

## Sheffield Township Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2023

1 CALL TO ORDER – Pledge of Allegiance and call to order by Chairman Jeff Labesky at 6pm at the Sheffield Food Pantry. Jay Fitch presided over the meeting as Chairman so Supervisor Labesky could take minutes in the absence of the Administrator/Treasurer.

1.1 – Sheffield Township Supervisors met with their solicitor, Andrea Stapleford in an executive session on Thursday, April 27 at 7pm at her office in Warren regarding sports complex issues.

1.2 – Attendance: Supervisors: Jeff Labesky, Jay Fitch, Nathan Lindberg, Roadmaster Ian Lester. Guests: Randy Petruney, Rick Petruney, Kim Holden, Renea Samuelson, Debbie Koza, Dave Winger, Patty Blum, Marcy Byers, Ken Schrader, Jr., Matt Bell, Kyle McNeal, and Scott Paris

1.3 - Reports of Activities and Announcements

1.3.1 Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting **ACTION**

**MOTION/SECOND Labesky/Lindberg unanimously passed.**

1.3.2 Spring Road Inspection Minutes **ACTION Motion/Second Labesky/Lindberg unanimously passed.**

2. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 – April 10, 2023, **ACTION Motion/Second Labesky/Lindberg unanimously passed.**

3. BILLS FOR APPROVAL AND APRIL TREASURER'S REPORT

3.1 – Bills for Approval through May 8, 2023, General Fund \$31,457.66; Light Fund \$1,807.73 Fire Fund \$2,810.06; Sinking Fund \$643.51 for a total of \$36,718.96. **ACTION Motion/Second Labesky/Lindberg unanimously passed.**

3.2 - April Treasurers Report **ACTION Motion/Second Labesky/Lindberg unanimously passed.**

4. COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 Cameron Energy is drilling in Howe Township, M.S.L. Oil & Gas Corporation drilling in Wetmore Township, Mead Oil Company drilling in Sheffield Township off Forest Service Road 413, R & N Resources is drilling in Sheffield Township off Route 948 on lease roads. A road bond will be sent to Mead Oil Company. Weldbank Energy is drilling in Mead Township. Wilmoth Interest, Inc will be drilling in Mead Township.

4.2 Howe Township Supervisors is requesting a meeting to discuss the current and future fire contracts with the Sheffield Volunteer Fire Department.

4.3 Kevin Bell has applied for a Stormwater Management Plan Application for an addition to his house, connecting his garage. This has been approved by our Engineer and Supervisor Lindberg. Construction Code Inspectors forwards the building permits for the month of April only one permit for Kevin Bell applied for a building permit for an addition.

4.4 EmeryCare forwards our March report for calls, 8 calls for a year-to-date total of 21 calls.

4.5 The Bid opening date for the Green Light Go Project has been moved to May 18, 2023, at 10AM due to revisions and modifications contained in an addendum regarding questions on railroad permits and railroad insurances.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Proposal from Revize Website was discussed the cost is \$2400/\$900/year not going to be starting until third quarter. Patty Blum commented on the cost. There will be a training

5.2 Robert Korbar responded to his Blighted Property Resolution that he received and has obtained a demolition permit and the property is demolished.

5.3 336 Horton Avenue and 8100 Route 6 have taken care of the nuisance situation at both properties, no further action will be taken by the Township.

5.4 We have received Allison Schmader's application for summer playground director. She is the only application that we have received.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Arbor Day Celebration is scheduled for Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am at Memorial Park with the Sheffield Area Elementary School 5<sup>th</sup> grade class. The Lion's Club is providing lunch for the students and the township will be planting a tree in memory of this day. The Proclamation is ready for signature recognizing May 12<sup>th</sup> as Arbor Day in Sheffield Township.

6.2 Nuisance and Garbage Violation letter sent to 128 Tan Street Extension.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rick Petruney concerned with March Meeting Minutes, people have issues and are not complaining, but it says they are complaining. He also asked if Griffith Road is a township road, supervisors informed him it is not.

Marcy Byers was concerned about grate issues, her dog was injured by the grate, she had asked for a different kind of grate that won't allow her dog's paws to get stuck. Roadmaster Lester will investigate this. Her yard is not draining now either she stated. Supervisors agreed to do something either take out the drain or get a new grate.

Kyle McNeal is concerned about concession stand not being run and who made the decision to not run it during the track season. Supervisor Labesky stated he will take responsibility for not running the concession stand following the advice of the solicitor. Mr. McNeal continued his concerns about not taking care of the concession stand.

Debbie Koza questioned the meeting with the solicitor regarding the concession stand and Supervisor Labesky stated we are not to make any remarks regarding our meeting until after June 12<sup>th</sup> when the school board meets. She was also concerned about the meeting minutes being minutes from March and she felt they should have been the minutes from April. She also had concerns about the one meeting a month and asked if the supervisors would consider going back to 2 meetings a month. Supervisor Fitch stated that by law we only must have one meeting a month and that's all we are going to have. Much discussion about minutes not being available for 2 months. Supervisor Fitch stated that this is the way it has always been done. We don't approve April minutes until this meeting and then they will be available for public. That is how it is done and has always been done and will continue to be done. Patti Blum stated it's not fair to the township citizens that they must wait 2 months to see what happened at the last meeting. Debbie Koza also asked that the supervisors were elected to help our town out and is concerned that there is no interest from the citizens for her event

that she is having, and nobody wants to do anything, she feels people are afraid to come and she feels that somebody is

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putting out false information. Supervisors informed her that they know nothing about false information. She needs to get with Kristi about the contributions that have come in. She also has concerns about Dick Eck's property on 1<sup>st</sup> Mill Street and how long it has been in the condition that it is in. Supervisor Labesky stated he's been sighted, but Debbie stated that nothing is apparently happening. Marcy Byres stated that state police have been at this property over 4 times in the last week. The neighbors have removed all the windows on that side of their house. Debbie stated that something needed to be done. Supervisors will see where this stands with the code enforcement officer. Much more discussion on the increase in taxes and citizens shouldn't have to live like this. She suggests bringing up a more stringent way to file to enforce the properties. Ms. Koza also asked about the handicap issue with the food pantry and perhaps something can be done about making it possible for handicapped people to enter the meetings. Supervisor Labesky will speak with food pantry about this issue. Patti Blum asked if the Medical Center could be utilized again. Supervisor Fitch stated we could investigate maybe changing the place for our meetings.

Patty Blum questioned when the speed bumps are going to be put back in place, also commented on the Whipple Street pothole, and questioned Ian on the drainage on Whipple Street and Ian stated they are working on this. She also commented on 1 meeting per month, it's not enough.

Kim Holden stated road reports haven't been done in a while. Supervisor Fitch stated we just approved a road inspection tonight. She stated that other townships have a report from the roadmaster at every meeting and wanted to know why we don't do this. She also questioned a payment made to Young & Associates out of the concession stand fund. Supervisor Labesky stated that this was for an inspection of the track that Kyle McNeal of the boosters initiated. She too questioned the sports complex and why we aren't allowed to discuss. Supervisor Lindberg informed her that there are legal issues that are involved, and we aren't allowed to discuss this. The solicitor has informed us there are no formal or informal discussions to be held on the sports complex issue. Everything is pending the vote of the school board on June 12.

Renee Samuelson commented on one meeting per month. Also asked for some fresh ideas for the township.

8. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS – items not in the agenda but came up during the meeting:

Supervisor Lindberg stated that he would like to see a discussion for a strategic plan for the next 5 years with a group of citizens and the 3 supervisors. Establishing new guidelines on how the township does business. We have reached a point where we can't do things the same way we have done for 50 years. The three of us need to make plans for Sheffield Township along with citizens who are willing to help establish a plan. Renee Samuelson volunteered to sit on this committee.

Roadmaster Lester reported that 300 feet of pipe has been installed, waiting for catch bins and fittings to complete projects. Roads have been swept; speed bumps are in place.

Rick Petruney questioned the sports complex and where the money is going. Supervisor Fitch stated it will all be clear when we can discuss.

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Kim Holden questioned the sports complex money spent out of complex and then you get covid money and why would you take money from the kids. Supervisor Lindberg stated it's not that simple and when we discuss it will be clearer for everyone. Ms. Holden also questioned the dumping of the debris on Henry's Mills Road. Supervisor Labesky informed her of Mr. Hatfield communications with the township explaining the situation and he has no issues with the township. Ms. Holden's issue is that the sticks and other stuff that we dumped will just attract other people to do the same thing and she would be fined if she did that. Ian informed Kim that the piles of stuff that was mistakenly dumped would be removed and the forest service is aware of this as well and they have no issues with the township.

9. ADJOURNMENT **ACTION Labesky/Lindberg Motion/Second all in favor** meeting was adjourned from 6:50 pm until Monday, June 12, 2023, at 6pm at Sheffield Food Pantry.

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Administrator/Treasurer

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Jeff Labesky, Chairman

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J. Jay Fitch, Acting Chairman

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Nathan Lindberg, Supervisor  
SHEFFIELD TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS