

SHARON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
April 9, 2012 (unapproved)

The Sharon Township Board held its regular Board meeting on Monday, April 9, 2012. Frey called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. Board members present: Aiuto, Frey, Psarouthakis, Simons and Spiegel. There were (15) fifteen public attendees present.

The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Spiegel, supported by Psarouthakis to approve the 3/1/12 minutes. Motion carried.

Mark Ouimet, Sharon Township's State Representative gave a State update and spoke of the upcoming fiscal year State budget and a future Townhall meeting regarding fracking.

Motion by Frey, supported by Simons to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There were no public comments and/or questions.

Simons distributed the Treasurer's report for February. Motion made by Psarouthakis, supported by Spiegel to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried. He reported that at the end of February that the tax accounts had a zero balance. The number of fire runs was discussed.

Zoning Administrator, Dave Wilson reported the following activity for March: issued one zoning permit, there were three complaints, one land split, no new signs and no new addresses. Aiuto inquired about the status of the DuRussel trailers. Wilson to check and report back at the next meeting.

Kathy Spiegel reported that the Planning Commission had a public for the Grass Lake Sanctuary special use application and that the neighbors had supported it. All positive feedback. They also approved the proposed zoning ordinance changes.

Aiuto reported that the ZBA had no meeting in March.

Jim Hopkins reported that the Mineral Licensing Board had no meeting in March but a meeting is scheduled for 4/25/12 at 8:00 P.M.; that he was registered for a MTA legal issues workshop related to the regulation of mineral extraction on 4/20/12; that MLB member Andrew Deleeuw attended a townhall meeting in Lodi Township related to the basics of oil and gas exploration and production and the role of the DEQ; and that he attended a townhall meeting held in Brooklyn on 4/5/12 where Chris Grobbel, Ph.D.

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gave a presentation on the history, methods and effects of oil and gas production in Michigan.

Spiegel reported that the Chelsea Area Construction Authority was still to receive new home applications: seven in March and 4 in February; that a Chevy dealership; strip mall and brew pub were being built in Chelsea this year; and that they were negotiating the rate on the mortgage modification.

Psarouthakis reported that SWWCOG had elected the same officers as last year; they discussed possible quarterly meetings instead of monthly meetings and that a Washtenaw County Sheriff gave a presentation regarding their services and crime run statistics. Psarouthakis to contact the State Police to obtain information on their services and statistics.

Old Business

Frey reported that he needed to find someone to draw up a concrete plan for the front porch. Board to discuss this further at the next meeting.

Adding property tax information to the website will be discuss at the next meeting.

Discussed a monthly e-newsletter that residents/individuals can subscribe to on the Sharon Township website. Spiegel welcome all input and reported that individuals would need to pass on programs, events, information so she can put it in the newsletter.

Psarouthakis reported that Freedom Township had officially dropped out of the Manchester Community Joint Planning Commission. He reported that he would attend the next meeting but had no recommendation to join or not to join.

Frey reported that he would like to meet with Mr. Gourley to discuss a possible easement to the South M-52 property. Aiuto recommended that the Board hold a closed session so all members could hear and be a part of the discussion. Other members agreed that Frey should be accompanied by at least one other Board member. After much Board discussion, it was tabled until the next meeting.

The Board discussed the two lawnmowing bids received for the cemeteries (Jobs by Reinhart and T & N Service, Inc.). After much discussion, motion made by Psarouthakis, supported by Spiegel that T & N Service, Inc. be given the contract. Abstain: Aiuto. Motion carried.

New Business

Simons reported that he had heard from a lot of residents when they came in to pay taxes that they were not satisfied with our attorney Fred Lucas and inquired why he would still be the Township's attorney after the lawsuit? All Board members agreed to look for other options for a Township attorney. Psarouthakis and Simons to gather information on some law firms to bring back to the next meeting.

Aiuto distributed a preliminary budget for the next fiscal year. Aiuto stated she increased the clerk, treasurer, trustees and zoning administrator positions and decreased the supervisor position due to the duties each office held. She explained that the other positions have had an increase in responsibilities over the years. The Board to review and discussion will take place at the next meeting.

The zoning ordinance changes approved and recommended by the Planning Commission were reviewed. Motion by Aiuto, supported by Psarouthakis to approve the proposed zoning ordinance changes recommended by the Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Reno Feldkamp inquired about crop signs.

Spiegel reported a Manchester Chamber meeting; the e-waste event; Manchester Community Schools money management course and the Washtenaw County emergency management.

After review of the bills, motion by Frey, supported by Spiegel to approve all bills as presented except for the Washtenaw County Treasurer's invoice and the Washtenaw County Road Commission's invoice. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Teri L. Aiuto, Sharon Township Clerk