

Assyria Township Board Minutes  
July 1, 2019

A regular meeting of the Assyria Township Board was held at the Assyria Township Hall on, July 1, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: M. Timmons, T. Ryder-Stephens, J. Miller, E. Waterbury and A. Terry

COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Absent

Previous minutes reviewed and approved as written.

The bills were reviewed. Motion made by M. Timmons supported by T. Ryder-Stephens to pay the bills.

All members vote YES.

CLERK:

-In regard to Walker, Fluke and Sheldon, PLC handling the Township's Audit and F-65 Form. In the past the limited audit has cost \$1,750.00, this year's engagement letter stated a cost of \$2,100.00. The clerk contacted Walker, Fluke and Sheldon, PLC for an explanation as to the sizeable increase. They reviewed their past records and agreed the amount should not be that substantial. The revised amount for this year's audit will be at a cost of \$1,975.00. The board agreed this would be a reasonable amount to pay.

-The Board received a letter from a Township Resident, praising our Assessor Roger Smith for going over and above the call of duty, helping her resolve an issue on a property she had sold.

Motion made by A. Terry, supported by, T. Ryder-Stephens to transfer \$500.00 from account 101-801 Accounting and Auditing to account 101-270 Historical Fund.

All members vote YES.

TREASURER:

-The Treasurer attended a Treasurer's meeting and found Assyria Township is the only Township not charging a tax administration fee. The Treasurer feels the township should impose an administration fee of 1%. The Treasurer will research how much would be collected and how other Townships are handling their fee.

- The new printer is not working properly and is saying it needs a new drum. This copier does not meet the Township's needs and the Treasurer feels it would be best to replace it than try to repair it.

Motion made by M. Timmons, supported by T. Ryder-Stephens to purchase a new printer not to exceed \$500.00.

All members vote YES

TRUSTEE: Jim Miller

-Addressed a broken post at Ellis Cemetery entrance. It was noted that there is more than one cemetery entrance that could use attention. The Sexton, Scot Higgins will evaluate the situation and will advise the Board on what should be done.

-Discussion in regard to alternative options for the fire building.

ASSESSOR:

-The Assessor is ready for the Board of Review.

**SUPERVISOR:**

- The Supervisor instructed the Clerk to update the existing cemetery spreadsheet.
- The Supervisor requested a job description and monthly reports from the Assessor.
- The Supervisor did not find any downed trees in Bell Cemetery as of June 14, 2019.
- Board of review is Tuesday July 16, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. to address MCL 211.7 & MCL 211.53b issues. The Clerk will put a public notice in The Reminder.
- Semco Gas wants \$2,490,361.00 increase in performance pay for 2018. A prehearing will be July 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., 7109 W, Saginaw Hwy. The prehearing is open to the public.
- Discussion as to preinstalling monument foundations in the cemeteries to allow for uniformity and the plot number being set in the concrete. The Sexton will research the issue and present his thoughts to the Board next month.
- Discussion in regard to extending the parking lot to include the area in front of the new addition. The area would need to be dug out, sloped away from the building and filled with crushed concrete.

Motion made by E. Waterbury, Supported by T. Ryder-Stephens to hire GDH and Sons LLC to complete the parking lot as described for the amount of \$2,400.00.  
All members vote YES.

Greg Moore from Consumers Energy attended the meeting, requesting an Electric Franchise Ordinance due to the fact the current Ordinance allowing Consumers Energy to provide electricity to the Township's residents and businesses expires November 15, 2019. The Supervisor stated it is in the Township's best interest to adopt a Resolution as opposed to an Ordinance. Resolution adopted as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO RENEW THE EXISTING REVOCABLE  
ELECTRIC FRANCHISE WITH THE CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY**

**WHEREAS** the Consumers Energy Franchise for Assyria Township expires on November 15, 2019.

**WHEREAS** dependable electric service is essential to the health and well-being of the residents.

**WHEREAS** the Assyria Township Board has determined it is in the best interest of Assyria's residents:

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the revocable franchise with CONSUMERS ENERGY ELECTRIC COMPANY is renewed for thirty years subject to the following stipulations:

**REVOCABLE ELECTRIC FRANCHISE  
TOWNSHIP OF ASSYRIA, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
RESOLUTION NO. 20190701-1**

CONSUMERS ENERGY ELECTRIC COMPANY may construct, maintain and commercially use electric lines and related facilities including but not limited to towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, wires, and transformers on, under, along, and across public places including but not limited to highways, streets, alleys, bridges, and waterways, and to conduct a local electric business in the TOWNSHIP OF ASSYRIA, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

Assyria Township grants to Consumers Energy Company, hereinafter called "Consumers" the right and authority to install towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, wires, and transformers on, under, along, and across public places including but not limited to highways, streets, alleys, bridges, and waterways, and to conduct a local electric business in the TOWNSHIP OF ASSYRIA, BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

No public place used by Consumers shall be obstructed longer than necessary during construction or repair and shall be restored to the same order and condition as when work commenced. All of Consumers' electric lines and

related facilities shall be placed as not to unnecessarily interfere with the public's use of public places. Consumers shall have the right to trim and remove trees, if necessary in the conducting of such business.

**HOLD HARMLESS.** Consumers shall save the Township free and harmless from all loss, costs, and expense to which it may be subject by reason of the negligent construction and maintenance of the lines and related facilities hereby authorized. In case any action is commenced against the Township on account of the permission herein given, Consumers shall, upon notice, defend the Township and its representatives and hold them harmless from all loss, costs, and damage arising out of such negligent construction and maintenance.


Consumers shall construct and extend its electric distribution system within said Township and shall furnish electric service to applicants residing therein in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

**FRANCHISE NOT EXCLUSIVE.** The rights, power, and authority herein granted, are not exclusive.

**RATES AND CONDITIONS.** Consumers shall be entitled to provide electric service to the inhabitants of the Assyria Township at the rates approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission.

**REVOCATION.** The franchise granted by this resolution is subject to revocation at will.

**MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JURISDICTION.** Consumers remains subject to the rules and regulations of the Michigan Public Service Commission applicable to electric service in the Township.

Motion by Mike Timmons , seconded by Eugene Waterbury

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED 01 July 2019.**

Ayes:	<u>  5  </u>
Nays:	<u>  0  </u>
Absent:	<u>  0  </u>

, Assyria Township Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

06/30/2019	10279	Barry County Drain Commission	2018 Assessment	-17,784.04
06/30/2019	10280	Kent Oil	Propane	-406.63
06/30/2019	10281	The Reminder	Hall open house announcement.	-76.50
06/30/2019	10282	Barry County Telephone	Telephone/Internet Bill	-90.87
06/30/2019	10283	Pamela J Eastman	Reimbursement for QuickBooks service.	-16.96
06/30/2019	10284	Terry Ryder Stephens	Reimbursement for postage, paper and envelopes.	-1,015.04
06/30/2019	10285	Consumers Energy	Electric June Sexton, additional April & May cost of living increase.	-40.50
06/30/2019	10286	GDH & Sons LLC		-1,446.16
06/30/2019	10287	GDH & Sons LLC	Foundation for David Shepard	-388.84
06/30/2019	10288	Annette Terry	June Payroll	-657.72
06/30/2019	10289	Eugene T Waterbury	June Payroll	-109.29
06/30/2019	10290	James D Miller	June Payroll	-104.26
06/30/2019	10291	Mike P Timmons	June Payroll	-505.92
06/30/2019	10292	Pamela Jo Eastman	June Payroll	-234.30
06/30/2019	10293	Roger L Smith	June Payroll	-947.93
06/30/2019	10294	Terry Ryder-Stephens	June Payroll	-763.46
06/30/2019	10295	Heidi Bartha	June Payroll	-81.40
			Total Checks	<b>-24,669.82</b>