February 2, 2023

**Shafer Township**

**Monthly Board Meeting**

The Board of Shafer Township met at the Shafer Town Hall on Thursday, February 2, 2023. Board members present included Chairman Mark Stovern, Supervisor John Schmalz, Supervisor John Hoffman, Treasurer, Dominique Haller, and Clerk, Faith Lichtscheidl.

Residents present include Becky Strand, Brad Johnson, Tommy Waldemar,Joe Mattson, Troy Annonson (Taylors Falls Fire), Jason Fredlund (Almelund Fire Chief), Ron Elfstrom, Fire Chief and Owen Kuhnly, Chair from Shafer/Franconia Fire.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Supervisor Hoffman, 2nd by Supervisor Schmalz; all in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2023 regularly scheduled board meeting, Supervisor Schmalz 2nd motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Haller presented the January, 2023 Treasurer’s report. The disbursement register shows a balance of $15,062.30. The receipts register shows a balance of $6,643.88 and the cash control statement shows a balance of $307,024.96.

Outstanding checks show a total balance of $3153.83.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s report by Supervisor Schmalz, 2nd by Supervisor Hoffman; all in favor, motion carried.

The claims were reviewed, motion made by Supervisor Schmalz to approve the claims, 2nd by Supervisor Hoffman; all in favor, motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Almelund Fire & Rescue**

Jason Fredlund of Almelund Fire presented the Annual Budget report for 2023. He reported 132 runs, 13 cancelled enroute totals for 2022. He reviewed the budget and the amount Shafer Township is contracted for in 2023 is $12,389.40. He presented the contract for 2023 to the board with the above noted information and asked that the contract be signed.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to approve the Almelund Fire Department Budget for 2023 in the dollar amount of $12,389.40, paid in 2 installments, Supervisor Schmalz 2nd the motion; motion carried and contract signed.

**Shafer/Franconia Fire**

Ron Elfstrom, Fire Chief of Shafer/Franconia Fire and Owen Kuhnly, Franconia Township Chairman, presented the run report for the year 2022. Total of 154 runs, 24 which was Shafer Township (8 fire, 16 first responder). Shafer/Franconia Fire increased their budget by 2.5% for a total of $12,820.94 to be paid in two installments in 2023. It was also stated that the fire department’s air packs expire in 2024 so they will need to get that funding together. The board was reminded again that grants for fire department equipment are difficult to get.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to approve the Shafer/Franconia Fire Department Budget for 2023 in the dollar amount of $12,820.94, paid in 2 installments, Supervisor Schmalz 2nd the motion; motion carried and contract signed.

**Taylors Falls Fire**

Troy Aanonsen, Taylors Falls City Council member presented the budget for Taylors Falls Fire for 2023-2024. The total runs for TF Fire for 2022 was 135 and 31 runs were in Shafer Township. The proposed budget for 2023 presented is $26,169 per year for 2023 and 2024. This is an increase from the last contract of $9,407.40 per year.

Shafer Township board had many questions around this increase. It seems that the Estimated Market Value (EMV) for Shafer Township increased from 39% in 2021 to 54% in 2023 causing the large increase in the total dollar amount of the contract. The report shows a decrease in EMV for the City of Taylors Falls from 59% in 2021 to 46% in 2023. This seems very confusing to Shafer Township board members so they requested that these numbers be reviewed again and discussed at the March 9, 2023 regularly scheduled monthly meeting. No motions were made regarding the Taylors Falls Fire contract at this time.

**Election Judges**

Supervisor Schmalz made a motion to accept Election Judges Faith Lichtscheidl, Becky Strand, Faye Caneday and Kurt Nelson as election judges for the 2023 Shafer Township Election, Supervisor Hoffman 2nd the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

**Establish Ballot Board**

The ballot board was established and a motion was made to accept judges Faith Lichtscheidl, Becky Strand, Fay Caneday and Kurt Nelson as the ballot board. They will meet immediately following the annual meeting to confirm the ballots and the counts.

**Board of Appeals and Equalization**

The Board of Appeals and Equalization is tentatively scheduled to meet with Shafer Township on April 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm. If anything changes, Daryl Moeller will make us aware.

Chairman Stovern and Supervisor Hoffman both expire for the Board of Appeals in July of 2025. Supervisor Schmalz has the option to train this year.

**Teal Avenue**

There has been no contact from Alex Turk but we should be hearing back soon.

**Cold Storage Update**

Supervisor Hoffman reports that it is suggested we build cold storage rather than adding on to the building. The cost could be significantly less expense. There would still be the option to add a storage space for the tables/chairs and expand the office. The board has asked maintenance Brad Johnson to draw up cold storage at this time to review later.

**Maintenance**

Maintenance person Brad reports that we have gone through a fair amount of salt/sand. There are about 7 loads left in the salt shed and one in the truck. Brad has been out working on areas that have been drifting over.

**Snow Plow Policy**

Chairman Stovern has updated the policy based on discussion from last month. He has added information about mailboxes and garbage cans.

A motion was made by Supervisor Hoffman to approve the policy, 2nd by Supervisor Schmalz; all in favor, motion carried.

**Miscellaneous**

Treasurer had another claim to approve for credit card.

Warren White has not received any receipts or contact back from the Charles Bros.

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 8:36 pm by Supervisor Schmalz, 2nd by Supervisor Hoffman, all in favor, motion carried and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Faith Lichtscheidl, Clerk

Mark Stovern, Chairman