

SHARON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
January 6, 2011 (unapproved)

The Sharon Township Board held its regular Board meeting on Thursday, January 6, 2011. Aiuto called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Board members present: Aiuto, Chizmar, Frey, Lavender and Yordanich. There were (22) twenty-two guests present.

The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Aiuto gave the oath to interim supervisor, John Frey.

Supervisor Frey stated that he welcomed all public comments and opinions and wanted the meetings and the Township to be open and transparent.

Frey asked if there were any public comments and/or questions.

Brian Hayes inquired about what Frey thought about the 10 acre minimum? Frey replied that he thought it was a good thing and he would enforce it.

John Savage inquired about the \$15,000.00 miscellaneous income and expenses that were in the audit report. Aiuto explained the amounts.

Motion by Chizmar, supported by Lavender to amend and approve the 12/2/10 minutes. Motion carried.

Yordanich reported that there were three fire runs in December. She had received two payments and one partial payment. She stated that she would meet with Frey to review over the invoicing process before the next meeting. Frey stated that he would like the public to participate and come up with a possible solution for collection for fire runs. Aiuto inquired about all the past due accounts (60 days or older), what is their status? Yordanich to determine the status and to discuss it at the next meeting.

Richard Irwin, Darryl Suhre and Linn Wilson all commented on the fire run process. Frey read a letter from a senior citizen stating that next time she will be scared to call because she does not want to be responsible for the \$1,044.00 charge.

The Treasurer's report for November 2010 was reviewed. Motion made by Chizmar, supported by Lavender to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

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Zoning Administrator, Dave Wilson reported the following activity for December: issued no zoning permits, there were no new complaints, no land splits, and no new addresses. Wilson reported that the Eisenhower Enrichment Center had applied for a State license today and that there were many State statues that they needed to follow and the Sharon Township Zoning Ordinance did not cover definitions on an adult foster care facilities. Wilson reported that he had gone through all the records, and in April 1986 the Zoning Board of Appeals granted a variance to Ellis for the Jacob Road property. He stated that the assessor gave him a list of 52 properties that were less than 10 acres. Lavender and Wilson will research the data further. Aiuto inquired to John Savage (a previous Sharon Township Supervisor and previous member of the ZBA), if he had any recollection regarding the reason for granting the variance. He stated that he did recall why and that assessing has nothing to do with zoning. Lavender asked Savage if he could help them with the list of 52 properties of less than 10 acres. Savage said "yes".

Brian Hayes inquired why there were so many? Jim Mann answered that there was not a State land split act at the time so the splits did not need to be reviewed by the Township.

Bill Lewis reported that the Planning Commission was finishing the Land Use Plan and that they would be holding a public hearing to receive comments at their February meeting. He reported that Richard Cole had been doing a great job putting it all together. Jim Mann inquired about it being on the website. Lewis answered "yes".

Aiuto reported that the ZBA had no meeting in December.

Frey reported that the MLB had no meeting in December.

Chizmar reported that CACA had no meeting.

Old Business

Aiuto inquired to the Board if they had any questions on the audit. Aiuto stated that all the Township checking accounts required a double signature except the tax checking account and felt that they all should have the same requirements. Resolution by Aiuto, supported by Lavender that a double signature was needed to write checks from the tax checking account. Roll Call Vote: Lavender: yes; Aiuto; yes; Frey: yes; Yordanich: yes; and Chizmar: no. The resolution was adopted.

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New Business

Aiuto explained that Chelsea/52 Associates sold the property to Fifty Two Minerals, L.L.C. (Osborne Trucking) and closed on the property on December 29, 2010. Aiuto explained that Chelsea/52 Associates paid off the land contract at closing in the amount of \$143,871.93. She reported that the Treasurer deposited the check into the Township's general fund account.

John Savage inquired about the Waldo Road bridge being fixed. Frey replied that there are 600 bridges out in the State of Michigan and found legislation stating that the Township is not responsible for fixing the bridge. Richard Irwin replied that it is a County and State problem.

Aiuto suggested that the mineral extraction ordinance be amended to read that the supervisor not be required to be the chair of the board. Lavender suggested that a board liaison be required to be on the MLB like the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission. Motion by Lavender, supported by Aiuto to request the Township attorney to amend the mineral extraction ordinance to require a board liaison and not the supervisor to be the chair. Motion carried.

The Board discussed appointments that expired January 1, 2011. Motion by Aiuto, supported by Lavender to re-appoint Bill Lewis and Brian Simons to the Planning Commission for a 3-year term. Motion carried. Motion by Aiuto, supported by Yordanich to re-appoint Brian Simons for a 2-year term to the Mineral Licensing Board. Motion carried. Motion by Aiuto, supported by Yordanich to re-appoint Jim Mann, chair, Richard Irwin and Dave Hoeft for a 2-year term to the Board of Review. Motion carried. Motion by Aiuto, supported by Lavender to re-appoint Richard Irwin as Township Historian for a 2-year term. Motion carried. Motion by Aiuto, supported by Lavender to re-appoint Keith Schuekle to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term. Motion carried.

Frey stated that the Township needed to purchase a new copier and safe to keep checks in. Motion made by Aiuto, supported by Lavender to allocate up to \$500.00 on a copier and \$100.00 on a safe. Motion carried. Frey to purchase the safe and Aiuto to purchase the copier.

Aiuto reported that the Township still owed Lucas & Baker, P.C. \$60,200.71 from the Gourley lawsuit. The Board will vote on paying this invoice at the next meeting. Peter Psarouthakis inquired about getting a copy of the invoice. Aiuto to check with Lucas.

After review of the bills, motion by Lavender, supported by Chizmar to approve all bills as presented. Motion carried.

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Trustee Chizmar read his letter of resignation effective immediately. Motion by Lavender, supported by Aiuto to accept his letter of resignation with profound regrets. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Teri L. Aiuto, Sharon Township Clerk

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