

Sharon Township Board Meeting Minutes

APPROVED

June 2, 2016

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The Sharon Township Board held its regular meeting on June 2, 2016 at the Sharon Town Hall. Supervisor Psarouthakis called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. There were 12 public attendees. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

ROLL CALL: Mikel, Psarouthakis, Simons, Farmer: PRESENT Spiegel: ABSENT

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Supervisor Psarouthakis moved Ben Finemans presentation under the first public comment and add c. Fire Contract under New Business.

Motion by Simons to approve the amended agenda, supported by Psarouthakis. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF THE May 5, 2016 MINUTES:

Motion by Simons to approve the May 5, 2016 minutes, supported by Mikel. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: n/a

MICHIGAN BROADBAND PRESENTATION: Ben Feinman (Linden Twp Resident) and Michigan Broadband representative gave presentation about the importance of having HIGH SPEED internet in our township, key points included:

-The "Homework Gap" students in school who are having trouble completing their research and online homework and college students NOT coming home because of lack of access to the internet.

- Quality of Life- not having adequate access to electronic medical records, not having access for medical personnel who use internet devices for communication, kids not coming home, missing out on the perks of internet access i.e. games, movies, internet dependent entertainment devices.

Sharon township is the most underserved township in Washtenaw County for internet. Based on the Internet Survey we sent out, 70% of respondents were unhappy with their internet service and 95% were interested in other service options.

NEXT STEPS include a feasibility study to get an estimated cost of laying FIBER OPTIC throughout the township so EVERY resident would have access to TRUE high speed internet with the industry standard bandwidth speeds.

Linden Township has already taken the steps in completing a feasibility study; due to similarities in size, etc with Sharon and Linden we assume their study would give Sharon Township a good idea of what we would be facing.

Linden Township is hosting and INFORMATIONAL MEETING about High Speed Internet and their feasibility study, options of how to pay for their project, etc. on JUNE 13th at 7:00pm at the Washington Street Education Center (500 Washington Street, Chelsea, MI). We ENCOURAGE ALL SHARON TOWNSHIP residents interested in getting high speed internet to Sharon Township to attend.

SUPERVISORS REPORT:

Supervisor Psarouthakis reported that he did not have a current sheriff report. He reported on a illegal dumping issue that was taken care of quickly by local officials. The M52/Pleasant Lake Rd light will be going in this month. A dust control application has taken place. The Oil/Gas meeting has decided they are going to get quotes for ideas of what the township can and can't do with the ordinances and then bring those to the board meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Simons reported that there hasn't been a lot of activity and taxes will go out the beginning of July.

Motion by Mikel to approve the financial report, supported by Psarouthakis. Motion approved.

MLB REPORT: no meeting. No report.

ZONING REPORT: Zoning Administrator Wilson reported 3 new compliances: 1 ZBA request on Bethel Church Rd (ZBA meeting will be June 14th at 6:30pm at the Sharon Town Hall) 1 New pole barn, and 1 new home.

Wilson also suggested needing to get quotes for a company to codify our ordinances and change the wording to work with civil infractions.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Chair, Bill Lewis reported that May was their annual meeting and positions were decided: Bill Lewis: Chair, Kevin Dobis: Vice Chair, Denise Reithmiller: Secretary. They agreed to keep their meetings the SECOND Thursday of the month at 7pm at the Sharon Town Hall. They are still working on the sign ordinance, internet poles ordinance and the master plan.

Lewis reported that the Grass Lake Sanctuary came in asking about the potential to have small homes on their property for year round living- they were asked to write a formal description of what they are seeking as this request was not part of their original plan, and the planning commission will discuss with planner.

Their next meeting is JUNE 9 at 7pm at the Sharon Town Hall

CACA: The CACA held a special meeting, Board representative Patricia Farmer informed the board she could not attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. n/a

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Michigan Broadband Presentation-** (moved up in meeting)
- b. **Budget discussion:** Clerk Mikel presented a BUDGET to ACTUAL report and went over current Fiscal year end expenditures with the Board. She reported the township came in under budget. Suggestions (per our auditors) were to change pay schedules for MLB Chair, Planning Chair and trustees to per meeting attended- this brought up a discussion of what was allowable and not, the MTA will be contacted to bring to the Budget adoption meeting on JUNE 30 at 7:00pm.
- c. **Fire Contract-** Fees have gone up. Copies were given to board member to review; Supervisor Psarouthakis postponed approval to the June 30 meeting.

Supervisor Psarouthakis added receiving information about an unmarked Vietnam War Veterans grave in the Sharon Towns Hall Cemetery: He found out the Veterans name is: Hal Lewis, and suggested the Board look into options to get him a headstone.

APPROVE BILLS: Clerk Mikel presented the warrant report.

Motion by Simons to approve the warrant report, supported by Farmer. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: A compliment to the Board was given and a suggestion to put money in the budget for more gravel on our roads was made.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:42 p.m.

Chelsea Mikel

Sharon Township Clerk

DRAFT