March 9, 2023

**Shafer Township**

**Monthly Board Meeting**

The Board of Shafer Township met at the Shafer Town Hall on Thursday, March 9, 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, Al & Sharon Rivard, Sarah Hamel, Jake Vodenka Reed, Troy Aanonsen, Lucas Chopmay, E.M. Johnson, Jesse Turner, Dennie and Debbie Allen, Tom and Cindy Larson, Wade and Renee Alexander, Tommy Waldemar and Jeff Hasselquist.

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

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to approve the February 27, 2023 audit and budget meeting, Supervisor Schmalz 2nd; all in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Haller presented the February, 2023 Treasurer’s report. The disbursement register shows a balance of $12,163.98. The receipts register shows a balance of $21,529.01 and the cash control statement shows a balance of $316,553.07.

Outstanding checks show a total balance of $3,316.89.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s report by Supervisor Hoffman, 2nd by Supervisor Schmalz; 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 Threshing Gambling Permit / Jesse Turner**

Jesse Turner presented that Almelund Threshing Show Gambling permit. A motion was made to approve the permit by Supervisor Schmalz, Supervisor Hoffman 2nd; all in favor, motion carried.

**Shafer Road Maintenance Contract**

Clerk Lichtscheidl reviewed the Road Maintenance Contract for the board members but the copy sent is a draft. Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to approve the contract, Supervisor Schmalz 2nd the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

**Tractor** **Supply Credit Card**

A contract was mailed for credit cards for Tractor Supply. It was agreed that we will contact the 800 number and cancel the contract and shred the credit cards.

**2023 Spring Newsletter**

Clerk Lichtscheidl brought up the Spring newsletter and it was agreed that Supervisor Hoffamn will gather dates for the Spring and Fall clean up. We will get that ready to go out at the next month.

**Public Comment (3 Minutes)**

**Old Business**

**Taylors Falls Fire**

Troy Aanonson and Jake Vodenka Reed representing the City of Taylors Falls and the Taylors Falls Fire Department. The fire contract was reviewed again and there is concern that the Township of Shafer increased by a large amount and the City of Taylors Falls decreased by a large amount. A question was asked if Shafer Township was charged more for some of the sections presented. Typically we have 2 sections that are split between the City of Taylors Falls and Shafer Township. Troy agreed to go back and check and then get back to us again.

**Almelund Fire Contract Update**

Jason Fredlund sent Clerk Lichtscheidl an email reporting that the fee they presented in February would be decreasing by $672.52, there was an error on their end.

**Upland Road**

Residents from Upland Road attended this meeting and were welcomed and thanked by Chairman Stovern for attending.

A representative from Fahrner was present to discuss chip sealing Upland Road. It is estimated that the fee would be around $50,000 to $60,000 per mile depending on trucking costs and daily oil prices. The chip seal will last about 10 years and that will depend on what kind of winters we experience and the amount of traffic on the road. The road will not be chip sealed unless it is in appropriate shape.

Chairman Stovern then discussed black top as a second option. He presented some rough numbers to include $600,000 to blacktop. The break down of this pricing would include assessing each property about $21,000 that could be paid off within a 10 to 15 year time frame.

The third option would be to gravel the road and the estimated cost for this would be approximately $40,000.

The group then discussed the possibility of using recycled material, such as blacktop and concrete. There has not been a lot of positive reviews on recycled materials. At this time, the residents decided they would like to get a quote on blacktop.

**Teal Avenue Update**

There has been no contact from anyone from LARA regarding dust control on the road. The only information was that there was a board meeting coming up the following week. There may need to be another invite for to board members of LARA for further discussion.

**Addition/Cold Storage Update**

A current quote received was for a stand alone building, 40x64 for $66,300 but we will continue to work on getting quotes.

**Maintenance Update**

Maintenance Brad reports that he has been doing a lot of plowing. There was concern about the amount of ice on the gravel/lime rock roads. A motion was made to purchase a blade with carbide teeth by Supervisor Schmalz, 2nd the Supervisor Hoffman; all in favor, motion carried.

There was discussion using the Ford Ranger for running errands for the township rather than personal vehicles.

**Miscellaneous Items**

Culverts: when working with residents, it is not Shafer Township’s responsibility to bring the culvert up to township specs, it will be up to the resident. When a resident wants to upgrade a driveway, we can pay for the culvert but it will be up to the resident to cover the costs of the gravel and anything else.

**Newsletter**

We will be sending out another Newsletter this Spring and would like to ensure the dates for the recycle days to be scheduled the 1st Saturday of June and the 1st Saturday in October. Supervisor Hoffman will work on this.

**Garbage Pick Up**

Waste Management is not picking up Garbage in certain parts of the County blaming weather/poor road conditions as the issue. Chairman Stovern reported that Waste Manage has been asking residents to put their garbage cans on the opposite side of their driveways. This is creating issues with snowplows to be able to clear roads appropriately. Chairman Stovern will continue looking into this.

**Public Comment (3 Minutes)**
A resident inquired when road restrictions would be starting and it was reported that they start on March 10, 2023 at 12:01 pm.

Supervisor Schmalz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm, Supervisor Hoffman 2nd the motion; all in favor, motion carried and meeting adjourned.

Faith Lichtscheidl, Clerk

Mark Stovern, Chairman