.
  - vii. Motion to pay bills, subject to board's post-audit policy authorizing payment: Checks # 11905-11933; Wages, EFPTS, Consumers, FOE (rent), VISA, Stout's Lawn, Lincoln Hardware, USPS (PO Box), Ostrander Reimbursement Election Postage, Everett Leeseberg, Alcona Sheriff, Mike's Computer Repair (Election video), Met-Life. Motion by Kosal to pay, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Somers. Motion carried.
  - viii. Treasurer and Clerk Balance - Yes
- c. Road Committee:
  - i. Ross Road due to rough condition. Reviewed with Campbell and he has driven to review. County does not maintain the section for the Forrest Service Road. It is not County maintained. Kosal to call resident.
  - ii. Speed study with Campbell. Waiting on the lines to complete. Line painting in process.
- d. County Commissioner: T. Small
  - i. PILT payment received at 25% of payment. Next year's county budget September and Township should request PILT payment in County budget plan. Smith spoke to Small this morning. Smith to return on 18<sup>th</sup> to County Commissions to request the remaining 25% of the PILT funds provided in the past.
  - ii. Broadband- County spending on the studies only currently (Q2 2024 timing) and no additional infrastructure being completed at this time. No updates.
- e. Zoning/Planning: Rich Gillies
  - i. 1600 Walker Road –to add a manufactured home and more cleanup to follow. No update. Permit pulled for the home. Foundation block is in process.
  - ii. Fowler and Stout Road – Property has abandoned vehicles. Property cleanup is improving. Removed over 14 vehicles. Property improvement.

- iii. Pine Street complaint of garbage. Jamie Rathorne (new owner) is working on cleanup. No update.
- iv. Trask Lake Road- Edgewood has family living in a 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel. Resident is working on cleaning up the yard/trash. Cleanup in process. Resident is living in the 5<sup>th</sup> wheel. Under review.
- v. Trask Lake/Kohler – Davio to review property for building updates without permit. No update.
- vi. Complaint - Dogs barking on Jewell Lake Drive. 4-5 dogs are in the yard barking during the day. Kosal has counted 6 dogs at a single time which exceed zoning for number of dogs (4 is limit). Sending letter.
- vii. Complaint - Dog barking on Burgess Rd. Supervisor Smith reviewed complaint with the owner. Dogs have been addressed.
- viii. Potentially condemned trailer on Jewell and Burgess. Bartlett to review tax roll for owner.
- f. Cemetery Sexton Update: B. Bartlett
  - i. Burns road updates are completed.
  - ii. Corner Posts are the next measurements prior to ordering numbered plates for expansion.
  - iii. Sign updated with lattice work and painted. Shrubs planted. Project complete.
  - iv. Shed updates to be completed.
- g. Fire Department: Chief Cordes –
  - i. Attended the emergency services class with approximately 108 participants. Good class. New fire chief and assistant chief from Lincoln also attended.
  - ii. Countywide mutual aid agreement is under discussion. This would have the municipalities join and include the equipment that would be available for use by other townships. An example would be a large wildfire and supporting municipalities. The call can be made and you don't have to respond if resources are not available at the time. The agreement would mean as a municipality we would have to sign for the agreement. Smith asked for a draft copy of the agreement. Timing in 2024 first quarter to review at a supervisor's meeting.
  - iii. September is license renewal with the State online. Inspections of vehicles are completed by online video.
  - iv. October 18, Alcona County participants to attend Iosco County instructional event on EV Vehicle fires.
  - v. Fire Hall Building is 99% complete.
  - vi. Training class in November for 6 months to be combined with Iosco county to make the participation requirements for attendance. State approvals. Some of the class will be virtual.

## 5) Unfinished Business

- a. Unpaid Taxes - Personal Property Tax of BC Bar – Summer 2019 open.
- b. ARPA Grant– Project Planning
  - i. Repair of fence behind ball field, to be placed out for bid. Tabled until receive bids. Township seeking more fencing contractors. No update – tabled.
  - ii. Treasurer Bartlett to follow up on article that stated if ARPA project spending is completed and documented in 2023, there is an opportunity for additional ARPA funds. Treasurer Bartlett reported that upon checking with MTA Millen Township receives constitutional revenue funding and are not eligible to receive additional ARPA funding.
- c. Kosal – Seasonal verses no maintenance roads, what are the roads definitions and maintenance? Smith to review with Campbell. No update.
- d. Park Pavilion well pump requires a major repair.
  - i. Status update of repair/replace. \$5092 is the final bill to repair. Payment to come from the park maintenance fund by adjusting the fund with the \$2000.
  - ii. BCIA Contributed \$2000 donation to the well repair. Thank you for the generous contribution.
  - iii. 1.5 yards of Concrete to be added back in front of the pavilion. Smith to pull cost together.
- e. Proposal 2 – Township AV Ballot Drop Box and Installation – Supervisor Smith installed on the wall at the Millen Township Hall exterior entrance - COMPLETED

- f. Proposal 2 – Township AV Ballot Drop Box Video Installation- Mike’s Computer Repair – COMPLETED  
9/20/23

**6) New Business**

- a) Election Commission Meeting by the Board – Motion to approve the following items. Motion by Kosal to accept the proposals for the Election Commission recommendations, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Somers and motion carries.
- i) 2023 November 7<sup>th</sup> – Local Election, Alcona County School Millage only
- (1) Millen Township will not include Early Voting at this local election
  - (2) Election Inspectors: Cathy Ostrander, Karen Sutton (Chair), Trish Miller, Marlene Forsythe, Sheryl Smith
  - (3) Election Voting Site is Millen Township Hall located at 671 N. Sanborn Road, Barton City
  - (4) AV Ballots sent to publishing on September 18. Applications are in process to receive AV Ballots using the permanent AV List by Clerk.
  - (5) Permanent Ballot List, Proposal 2 – Registered voters may request to be placed on a permanent ballot list. They will then receive a ballot for each future election without submitting a new AV Application for each election.
- ii) 2024 February 27 or March 12 Presidential Primary Election
- (1) 9 days of Early Voting – Countywide Agreement to conduct early voting (Due October 25)
  - (2) 9 Days of Early Voting Site will be Located at the Alcona County Building, Harrisville
  - (3) AV Ballots will be process on Election Day and not during early voting process
- b) Request to review Township Pension Fund Township fund with Attorney for proper process to put funds into Township General Fund. Abandoned fund has been placed in the Township’s name and the Township members from 1991 are under review. Barb has one more previous member to contact to determine ownership.
- c) Alcona County Quilt Project – Committee is dissolving due to lack of interest. BC Park quilt square is now property of Millen Township
- d) Bartlett – Email from County Treasurer stating that equalization no longer will work with the company on parcel information that they charged \$0.30 per parcel. Bartlett will send a copy of the Tax Roll and will not charge based on FOIA. MTA was in agreement and County was also informed of Township’s new process.
- 7) **Public Comments** – Rich Gillies said County Commissioner September 6 reviewed the Solar Ordinance without feedback. Add to agenda at next Township meeting.
- 8) **Adjourn** – Motion by Kosal to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Somers and Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

**\*Next Meetings:**

*November 6, 7:00 pm – Millen Township Board Meeting*

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