

# MILLEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 3, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Millen Township Hall

1) **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

2) **Roll Call**

- a. Board: Barb Bartlett – Treasure, Mary Somers – Clerk, Denny Smith – Supervisor, Scott Kosal – Trustee, Jeff Somers – Trustee
- b. Other Attendees: Rich Gillies, Rodney Cordes, Deb Kilbourn, Graig Kilbourn

3) **Public Comments** – None

4) **Reports**

- a. Clerk:
  - i. Motion to approve meeting minutes Township Board Meeting January 6, 2025. Motion by Kosal, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. Motion carried
- b. Treasurer:
  - i. General Income Fund: \$122,503.20
  - ii. Road Fund: \$50,112.04
  - iii. Fire Fund: \$0
  - iv. ARPA Fund \$0
  - v. Total: \$172,615.24
  - vi. Motion to accept Treasurer Report, subject to audit. Motion to accept subject to audit by J. Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kosal. Motion carried.
  - vii. Motion to pay bills, subject to board's post-audit policy authorizing payment: Checks #12346-12364; EFPTS, Barton City Fire Department, wages, FOE (rent), Consumers, US Postal Service, Whitlock Business Systems, Mary Somers, Election Source. Motion to pay the bills by Kosal, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Somers. Motion carried.
  - viii. Treasurer and Clerk Balance
- c. Road Committee-
  - i. Speed study results – New signs. Smith spoke to Jesse Campbell. Waiting for MSP drive review to update to 35 MPH, 25 MPH in the curve near Richardson Rd, still no signed TCO. Signs to then be posted. Smith received document from Jesse Campbell that the State Police has some discussion to put up speed limits signs increasing to 40 MPH. Smith has gone back and requested the increase to be 35 MPH and 25 in the curves. A suggestion was brought up to install solar powered radar signs, they are roughly \$3,000 apiece and there would be two installed. This could be funded using road improvement funds, there was also a suggestion to approach Hawes township about splitting the cost, as well as looking into community impact grants. TCO has been sent to Lansing, once signed the new signs reflecting 35 MPH and 25 MPH in the curves will be posted. Smith sent a letter to Hawes Supervisor requesting assistance with the cost of solar powered radar signs. Kosal submitted a Community Update Grant for the solar powered radar signs.
- d. County Commissioner: T. Small. Absent, no update
- e. Zoning/Planning: Rich Gillies/Scott Kosal. Kosal drove through the east side of the township to just get a feel for what is out there.
- f. Cemetery Sexton Update: B. Bartlett. No update
- g. Fire Department: Chief Cordes.
  - i. Omega was at the fire station with a grant to upgrade to LED lighting
  - ii. Ordered new air bottles for filling station and those have been installed
  - iii. There were 95 medical call and 20 fire calls last month
  - iv. 50/50 Grant for helmets has been granted in the \$7,500

- v. Workman's Comp Insurance has come back with an additional \$600 bill
- vi. Still working on setting up a Medical First Responders class to be held at the fire station
- vii. Hawes township spent the remaining of their ARPA funds on a new jaws of life tool, that Rodney brought in and demonstrated

**5) Unfinished Business**

- a. BC Bar Property Tax – No update
- b. MTA Par Plan Risk Grant potential for rubber mulch. Grant application rejected. Re-apply at the next grant cycle, this will be done. Grant resubmitted on 3 February 2025, which was for 100 bags at a cost of \$1,600
- c. Bond coverage, confirm with insurance company and possibly consider adding the sexton with bond coverage. The cost was provided by insurance company to add sexton at a cost of \$30 for \$5,000 in coverage. A motion by Bartlett to add the coverage, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kosal. A roll call vote was conducted, Kosal (Yes), J. Somers (Yes), M. Somers (Yes), Bartlett (Yes), Smith (Yes). Motion carried.

**6) New Business –**

- a. Update of the Zoning/Master Plan Rewrite. Millen Township Public Input Survey and flyer. (Scott). See attached email from Kosal. Flyers have been provided to post throughout the township and on the website for people to go to and fill out survey to assist in the rewrite.
- b. Review and Approve Resolution 2025-03 – Wages. Will be discussed at a later meeting
- c. Received written request from Marcy Hammer requesting the Barton City Park be renamed the Andy and Naomi Cox Memorial Park. Many considerations were discussed, including the legal ramification and litigation that may be incurred from the family that gave the property to Millen Township to be utilized as a park, as well as the numerous members of the community that have contributed towards the park. The board has approved in the past to allow for memorialized benches to be put in the park and it will be suggested that this is the more appropriate way to honor Andy and Naomi. A motion by Kosal to decline the renaming of the park was made which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartlett. A roll call vote was conducted, Kosal (Yes), J. Somers (Yes), M. Somers (Yes), Bartlett (Yes), Smith (Yes). Motion carried and Smith will draft a letter to Marcy informing her of board's decision.
- d. Received an invoice for NEMCOG annual membership renewal, which the board stated that we will not pay for.
- e. Quarterly MTA meeting was conducted at Hawes at the Barton City Fire Department. Smith, J. Somers and M. Somers attended. A copy of the minutes from the meeting are attached.

**7) Public Comments – None**

**8) Adjourn –** Motion to adjourn by J. Somers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kosal. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm

**\*Next Meetings:** *Wednesday, February 12, 7:00 pm - Budget Planning Meeting*  
*Wednesday, February 19, 7:00 pm - Budget Planning Meeting*  
*Monday March 3, 6:45 pm - Public Budget Hearing and 7:00 pm - Township Board Meeting*

Minutes, respectfully submitted by Clerk, Mary Somers

*Mary Somers*