

Sherwood Township Meeting March 05,2024

Meeting was called to order by Trustee Jeff Brott at 7:30 pm. Board members present; Brubaker and Whitcomb.

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

Minutes read from special meeting on January 18, 2024 and budget meeting on February 29, 2024. There was not a February regular Township Board meeting.

Motion to approve special meeting minutes and budget meeting workshop minutes by Brott, 2nd by Brubaker. Voted and passed.

Branch County Commissioner's Report:

Branch County Commissioner Tim Stoll was present and gave updates. The county commission is looking for commission members.

Stoll also reported on the Branch County ORV ordinance that is being proposed. Sherwood Township has an ORV ordinance in effect and Stoll said it will be good because it is in line with the proposed county ordinance.

New Business:

The budget was reviewed and discussed and some changes made. Budget will be finalized and ready for April meeting. Suggested to make hourly wage \$13.00 per hour and a wage increase to 3% or 5% for board members. Marcia Bail has asked for a \$2 raise per parcel but at workshop was decided to make it \$1 per parcel.

Fire Department Report:

Fire Chief Jeff Smurr reported there were ten fire department calls for the month of January and of February. One camper fire, two assist to life care, three personal injury accidents, one burning complaint, one carbon monoxide alarm, one grass fire, one mutual aid to Bronson fire department. There were two training's in January and four training's in February.

There were two new firefighters added to the payroll this month. There is a need for additional firefighters in Sherwood as well as other townships and cities.

Chief Smurr reported that the present grass rig truck is a 1981 and is wearing out and the water tank is rusting. He is searching for a replacement with the boards permission. Board agreed that it is ok to start looking for a replacement grass rig truck.

Treasurers Report:

Township Treasurer Dale Marie Brubaker reported the General Fund Balance was \$212,071.00 at the end of February. The CD has been set up at Kellogg Community Credit Union. 99 Trash cards have been sold as of March 2nd. Tax season is finished and has to be taken to the courthouse in Cold water. ARPA balance is \$6,899.52.

Clerk Report:

Clerk Marjorie Whitcomb gave a report on the February Presidential Primary Election. The Roof project was completed in February and job was nicely done.

Ken Bell added that when he worked for Battle Creek City the city changed the way they handled property complaints or situations by terming them civil infractions. Bell suggested we contact a lawyer on this. We might be able to start a process to put clean up expense on property taxes as well as the fines.

Supervisor Report:

There was more discussion about the purchasing of a new fire rig truck. The old truck is a ½ ton truck and a ¾ ton would be best. Smurr is looking for used because new could be \$50,000. There will also have to be a slide in water tank unit and Smurr recommends a poly tank. The price could be \$8,000 for the tank. The old truck will go up for bids after it is replaced.

Public Comment:

Cheryl Thrum asked Jeff Brott to explain the petition on the table from the “Citizens for local control” group. Brott explained the petition that is collecting signatures needed to amend the energy act and to restore local control.

Motion to approve bills by Brott. 2nd by Whitcomb. Voted and passed.

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

Meeting adjourned 8:25pm.

Clerk, Marjorie Whitcomb