

Sylvan Township  
March 4, 2024

The board meeting for Sylvan Township was called to order by Supervisor Angie Moore at 6:00 p.m. on March 4, 2024 at the Sylvan Township Hall.

Members Present: Angela Moore, Supervisor      Sheila Robinson, Trustee  
Terry Pritchard, Clerk                      Jeff Reagan, Trustee  
Angela Reagan, Treasurer

Guests: Ted Wojcik, Mike Gabrion, Richard & Merry Cook, Tim & Alicia Michell, Sheriff Mark Cool, Lyvere Bell, Lisa Newsome, and Charles Thigpen

Minutes for the February 5, 2024 regular board meeting were read by Terry Pritchard. Angie Reagan made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Jeff Reagan. Motion carried.

In old business:

- ✓ BOR organizational meeting is March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30.
- ✓ March BOR will be held March 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 am until 3 pm and March 12<sup>th</sup> from 3 pm until 9 pm.
- ✓ The road commission will need to order the structure for the bridge project soon. The board intends to act on the project at the May meeting.
- ✓ The road commission also provided the board with a 5-year plan for the roads in the township. The annual meeting with the members of the road commission is on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. All available board members will attend.
- ✓ The election went smoothly with a little over 20% of the township's registered voters casting a ballot by early voting, absentee voting, or voting in person.
- ✓ While attending BOR training, Angie Moore learned that there is some additional training required for any staff that answers questions concerning property.
- ✓ Sheila brought a quote for signage for the building from Image Graphics. She didn't hear back yet from her other inquiry, so the board has tabled the decision to purchase a new sign until the May meeting.

In new business:

- ✓ Terry Pritchard presented the board with several budget amendments. In township board/trustees, we need to move \$1000 from Legal to Audit and \$800 from Misc Expenses to County Billings/Admin Fees. In Elections, we need to move \$200 from Cemetery Repairs & Maint to Setup & Maint/Voting Mach, \$100 from Elections-Education & Training also to Setup & Maint/Voting Mach, and \$350 from Elections-Salary/Wages to that same category. In the Clerk category, we need to move \$30 to Office Supplies, \$20 to Mileage, \$200 to Postage, and \$100 to Computer Software from Cemetery Repairs & Maint. In Treasurer, we need to move the \$100 for Postage to Computer. In Cemetery, we need to move \$300 from Repairs & Maint. to VFW Flags & Markers. Angie Reagan made a motion to accept the budget amendments, Sheila Robinson seconded. Motion carried.
- ✓ Terry Pritchard asked the board to consider increasing the hourly wages of our hourly workers to \$15 per hour for election workers and sexton and \$16 per hour for the election chairperson to align our wages with other townships and the county. Sheila Robinson made a motion to increase the wages as stated, Angie Reagan seconded. Motion carried.

In public comments:

- ✓ Sheriff Cool presented the board with an update from the Sheriff's office. He indicated the total number of calls were down a little, but with the change in weather they are prepping for an increase. He also said the daily average number of inmates in the jail is also down a little at 48 inmates per day. The jail capacity is 76.

- ✓ Sheriff Cool also updated the board on some of the changes in legislation involving firearms including storage, permits to purchase, and “red flag” laws.
- ✓ He also reported that they are fully staffed, but recently received notification of a retirement.
- ✓ Tim Michell gave a report concerning the Board of Commissioners meeting. The board approved the sale of the Council on Aging building in Evert. They also purchased 31 acres as an investment and a possible building site for a courthouse/jail facility in the future. The board is working on a master plan and is considering how solar energy fits into the plan so they have a presentation on solar energy scheduled for Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the Evert Fairgrounds to hear from an expert on the topic. There will opportunities to ask questions and give input.
- ✓ Ted Wojcik continues to work to find out who is the contact person for overseeing Crawford Park in an effort to make improvements to the park and open communication between the property owner adjacent to the park and the state/county. The county, state, and resident all own strips of land at the park.

In Fire Department News:

- ✓ The board approved some budget amendments to balance the budget.
- ✓ The new state software for keeping track of statistics has been well received, except in the case of breaking out data for individual entities. The process is very time consuming.
- ✓ Shane reported 92% coverage for the shifts at the hall.
- ✓ It was reported that the 20-year plan is under budget and the excess funds are going into capital funds.
- ✓ The department is in need of an air pack compressor to fill air tanks. A USDA grant will help cover a good portion of the cost.
- ✓ A backup generator is needed. The cost can be covered by making an adjustment to the current budget.
- ✓ The board voted to donate the old hydraulic jaws of life to a department in the upper peninsula.
- ✓ The possibility of a remote fire hall in one of the townships was discussed.

Jeff Reagan made a motion to receive the treasurer’s report, Terry Pritchard seconded. Motion carried. A motion to pay bills was made by Terry Pritchard, seconded by Jeff Reagan. Motion carried. All bills were reviewed with checks #3697-3719 in the amount of \$12,214.36 were paid.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sheila Robinson, seconded by Jeff Reagan. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Pritchard  
Sylvan Township Clerk