

Minutes of the February 3, 2025, Regular Board Meeting of Sherman Township

The regular scheduled meeting of the Sherman Township Board was held on Tuesday February 3, 2025, at 7:00 pm, in the meeting room of the township hall. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor-Smalligan at 7:00 pm. After the pledge of allegiance, roll call attendance was taken, and members present were Karen Berens, Doug Berens, Stan Stroven, Ken Smalligan, and Jamie Kukal.

Motion was made by Stan Stroven and 2nd by D Berens to approve the agenda as presented. All approved, motion passed.

Motion was made by D Berens and 2^{ns} by S Stroven to accept the minutes from January 6, 2025, meeting with corrections. All approved, motion passed.

For public comment, Jim May reported that there had been two emergency rescues at Ryerson Lake recently and he was informed that the Fremont fire department does not have the equipment needed for ice rescues. He is asking the board to look into it closer and see if something can be done to equip them with what they need. K Smalligan responded that the county has inflatable equipment for such, however he would like to see each vehicle equipped with at least a flotation ring or something. Ken and Stan will look into it and report back.

Jackie Roseburg spoke on behalf of the Fremont Library and their growing success in 2024 to increase participation.

David Harrington is looking for clarification about the camper trailer ordinance and if the township uses double standards when enforcing ordinances. Supervisor-Smalligan assured him that no double standards are practiced, however he reminded him that the zoning administration cannot go looking for violation and can only act on submitted violation complaints.

Treasurer-Berens presented the treasurer's report for review, highlighting that it is early in the month, so many bills are still to come in. With no questions on the report, a motion was made by S Stroven and 2nd by D Berens to accept the treasurer's report and approve the paying of the bills. The roll call vote was taken. Yes; K Berens, D Berens, S Stroven, K Smalligan and J Kukal No; none, Motion passed.

Clerk-Kukal presented the clerk's report for review and there were no questions at that time. Kukal informed the board that Julie Berens has agreed to fill the position of deputy clerk in hopes to get a feel for if she is interested in taking the clerk's position in the future. J Kukal also reported that the website no longer meets Googles security standards and there are two options for updating. The first is to add a SSL certificate for 5 years at \$499. The second and preferred option is to upgrade the website builder package to allow for a complete rebuild and upgrade to all certifications not just the SSL for 5 years at \$599. The move was made by S Stroven and 2nd by K Berens to go with the Clerk's recommendation to upgrade the website builder package at a cost of \$599. Roll call vote was taken. Yes; K Berens, D Berens, S Stroven, K Smalligan and J Kukal No; none, Motion passed. Kukal said she would get it going as quickly as she could and would charge the township the hourly rate for the hours, she spends rebuilding the website and not a total rebuilding charge for management of the website.

Supervisor-Smalligan presented the board with a request from the Ryerson Lake improvement Board for a letter of support for a grant through Fremont Area Foundation to improve the drain to the creek that runs through the Knuver property. This would be for a test, the level gate to help control the runoff and if successful it will be implemented in other similar areas in the county. Consent was given to provide a letter of support.

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For the yearly road project, the Newaygo County Road Commission submitted six suggestions for consideration.

1. Wedge & overlay 8th St. between Baldwin Ave and Croswell Ave Township Share of \$161,200
2. Wedge & reseal 8th St. between Croswell Ave and Luce Ave. Township share of \$119,336
3. Wedge & overlay Luce Ave. between 8th St. and 16th St. Township share of \$144,800
4. Wedge & reseal Luce Ave. between Baseline Rd and 8th St. Township share of \$92,720
5. Wedge & overlay 32nd St. between Parson Ave and Baldwin Ave Township share of \$169,200
6. Wedge & overlay 32nd St. between Ferris Ave and Parson Ave. Township share of \$130,600

After a short discussion, a motion was made by S Stroven and 2nd by D Berens to accept the project proposal to wedge & overlay 32nd St. between Ferris Ave and Parson Ave for the township share of \$130,600. Roll call vote was taken. Yes; K Berens, D Berens, S Stroven, K Smalligan and J Kukal No; none, Motion passed.

There was nothing for Trustee's reports

Assessor-Story was not present, however Smalligan reminded everyone of the March BOR coming up.

Sexton-Tollefson did not have anything to report on for the cemetery at this time.

For Hall Rental, Julie presented a few minor word changes to the agreement that referred to the old chairs and tables. That area was removed from the wording and the capacity was updated to 120. She also asked about some cleaning items needed and she was given consent to get what she needed for supplies. Dale reported on the maintenance issues he addressed last month with the replacement of carpet squares, the water softener salt, and hot water heated repairs. He is asking for the purchase of a step ladder for routine maintenance and again the board said it would fall under hall supplies needed.

D Berens reported for the planning commission that Ryan Coffee would be presenting language for minimum dwelling size to consider this month.

Building inspector-Smalligan presented his monthly report of 0 permits issued and 0 inspections.

Zoning administrator-Kukal confirmed that 0 permits were issued last month. There is also a court date set for the Goody Dr issues 2/11/25 at 9:30am and 10:30am. Junk drive date will be June 7th, 2025 and NO TIRES will be collected.

For White Cloud Sherman Utilities, W Berens reported that the regular meeting is set for next Monday and the budget meeting is on Wednesday.

For the Fremont Fire district report, K Berens billed \$1,076.62 and collected \$0 last month. For White Cloud, S Stroven provided a copy of the proposed budget and said the new truck should be operational by spring. G Smalligan reported on the appointment of new officers for the White Cloud Fire Authority Board.

There was no new or unfinished business at this time.

For public comment Michelle ? asked if White Cloud fire department had different requirements for fire pits than those of the county and Stan said he would look into it.

There was no board member comment at that time.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Visitors present were;	Gary Smalligan	Chad Kukal	Brett Derks
	Vonda Tollefson	Wayne Berens	Jerry Engel
	Karen Koprolces	Butch Duer	Michelle Klompstra
	Julie and Dale Berens	Jackie Roseberry	Mark Kukal
	Jim May	David Harrington	

Jamie Kukal, Sherman Township Clerk **Balance Sheet** As of January 31, 2025

		Jan 31, 25
▼ ASSETS		
▼ Current Assets		
▼ Checking/Savings		
▼ MASTER ACCOUNT		
101-001 • General Fund cash		356,461.71
203-001 • Mayo Drive cash		24,892.85
220-002 • Robinson Lake Cash		2,576.57
221-001 • Crystal Lake Cash		43,998.86
336-001 • Fire protection millage Fr & WC		18,013.48
Total MASTER ACCOUNT		445,943.47
151-001 • Cemetery cash		4,139.33
202-001 • Road Checking		35,792.47
249-001 • Capital acquisition cash		3,626.29
▼ 260-001 • Gerber FCU		
261-336 • Gerber Fire Runs Savings		3,748.32
263-001 • Gerber FCU ARPA Account		553.30
Total 260-001 • Gerber FCU		4,301.62
401-001 • Winter Tax Account		475,634.49
402-002 • Summer Tax Account		26,038.65
Total Checking/Savings		995,476.32
Total Current Assets		995,476.32
TOTAL ASSETS		995,476.32
► LIABILITIES & EQUITY	►	995,476.32 ◀