

## Sherwood Township Meeting April 04, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Robbins at 7:32 following the 2023/ 2024 budget hearing.

Board members present; Brubaker, Whitcomb, Brott and Haack.

Pledge to the flag of the United States of America lead by Robbins.

Minutes from the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting read. Motion to approve the minutes by Robbins, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brott. Voted and passed.

### Old Business;

Ken Bell was in attendance and explained the recommendation by the PC. On March 14, 2023, following a properly noticed public hearing on that date the planning commission voted 5-0 to recommend to the township board a proposed text amendment to the zoning ordinance allowing commercial sawmills under certain circumstances. Motion by Robbins to accept the recommendation by the PC for commercial saw mills under Zoning in C2 areas with certain conditions. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Haack. Voted and passed.

### New Business;

Completed Budget hearing 2023 – 2024 with modifications. Robbins made a motion to accept the budget and modifications. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brubaker. Voted and passed.

### Commissioners Report;

Branch County Third District County Commissioner, Tim Stoll, gave updates on county business and answered questions from the public.

### Fire Department;

Fire Chief Jeff Smurr introduced the new Sherwood Township Fire Department Captain Kyle Kidney to the board. Also reported that two firefighters have passed the firefighters 1 and 2 classes and are now certified.

They are Kenneth Sheriff and Logan Smurr. Also one firefighter is scheduled to take drivers training classes.

Smurr reported that there was one fire call in the month of March and it was a grass fire.

The Athens Township fire department has offered to give Sherwood Township a cascade unit ( fills required air tanks ) and Smurr asked the board if they would approve the upgrade of a 60 amp electrical service so this unit can be installed in the fire department. It was suggested we get a quote of 100 amp for future use. The board asked Smurr to get quotes for the upgrade and submit them. Motion by Robbins to allow Smurr to move forward and get a quote for this upgrade. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Whitcomb, voted and passed.

Robbins will research and find if ARPA funds can be used for this expense.

Overhead doors in fire department have been upgraded and repaired with new door opener remotes for the trucks. New door seals also installed.

#### Planning Commission;

PC board member Ken Bell gave report on work being done on saw mills zoning and on rezoning request on Brent Drive. The board has begun work on the review of the Master Plan. Bell reported that the committee needs more members and more diversity in the membership. Next planning commission meeting is May 9 at 7:30 p.m.

#### Treasurers Report;

Treasurer Dale Marie Brubaker reported that the General Fund balance is \$203,913.99 and the ARPA fund balance is \$103,460.97. Property taxes have been turned into the county Treasurer.

#### Clerk Report;

Clerk Marjorie Whitcomb reported that budget preparing and cemetery updates and voter registration has been moving along steadily. The tree removal will go forward with weather improvements.

Supervisor Report;

Supervisor Aaron Robbins gave reports on code violations that are in the works with SafeBuilt and the Health Department. Three court cases are scheduled for next week. Robbins would like to have a report from SafeBuilt each month on the progress of violations and complaints that are filed. Haack will check on this. There is an issue of residents making complaints of RV's in the township being lived in and when the cases go to court the issue wont go any further with the court. The International Property Code was considered and the PC recommendation to the board was not to accept it. Robbins asked for input on this and how to use it properly in order to move ahead on these cases. IPC could be used as a guide to follow . Our codes are not strong enough but board does not want to add more restrictions to existing ordinances. Robbins suggested that we ask Joe Cline and Vaughn Reed of SafeBuilt to give board more input to help us move forward. Include PC members and township board members.

There is a ZBA meeting Monday April 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Public Comment;

Questions about RV's in township and how to improve. Question about Branch County Tire pick up and Stoll reported that there will be one on October 7, 2023.

Motion to pay bills by Robbins. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brott. Voted and passed.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Robbins. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Haack.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Marjorie Whitcomb  
Township Clerk