December 14, 2023

**Shafer Township**

**Monthly Board Meeting**

The Board of Shafer Township met at the Shafer Town Hall on Thursday, December 14, 2023. Board members present included Chairman Mark Stovern, Supervisor John Schmalz, Supervisor John Hoffman, Treasurer, Dominique Haller, and Clerk, Faith Lichtscheidl. Also, Maintenance, Brad Johnson.

Residents present included Becky Strand, Tommy Waldermar, Janet Johnson, Sam Askar,

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 November 9, 2023 regularly scheduled board meeting with one correction under maintenance, Supervisor Hoffman 2nd the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion made to approve the December 7, 2023 meeting by Supervisor Schmalz, 2nd b y Supervisor Hoffman, all in favor, motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Haller presented the November, 2023 Treasurer’s report. The disbursement register shows a balance of $42,406.87. The receipts register shows a balance of $110.994.56 and the cash control statement shows a balance of $380,287.06.

schamlz made motion hoffman 2nd

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Home Town Internet**

Sam Askar, met with Linn Strong and John Schmalz. Has funding for Shafer, Amador and Franconia Township and the City of Shafer per Chase at Chisago County. Need a tower in this area, county not in favor of putting up another tower. Sam Ashkar presented a proposal that is asking that we help fund the

Monthly subscription rate is 54.99 for 25 down, 75.99 for 50 and 99.00 for 100 mgb per second down.

Public input: this looks like building for the future, small investment for the township, will fill in a lot of gaps that Frontier hasn’t been able to support, it would definitely help those who have very spotty internet to be able to have better advantages of working from home. Three year freeze on pricing through 2026. After three years, there maybe an increase but it shouldn’t be significant. It should be only taxing increases. What if everyone in the neighborhood gets on all at once, this equipment allows about 1,000 people on one tower depending on the customers speed requirement. It should not be affected by the neighbors use. Not effected by weather,

If agreeing, could possibly be moving forward and connecting people by February. From the day of services, they will go three years.

The township is represented by the county. Our application will be submitted to the county and they will take it on.

A motion was made to approve a planwith home town internet for 2500.00 by supervisor hoffman, 2nd by supervisor schmalz, all in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to use AARPA funds to fund the hometown internet agreement, hoffman 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion made to donate moneh bck to the county by shc, 2nd by hoff, all infavor, motion carried.

Motion made to mark for polling place, sch 2nd all in favor.

February 2024 meeting date

Meeting date to February 1 from February 8th, motion made schmalz made off 2nd all in favor

Remote meetings:

Purchase equipment to do a zoom meeting, get a computer to go with that and a wall monitor for representation of the person missing. Schmazl made a motion to purchase equipment for remote meetings, for under 1000.00, hoffman 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. We will use AARPA funds for that.

Motion made too use aarpa funds hoffman, schmalz 2nd.

Public Comment:

**Public Comment**; none

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Cold storage**

Still working to get the area enclosed. Brad asked if he could move forward with purchasing the double door from Menards because it is 11% and could save us money. That was approved to purchase/order.

**Maintenance**

Scheduled appt with Ziegler to look at the grader/fix grader.

Brad met with Dennis Peterson and reviewed the plowing while brad is recouperating.

Updates to plow truck, used 9 cans of foam to spray around the building in the back

to help seal up around the back so snow won’t blow into the shop/back of building.

Smart salting, long class, we are buying what is recommended, were going to test our out put to see if it matches what we are putting down. It is possible the county may help facilitate that. Discussed putting a small tank in the back of the ranger to treat the black top road with the brine. It shouldn’t be too costly to do that. Brad will check into getting materials for the ranger.

Spring Gravel planning, a list was provided to the team to get things set up for next year. The list provided shows that we could spend about 34,525 on gravel and then there was some discussion on chip sealing tern ave. We should contact North 40 and let them know what we will need for gravel for next year. Brad will contact them and give some tentative amounts.

320th update; met out there and the cul-de-sac is going to work. They are going to go on the north side of the road and use the new drive what that Blake Anderson is building and will build a drive way on the south side of the road so that we can turn around. The neighbors gave permission to move forward with t his plan. Mark contacted a surveryor and will get that process started. The surveryor did not have a time line.

Miscellaneous

Talked about doing a new message board, Mark talked to a company in North Branch and they were not interested in supplying a small sign with red lettering. Mark will keep looking

Schmalz had contacted the county and talk to them about road changes and the state is the one who is really interested in knowing if anything is changing, the county reports to the state. This will be an annual request for the count.

**Public Comment**

Becky Strand commented on long-term planning. Mark let her know that we do have a 5 year plan and a 10 year plan.

Tommy Waldemar, asked if we purchased a reclaimer and it was confirmed we have it on order.

Motion to adjourn at 8:26 by schma hoffman 2nd, meeting adjourned

Faith Lichtscheidl, Clerk

Mark Stovern, Chairman