

**SHAMROCK TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday January 12, 2023**

Board Chairman Charles Quale called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisors Allen Eld and Ron Smith; Treasurer Jack Brula; Clerk Candace Kral; maintenance Tim Turner; Kevin Turnock, Aitkin County Planning and Zoning and Brett Sample, Aitkin County Commissioner, two property owners in person; Paul Sandy, WSB, and four property owners via zoom.

Motion made by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve December Regular Board Meeting minutes; motion passed unanimously.

The treasurer reported the following fund balances for the period ending, December 31, 2022: General Revenue Fund, \$45,157.02; Road & Bridge Fund \$60,952.51; Sewer Fund \$15,207.31; Road Repair (blacktop) Fund, \$132,005.51; Fire Fund, \$48,125.16 Building Repair Fund, \$448,387.68; Parks & Rec Fund, \$12,869.21; American Rescue Plan 0; Escrow/Road Vacation \$1,997.95; Road Bond \$0 and the Lease/purchase \$163,020.71; Salt Shed loan -\$83,555.94 – a total in the checking accounts of \$927,723.06. The Blacktop Repair CDs' total \$ 159,881.68; Equipment CD's total 50,614.20 and the Sewer Fund CDs' total \$ 118,239.71. Money market interest received in December 2022 was \$315.59. Receipts for the month were \$4,940.15. December disbursements were \$186,293.54. Motion by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the treasurer's report; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Allen Eld, seconded by Ron Smith, to approve the remainder of the January 2023 claims and payroll totaling \$64,460.96; motion passed unanimously. Claims list attached.

Correspondence : Donation request from MN Food Share Aitkin; MN LTAP Technology Exchange December 2022 issue and registration form; PERA Winter 2022 Newsletter; Lake Country Power December 2022 Newsliner; MAT notice of clerk and treasurer training; Mercury December 2022 issue; Christmas card from WSB; Christmas/New Year message from Dale Lueck; Notice of Hearing from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Environmental Analysis and outcome Division re: proposed Amendments to Rules of Governing Water Quality Standards; MAT Township Day at the Capital information; MAT email Managing Weather- Related Claims; ACAT October 2022 minutes and January 19th meeting agenda

Concerns from residents not on the agenda: Ron Flatten started by commending the road maintenance crew on the fantastic job they are doing with the excessive amount of snow we have had so far this year. He then stated that he has sent a couple of emails requesting a “dead end – no turnaround” sign on the beginning 511th Lane. He is again requesting a sign to help deter traffic from traveling down the road as it is dead ends into private driveways, there is no turnaround. The board stated they will have a sign installed in the spring.

A resident stated concern regarding an individual on 214th Place off of Bridge Road who is parking a dually truck on the side of/on the road causing obstructing traffic on the road. Concern was stated in the event of emergency, it would cause an inability for the emergency vehicles to pass. The board stated they will talk to the individual.

OLD BUSINESS:

Road Report – Tim Turner reported they have been plowing snow – stated he has been pushing snow back further than normal because we have a lot of snow for this time of year and he is preparing for future snows; they have been scraping; cutting; cleaning up downed trees

The board discussed the theft of the digital speed sign that was located on 188th Avenue. The theft has been reported to the insurance company, once the township pays for the replacement, we will be reimbursed. The township will research the possibility of GPS tags for the speed signs.

The clerk informed the board she received a letter from Atkin County stating they were declaring an Emergency Storm Declaration with the State due to the damages from wet heavy snow and fallen trees as a result of the Snow Storm Dec 13-16. The clerk will figure the cost of the plowing and cleanup to provide to the county for qualification purposes.

There was discussion of purchasing a backup generator for the maintenance building for instances of local power outages. It was stated it would be easier to get the township equipment in and out of the building due to the electric garage doors. The generator would also be beneficial for purpose of powering the radio system for communication between the trucks. When power is out the maintenance has no form of communication between trucks. It was also suggested as a way for local residents to obtain water.

The clerk informed the board that she sent the letter to Mr. Carlberg regarding the boulders in the 216th Place Right of Way as was directed at the December regular board meeting. The board was provided with Mr. Carlberg's reply.

Bridge Road Project – Paul Sandy, WSB, stated that Ron Smith and himself, together with a WSB designer, performed a road view of the project corridor. During this inspection, Ron informed Paul of the township concerns, issues and trouble spots of the road. Paul gave a brief overview/explanation of the scope of services of what WSB intends to provide in stage one for this project. Mr. Sandy then answered questions from the board and residents in attendance.

The board was informed that the Urban Township Committee meeting has been scheduled for January 31st at 6:30 pm. Reno Wells will be attending in person and Steve Fenske will attend via Zoom. All committee members have been notified. A reminder will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Shamrock Recreation Area Project

The township was provided sample mortar colors to be used for the block of the bathrooms/pavilion building. It was agreed to go with SBS 300. The board was informed to expect the pavilion is to be tented and started as early as next week.

The clerk informed the board that the Township received a \$500 anonymous donation for the VETs Memorial project.

The board was provided with a second quote from TNT Construction for the Tennis/Pickleball Courts fencing. Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to accept the quote from Century Fence in the amount of \$70,082.00; motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Ron Smith, seconded by Allen Eld, to accept TNT's change order in the amount of \$26,450.00 for the installation of the concrete aprons for the courts; motion passed unanimously.

The board discussed the two quotes received for the purchase and installation of security cameras. Another company was mentioned, the board agreed there is time to obtain another quote.

NEW BUSINESS

Shane McCarron provided the board with a plat map from the Aitkin County Website with a road highlighted that runs between his properties. He was requesting the possibility of the township approving a road vacate for this road. Mr. McCarron stated that he would like to build on the smaller lots along Lake Ave. and due to the setbacks, building would not be possible. The board stated the township takes into account future scenarios that the vacation of said road could effect and that this road is a thru road. As a general rule, the township does not support the vacation of thru roads. It was also stated that as this road has already been a subject at township meetings as possibly need of development, the board doesn't foresee this road being vacated.

Bret Sample, Aitkin County Commissioner, and Kevin Turnock, Aitkin County Planning and Zoning, were present as a request of the Shamrock Board regarding the improvement of communications between the township board and Aitkin County Planning and Zoning office. The town board together with Mr. Sample and Mr. Turnock discussed past encounters with planning and zoning as well as the Variance Board. The board also stated issues it has had with permits that have been approved and why they are an issue, i.e. building within road right of way setback and sewers that are in road right of ways, all of which cause road maintenance issues. The clerk also requested info regarding the process of changing the township's zoning status from farming/residential to commercial. Mr. Turnock stated to connect with him for assistance.

The Board of Audit and Budget meeting has been set for February 9, at 12:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Candace Kral
Clerk

Charles Quale
Board Chairman

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE FEBRUARY 9, 2023, REGULAR BOARD MEETING