

## Sherwood Township Meeting June 04, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Robbins at 7:30 p.m. Board members present, Brubaker, Whitcomb, Brott, and Haack.

The Pledge to the American Flag was lead by Robbins.

Minutes from the April 02, 2024 regular meeting and from the April 02, 2024 budget meeting were read. Motion by Robbins to approve the minutes, of both meetings, second by Haack. Voted and approved.

There was no meeting on May 7, 2024, due to tornado that devastated Sherwood township at 5:30 p.m. causing power loss for many days and blocking most road ways into the township hall. Meeting was not rescheduled for the month of May.

### Old Business;

Robbins reported that the parking lot at the township hall is on hold due to the tree clean up being done. He will contact Upston Asphalt and tell them when the tree clean up workers are done so they can resurface the area.

### New Business;

Whitcomb explained the request from the Union City Historical Society to hold a cemetery workshop at the main cemetery in Sherwood. At this workshop many old headstones will be repaired that were damaged during the tornado. There are no family remaining to do the repair work on these stones. This workshop is lead by Bobbie Watson Mathis. With permission from the board Whitcomb would like to allow the township hall facilities to be used by attendees. Motion was made by Whitcomb to allow workshop and use of township hall on June 15, 2024 from 9a.m. To 4 p.m. For this workshop. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brott. Voted and passed.

Whitcomb explained the request from the Wish a Mile Bicycle Tour asking to use the outside area of the Township hall for a break stop location on Sunday, July 28,2024. Tents and port a johns will be set up by the

organization for the use of 400 bicycle riders to use as a rest stop on their way to Marshal, Michigan.

Whitcomb made a motion to allow Wish a mile to use outside area of the township hall on Sunday July 28, 2024. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Haack. Voted and passed.

David Meyer asked to be on agenda to request from the board a motion to help tornado victims by waving the permit fees for repairs to their properties. Meyer has spoken with Safebuilt and Glenn Lyndsey has agreed to cut permit fees by half if the township will forgo the remaining half. Much discussion was done about the time line and cost of this request.

A motion was made by Haack that with proof of it being storm damage, and agreement with Safebuilt, damage caused from the May 7, 2024 tornado, permit fees will not be charged to the resident and be covered by Sherwood Township and Safebuilt. Time line is until November 7, 2024, to apply for these permits. A limit of total cost of permits to the township and Safebuilt not to exceed \$10,000 each. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robbins. Voted and passed.

#### County Commissioner Report;

County commissioner Tim Stoll reported that the search is still open for county commissioners that need to be replaced by October.

The Broad Ban service for Frontier is moving forward unfortunately Sherwood area will not be covered. Stoll is challenging this coverage. The project should be completed by August 2025.

Stoll stated that the damage that occurred in Sherwood area has been on the minds of the County Commission members.

Resident Donna Claar asked Stoll about the damaged trees along the roadsides and said they are a danger to motorist. Clair requested that the county road commission remove them. Stoll replied that he would look into it and call the United Way foundation for help.

#### Fire Department Report;

Fire Chief Jeff Smurr reported for the month of April there were 2 burn complaints and 1 assist to the Bronson Fire Department for a garage fire. There were 2 trainings in April.

For the month of May there were 1 burning complaint, 1 report of gas order, 2 storm damage assists for the village and township, mutual aid to Union City Fire Department for a house fire, and 1 down power line due to storm damage. There were 2 training in the month of May.

Smurr reported that the new grass rig truck should be ready for use by July.

#### Treasures Report;

Treasurer Dale Marie Brubaker reported that the General Fund balance is \$193,270.95.

Brubaker reported that Assessor Marcia Bail will add a note to the tax bills about reassessments. Tax bills should be out by July 1, 2024. Brubaker reminded residents that the mail is not always reliable and she sends out tax notices as a courtesy. Residents are responsible to pay their taxes every year. If notice is not received residents need to check with treasurer. Delinquent taxes will be turned into county if not paid on time.

Brubaker told the board that there are ARPA funds still available and they need to be used by November 2024, she asked for ideas on what they should be spent on and that suggestions are welcome. Suggestion was made by resident that the remaining money be spent on more permit allowance. Robbins will check into this.

#### Clerk Report;

Clerk Marjorie Whitcomb stated that much had been covered in new business but the Sherwood Garden Club had sent an invoice to the board for the Spring Perpetual Care Coverage. The bill is \$1,246.00, same as 2023 even though prices have increased for purchase of flowers. Garden club donated flowers for flag pole urn and the grave of Revolutionary soldier.

Brubaker made a motion to pay the Garden Club for perpetual care. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brott. Voted and passed.

#### Supervisor Report;

Supervisor Robbins reported on the tornado recovery and that he has been in contact with The Red Cross. Robbins recognized resident Donna Claar for all her help with the storm recovery and how she stepped up immediately

after the storm to help people who needed help. She has volunteered her time and resources to many. Thank you Donna.

At the April meeting Robbins had reported that the fire grant was approved and township will be reimbursed, then another e mail was sent to Robbins requesting more information and pictures. A second approval has been sent.

Robbins requested a bid from the Branch County Road Commission for the paving of Chippawa Road and has received it. The bid was \$190,800. Robbins stated that this can not be done at this time because it is way over budget. This issue will be looked into and discussed further to see if it is possible in the future.

Robbins has asked road commissioner Jay Miller for recommendations for new company to do dust control for gravel roads in the township. One name was given to Robbins and he will contact them.

Motion was made by Whitcomb to give Robbins permission to contact and to contract a new company to do the dust control for 2024 at his discretion.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Brott. Voted and passed.

#### Public Comment;

Donna Claar is looking for more funds for storm recovery . She is also asking if residents displaced from their homes and living in campers, ect. will be fined for doing so while their homes are being repaired. Robbins told her the time limit is 6 months but if need be the township and Safebult will work with these residents.

Robin Swartz who is running for Branch County Sheriff spoke and asked for support in the up coming elections.

Michael Thyng who is running for Branch County Sheriff spoke and asked for support in the up coming elections.

A motion was made by Robbins to approve the April and May bills, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brubaker. Voted and passed.

A motion was made by Robbins to adjourn meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Haack. Voted and passed. Meeting adjourned 8:50 p.m.

Clerk, Marjorie Whitcomb

