

MILLEN TOWNSHIP
2024-2025 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING & BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 4, 2024

Time: 6:45 PM

Place: Millen Township Hall

• **Budget Hearing- 6:45 p.m.**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

a. **Board** – Barb Bartlett-Treasurer, Cathy Ostrander – Clerk, Denny Smith – Supervisor, Jeff Somers-Trustee, Scott Kosal - Trustee

b. **Other Attendees** – Jim Dorr, Rod Cordes, Rich Gillies, Terry Small

3. Public Comments not on the agenda - None

4. Property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget – L 4029 Presented to review breakdown of the millage rates.

5. Truth in Taxation Review and signature by Supervisor Smith – Reviewed and signed

6. Public Comments - None

7. Motion to approve the 2024-2025 Budget – Motion by Kosal, 2nd by Somers. Roll call – Ayes – Bartlett, Kosal, Somers, Ostrander, Smith; Nays – None. Motion carried

8. Adjourn Budget Hearing – Motion to adjourn by Ostrander, 2nd by Somers. Motion carried. Adjourned at 6:52 pm

• **Board Meeting- 7:00 p.m.**

1) Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

2) Roll Call

a. **Board** – Barb Bartlett-Treasurer, Cathy Ostrander – Clerk, Denny Smith – Supervisor, Jeff Somers-Trustee, Scott Kosal

b. **Other Attendees** – Jim Dorr, Rod Cordes, Rich Gillies, Terry Small

3) Public Comments - None

4) Reports

a. Clerk:

i. Motion to approve meeting minutes Township Board Meeting February 5, 2024.

ii. Motion to approve meeting minutes Budget Planning Meeting February 6, 2024.

iii. Motion to approve meeting minutes Budget Planning Meeting February 20, 2024.

I. Motion to approve all meeting minutes as presented by Somers, 2nd by Kosal. Motion carried.

b. Treasurer:

i. General Income Fund: \$125,200.94

ii. Road Fund: \$68,990.92

iii. Fire Fund: \$0

iv. ARPA Fund \$7,510.16

v. Total: \$201,702.02

vi. Motion to accept Treasurer Report, subject to audit. Motion by Kosal to accept subject to audit 2nd by Somers. Motion carried.

- vii. Motion to pay bills, subject to board's post-audit policy authorizing payment: Checks #12024-12052; Wages, EFPTS, Consumers, FOE (rent), Election Source, Alcona County Review, BC Fire Dept., Election Mileage Reimbursement, VISA, Election Workers, Holland Supply, Met-Life, Whitlock. Motion by Kosal, 2nd by Somers. Motion carried.
- viii. Treasurer and Clerk Balance - Yes
- c. Road Committee: Drive will happen in the next months.
- d. County Commissioner: T. Small – Terry working with Waste Management Company. Alcona and Alpena Counties are considering a regional plan. A six-month plan under review at the mandate by the state to have 40% recyclable content.
- e. Zoning/Planning: Rich Gillies/Scott Kosal
 - i. Rich Gillies/Scott Kosal – no updates on Planning/Zoning.
 - ii. Ross Road question on easement question.
 - iii. Smith received question by Von Fintal complaint on Bean Hill Road requesting crushed asphalt to address spring breakup. Bean Hill South to the Smith Bridge is also under consideration. Need review with Road Commission for cost and available materials.
 - iv. Pine Street complaint of garbage. Jamie Rathorne (new owner) is working on cleanup. No update.
 - v. Trask Lake Road- Edgewood has family living in a 5th Wheel. No update. Supervisor Smith to review with property owners to understand their intentions. No update.
 - vi. Potentially condemned trailer on Jewell and Burgess. Bartlett to review tax roll for owner. Barb to provide copy to Kosal. Supervisor Smith received 3 complaints. Sheriff has been contacted. Alcona Co Commissioners to sign off on the enforcement of Millen Township Ordinances. Terry Small to review at the next meeting to determine if the prosecuting attorney has reviewed enforcement language. Kosal to follow up with notification. Contacting Harry Harvey on condemning document.
 - vii. Gillies – Waiting to hear back from NEMCOG on the Solar Ordinance adjustments. Smith reviewed with Cordes at Hawes the same. Solar panels are moving forward in several local communities. No additional updates. Currently in holding pattern until State Bill is decided on Local control of ordinances.
- f. Cemetery Sexton Update: B. Bartlett
 - i. Everett has shed roof materials.
 - ii. Full burial this Wednesday.
 - iii. Cremains burial in July.
- g. Fire Department: Chief Cordes
 - i. Request for Township to submit millage renewal at the 1.5 mill currently
 - ii. Grant for \$5000 used for air bottles. Bottles have been received. Voted to go with at 30-year bottle system.
 - iii. Reviewing a used Tanker Truck with an Aluminum tank verses current steel Tanker Truck.
 - iv. A couple of grass fires already in the County. Luckily none in Millen Township.
 - v. Supervisor Smith asked about possibility of a grant to cover the Truck. There are grants under review if they are available to the Department. Federal Government has a grant for a slide out unit to add to a pickup truck.

5) Unfinished Business

- a. Unpaid Taxes - Personal Property Tax of BC Bar – Summer 2019 open. No update. Assessor dropped off new forms to excluded future taxes.
- b. ARPA Grant– Project Planning. Bartlett has a current project list to cover 2024.
- c. Fred McFadden was contacted about the ball field fencing posts that need repair. Bid to be received by next meeting. Bid not received at this time. West Branch Post has treated posts available to purchase and install with volunteer help if no bid.
- d. 2024-25 Contracts

- (1) Mowing Park – Stout Lawn Service and Home Maint. 3/1/24 submitted a bid. \$500/mow. Motion to accept the bid subject to contract approval, 2nd by Somers. Motion carried.
- (2) Mowing Cemetery – Stout Lawn Service and Home Maint. 3/1/24 submitted a bid. \$500/mow. Motion to accept the bid subject to contract approval, 2nd by Somers. Motion carried.
- (3) Cemetery Burials – Everett Leeseberg.
- (4) Assessor – Contract at \$8700/year for 960 parcels. Assessor is employee with roles and responsibilities defined. Supervisor Smith and Treasurer Bartlett had a meeting to review the new tax processing with Assessor Thompson. Kathy Thompson and Randy Thompson were both present to review the BS&A file issues that were experienced on property updates (address changes, transfer of properties, etc.). Treasurer Bartlett agreed to coordinate with Thompson all address changes that she receives with tax payments. Alcona County transfer to Township the tax collection.
- (5) Dust Control – expected in March.

6) New Business

- a. Millage – Road Renewal August Election. Resolution next meeting.
- b. Millage- Fire Renewal August Election Resolution next meeting.
- c. Supervisor Smith – Request to rent the BC Park June 22 for Alcona County Class of '79 Reunion and finish at 1:00 am. Board pointed out that there is a noise ordinance at 11:00 pm. Alcohol use waiver must be signed in the park agreement. Township recommends private insurance. Motion by Kosal, 2nd by Somers. Motion carried.
- d. Alcona County Veterans Affairs – Covers the cost of flag replacement in cemetery. Thank you.
- e. Alcona County Fair Ground Events Calendar reviewed by Supervisor Smith (June 9 – August 10)
- f. Assessor Thompson requested updated BOR forms including Property Address Change on website.
- g. Bartlett (Sexton) – Requested that the Cemetery mowing contract be reviewed to make sure the requirements of the contract

7) **Public Comments** – None.

8) **Adjourn** – Motion by Somers, 2nd by Kosal. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

***Next Meetings:** *April 1, 7:00 PM Millen Township Board Meeting*

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