

Sherwood Township Meeting April 2, 2024

The regular Township meeting was called to order by Supervisor Robbins at 7:40 pm. After the close of the 2024 – 2025 budget hearing. Board members present; Brubaker, Whitcomb, Brott and Haack.

The pledge to the flag of the United States of America was lead by Robbins.

Minutes from the special board meeting on March 16 and the regular meeting on March 5 read. Motion to approve the minutes from March 16 made by Robbins. 2nd Brott. Voted and passed.

Motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on March 5 by Robbins. 2nd by Brott. Voted and passed.

Branch County Sheriff John Pollack was present and gave the quarterly report from his department. Pollack reported that the new jail and staff are working out well and that the sight of the old jail is being looked at for demolition. The Sheriff department has 23 deputies now and 3 more are in the academy. There are two shifts each day, 4 am to 4 pm and 6 am to 6 pm.

Fred Blankinship was in attendance with Sheriff Pollack and asked for support for sheriff in this years election.

Old Business:

Robbins made a motion to approve the 2024 – 2025 budget that was presented to the board. 2nd by Brubaker. Voted and passed.

New Business:

There was no new business brought forward.

Fire Department Report:

Fire Chief Jeff Smurr reported there were 6 fire calls for the month of March. One grass and trash fire. One mobile home electrical fire. Two Lifecare assist . One fuel spill into the St. Joe River. One vehicle fire in the village. One mutual aid barn fire. There were 2 trainings for the month.

Smurr reported that the 2014 Chevy 1 ton pickup that was purchased is in process of being made ready for the replacement of the existing grass rig truck.

Smurr gave more details on the fuel leak into the St. Joe River. He has been in contact with the Department of EGLE and the property owner. The process is going

well and the property owner is being very cooperative with the clean up of the river and the river bank.

Smurr also reported how well the mutual aid barn fire went with Matteson township .

Treasure Report:

Treasure Dale Marie Brubaker reported that the General Fund balance is \$183,939.00 and that soon \$60,000 will be deposited from property taxes.

Clerk Report:

Clerk Marjorie Whitcomb reported that nomination petitions and affidavits of identity for partisan and nonpartisan candidates for the August primary are due April 23, 2024 to her and then she will take them to the Branch County Clerk.

There will be an election Committee training May 21 form 1-3 pm at the Sherwood township hall.

Supervisor Report:

Supervisor Aaron Robbins reported that he has gotten a message that the grant money the fire department qualified for is in process and all paper work has been accepted and should be received in 2 or 3 weeks.

The parking lot at the township hall should be repaved and repainted in May. Robbins asked the company to paint lines as guides in the fire department drive for fire trucks and to add a handy capped access to the front sidewalk.

Robbins reported that the price paid for the new fire grass rig truck was in line with what the board had approved previously.

There is still some ARPA money left to be spent. Robbins would like to see more cemetery clean up done and improvements made in the Waldron Park. Researching improvements in the village park in connection with the Village of Sherwood.

Public Comment:

Ron Denny asked the size of water tank for the new grass rig. Smurr answered.

Motion to Approve bills by Robbins. 2nd by Haack. Voted and passed.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Robbins. 2nd by Brott.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29pm

Clerk, Marjorie Whitcomb