SHARON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
February 2, 2012 (unapproved)

The Sharon Township Board held its regular Board meeting on Thursday, February 2, 2012. Frey called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Board members present: Aiuto, Frey, Psarouthakis, Simons and Spiegel. There were (14) public attendees present.

The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Psarouthakis, supported by Simons to approve the 1/5/12 minutes. Motion carried.

Frey inquired about any public comments and/or questions. There were none.

Motion by Psarouthakis, supported by Simons to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Aiuto reported on the IRS audit. She reported that the IRS agent stated that Karen Page needed to be made an employee, even though she is employed by Wolverine State Assessors, Inc. The IRS agent was made aware that she has been under contract since 1994, and is employed by a corporation. Aiuto reported that the IRS agent stated that it did not matter, that due to her signing the assessment roll and that she uses the Township's office and computers, that she falls under the title of an employee. Aiuto reported that the Township would owe FICA, FICA Match, Medicare and Medicare Match for 2009, 2010 and 2011. Aiuto reported that she contacted the legal department and MTA and they stated that they also supported the IRS ruling. Aiuto had previously forwarded to the Board the documents that MTA forwarded to her. Aiuto recommended to the Board that Karen Page be made an employee effective 1/1/12 to comply with the IRS guidelines. Motion by Simons, supported by Psarouthakis to continue to pay Wolverine State Assessors, Inc. as contracted as in the past until the documentation is received from the Internal Revenue Service and an opinion is given from a tax attorney. Motion carried.

Treasurer Simons distributed the Treasurer's report for December. Motion made by Psarouthakis, supported by Spiegel to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried. Simons reported that 57% of the winter taxes had been collected.

Zoning Administrator, Dave Wilson reported the following activity for January: issued one zoning permits, there were no complaints, no land splits, no new signs and no new addresses.

Bill Lewis reported that the Planning Commission was continuing to work on the zoning ordinance updates and a public hearing would be held once the changes were made and the Grass Lake Sanctuary would be submitting a special use permit.

Aiuto reported that the ZBA had their annual January meeting, and that all the same officers had been reappointed.

Jim Hopkins, chair of the Mineral Licensing Board reported that the MLB had no meeting in January. He stated that he was going to obtain information about if the Township would be able to cash in a reclamation bond if a company filed bankruptcy. He also reported that he was going to be reviewing over the hydrological study done for the Freedom Township gravel pit.
Jim Hopkins reported that the Chelsea Area Construction Authority was reducing the work week for the staff effective 1/8/12; that $52,000.00 was paid to Mrs. Porath and that there was an election of officers and that the roster of officers was unchanged.

Spiegel reported that SWWCOG did not have a quorum at the 1/11/12 meeting.

Old Business

a. Discussed the repair and maintenance of the Township hall. Discussed obtaining bids for the design for the porch and the ramp. Frey to get a blueprint drawn up (concrete v. wood).
b. Spiegel reported that she needed to check to see what the equipment recommendations were for adding property tax information to the website.
c. Discussed the Countywide Transportation. Lewis inquired to the Board if they wanted to pass the agreement or not? Motion by Frey, supported by Spiegel to forego the agreement and opt out at this time. Motion carried.
d. The crop lease with Walt Horodeczny was discussed. Frey inquired to Mr. Hordodeczny what the crop was? How many years does it need to be planted in the field to start turning a profit? How long has he maintained the field? Frey also stated that Sharon Township did not have a legal right of way to the field because it was a land locked parcel. Mr. Horodeczny stated that the crop was alfala, that it needed to be planted in the field for about four to five years and this was approximately his fourth year in that field with alfala. Mr. Horodeczny also reported that he had leased the field from Mr. Gourley previously and that Mr. Gourley continued to allow him access to Sharon Township's land locked parcel through Mr. Gourley's land. Motion by Psarouthakis, supported by Spiegel to lease the land to Mr. Horodeczny another year at the same lease amount. Abstain: Aiuto. Motion carried.

New Business

a. Frey stated that after contacting attorney Fred Lucas, he contacted Mr. Roy Gourley regarding obtaining a right of way to the 25+/- acres located on M-52.

b. Mr. Gourley stated that he would grant an easement to the property at no cost but in return, he would want Sharon Township to grant him an easement down the East and West side of the 25+/- acre property. The Board will discuss this at a further date.

c. Psarouthakis indicated to the Board that he would like to attend the Joint Planning Commission and not committing Sharon Township to it.

d. Spiegel reported that the Township needed a new mailbox due to the mail always being wet after it rained. Motion by Simons, supported by Psarouthakis to allocate $300.00 for a new mailbox. Motion carried.

e. Aiuto reported that the Presidential Primary election would be held on February 28, 2012. Motion made by Aiuto, supported by Spiegel that dinner be provided to the election workers. Motion carried.

f. The Board discussed appointments that expired January 1, 2012. Motion by Psarouthakis, supported by Simons to re-appoint Richard Cole and Kathy Spiegel to the Planning Commission for a 3-year term. Motion carried. Motion by Psarouthakis, supported by Spiegel to re-appoint Dan Yordanich and Jim Lyos for 2-year term to the Mineral Licensing Board. Motion carried. Motion by Psarouthakis, supported by Simons to re-appoint Charlotte Anderson and Teri Aiuto to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3-year term. Motion carried.

g. Spiegel reported that both she and Psarouthakis met with Washtenaw County regarding the Sharon Township website. They reported that the Township will continue to have the County host it due to no cost. Spiegel reported that she will be putting a together a monthly Township newsletter and that anyone can subscribe with their email address.

Supervisor Frey asked if there was any public comments and/or questions? John Savage inquired about who attended the MTA conference. Simons stated that he attended the Treasurer and Audit sessions.

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

After review of the fuel oil bill, all Board members agreed that the Township seemed to be using a lot more fuel oil than what seemed possible. Motion by Spiegel, supported by Psarouthakis to purchase a padlock for the fuel oil tank. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 P.M.

Teri L. Aiuto, Sharon Township Clerk

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Crop Lease- Teri**
2. **Get blueprints drawn for the porch and ramp-John**
3. **Contact tax attorney-Peter**
4. **Look to see if there is grant money for hall repairs-Kathy**
5. **Purchase mailbox and padlock for the fuel oil tank-Kathy**
6. **Check out computer equipment for BS & A software-Kathy**