

Board Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2025

Meeting called to order by Toren Stanton at 7:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Toren Stanton

Board Members in attendance: Supervisor Stanton, Treasurer Brubaker and Clerk Smith, Trustee Courliss & Trustee Brott

Reading of the minutes and a motion to approve the April minutes, first by Clerk Smith second Supervisor Stanton. All in favor 5-0. Accepted and passed.

Old Business:

Property Maintenance Requests: SAFEbuilt is working on the complaints received. 4 were done in the last month. 5 more new complaints have been addressed this month. Further updates as they are worked through.

Trustee Courliss makes a motion to allow the creation of a logo being made for the township from the website company. Second Supervisor Stanton. All in favor 5-0. Motion passes.

New Business:

Trustee Courliss spoke on Short Term Rentals around the lakes. The Planning Commission is getting around to it and getting input from the lake residents to come up with an Ordinance. MTA had a conference and a session on STR and was very informative. They suggested that a township that does not have an ordinance would allow a moratorium up to 120 days until the Planning Commission brings forth an ordinance to the township board. STR is anything that is 30 days or less. One of the problems they are having is that they are driving up the prices on the homes when they sell. They do provide a positive and a negative to the community. The people do keep the property pretty clean.

Public Comment: Doug Diamond, he agrees with Trustee Courliss sentiments. The people who are purchasing the homes are not our local community. His concern is doing airbnb and when it doesn't get rented and it sits empty, who will take care of the property and keep up with maintenance and values. The ones that he has seen do leave pamphlets in the homes promoting local businesses.

Supervisor Stanton wonders who will "police" the homes being used as a rental. They are bringing commerce to our area and he has a hard time placing a moratorium on them.

Treasurer Brubaker wonders how long it will take for an ordinance to be made by the planning commission. Trustee Courliss mentions that the PC Board only meets 4 times a year so it may take a while.

At this time, we do not feel it is a good move to place a moratorium on the properties. Throw it back to the PC Board.

MI House Bills state taking control away from the township, the state stepped in and said the township cannot control that any longer and they will control it. When they came back into session, they had a couple of bills that were moving forward. 402-7 & 402-8. These two bills took the power/authority from the state and gave it back to the townships. Passed the House and is now in the Senate. We will see where that goes. Contact the Senators and tell them how to vote.

Fire Department: 7 calls last in April. 911 is hiring if anyone is looking for a job.

Treasurer: She has updated her monthly fund balances. \$107,094.41 in general fund. Revenue Sharing check and WOW check came in. Treasurer Brubaker would like to hire Kip Modert to do the cleaning of the hall. She will start right away. Supervisor Stanton moves to hire Kip Motter as custodian of the township hall. Second, Trustee Courliss. All in favor 5-0. Passes. Supervisor Stanton moves to allocate 400 to finish the landscaping. Second, Trustee Brott.

Clerk: All bills were paid and nothing was out of the ordinary. Clerk Smith would like to acquire Attorney Dangl for the creation of the Fire Billing Ordinance. She has done a great job with our Cheryl Burns Case and she is willing to work with us on creating a new ordinance. We can no longer use Attorney Dangl for any appellate cases but we can use one of her partners if needed. Trustee Brott would like to keep Catherine Kaufman on as she has been good to us and is very knowledgeable. Supervisor Stanton moves to acquire Attorney Dangl for the creation of the fire billing ordinance. Second, Trustee Brott. All in favor 5-0. Motion Passes.

Supervisor: He will contact the driveway company to see about getting it done. If not, he will start looking elsewhere. Drove around with Jay from the Road Commission to gather a good maintenance report. Reports maintained with records. Supervisor Stanton moves to approve the 2025 SealCoat bid, second Brubaker. Supervisor Stanton moves to approve the 2025 Gravel road bid, second Trustee Brott. Mid to late June for Dust Control.

Roll Call Vote for Seal Coat \$29,238.

Trustee Courliss: Yes

Trustee Brott: Yes

Supervisor Stanton: Yes

Clerk Smith: Yes

Treasurer Brubaker: Yes

Roll Call Vote for Gravel:

Trustee Courliss: Yes

Trustee Brott: Yes

Supervisor Stanton: Yes

Clerk Smith: Yes

Treasurer Brubaker: Yes

Public Comment:

Cemetery looks really nice and they cleaned up the tree at the Sherwood Cemetery.

Supervisor Stanton moves to approve the bills for the month of April, Trustee Brott second. All in favor 5-0. Motion carries.

Supervisor Stanton adjourned the meeting at 8:13pm , Trustee Courliss second. All in favor 5-0. Motion Carries. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hannah Smith

Sherwood Township Clerk
