

## SUPERVISOR COMMENTS

JUNE 2021

SIMSTOWNSHIP.ORG

**Cemetery and Transfer Station Meeting ...** The Sims-Whitney Boards met June 3<sup>rd</sup> and accomplished a great deal. Regarding the Cemetery, it was decided that a 6' x 10' utility trailer should be purchased as the present trailer is in very poor condition and is been sent to the Transfer Station in an effort to sell it to the highest bidder, with a minimum price of \$100.00. Steve Gingrich and John Zirca purchased a new 6' x 12' all steel trailer on 6/11 from DR Trailer in Milan for \$3300.00 total. They have had to go to the larger size as 10 footers are not available, and if they were, the price would be the same. Also, the joint boards decided to level the driveway approach from US23 into Cemetery Beach and Sam has found a contractor that can do the job for \$200.00. The same contractor will also do the rehab of the section on the east side of the driveway coming into the Transfer Station and will remove three dead trees, will remove a variety of stumps, concrete slabs and a partially buried fence and will remove the old security fence that will be replaced by a new one. He will add additional topsoil as needed to bring that area to the same height as the driveway and all of this at a cost of \$2000.00. The Boards approved the purchase of software from BS&A for digitally mapping the cemetery with all the grave sites. Currently our documentation is in paper form that goes back to 1903 when the cemetery was established. Digital mapping will enhance our ability to do more accurate record keeping, but we will continue to hold on to the old records because they're really old and they look really cool! The software cost is \$5500.00. The Boards affirmed the purchase of a new 8'x10' storage building to replace the steel shed at the Transfer Station as that one has seen better days and is not even remotely secure. The new building appearance will be the same as the Superintendent's shed we purchased last year, with clay siding and a hunter green steel roof and a hunter green roll-up door at a cost of \$3600.00 and is coming from the same Rifle River Market in Omer. The Boards have approved the purchase of 185' x 6' high chain link fencing along the front of the Transfer Station that will include a rolling gate. Three bids received so far are under \$10,000.00. The Boards have re-visited the possibility of purchasing an additional compactor for the Transfer Station. We have a lot of containers available, but unfortunately, the amount of stuff coming is beginning to exceed our capacity, especially during the summer months when we are open for 4 days a week. Having an additional 40-yard compactor will increase our capacity significantly. Currently by Monday close of business, we have maxed out to the max! No disposal company works on weekends, so we hope – in a perfect world – that all containers can be emptied on Tuesday for the Wednesday opening. Some are emptied, but the majority are emptied Thursday and Friday. Capacity-wise, we're too close to the edge for comfort. Our previous quotes last year for a re-built, used propane-powered compactor was \$30,000.00. This year, there are no used, so new is \$46,000.00. But now we need a concrete slab for the compactor and in this case, that means we need a 50' x 50' x 5" at a cost of approximately \$10,000. Adding additional containers will not increase our efficiency, but simply adds time to empty. For example, a single 8-yard container can hold about 6 yards of garbage due to the air factor and we really are paying for 2 yards of air disposal. A compactor is more efficient as it eliminates the air factor to a greater extent. The 40 yard box on the compactor can hold about 39 yards of garbage as the air has been squeezed out by the hydraulic ram more completely. The Board approved the wording for a new sign for the Cemetery that replaces the rules and regulations from 1917-2020 and these new operating procedures are called "Protocols." Additionally, the Boards approved naming the roads within the Cemetery using the Great Lakes as names, with the only lake missing being Lake Erie as we only have 4 roads. These signs will be mounted on the N-S sides of the brick columns at the entrance to each road. The cost of all the signage is \$750.00. With the actual plus proposed expenditures, the Boards spent \$81,350.00 in two hours!

**Tribal 2% Distribution ...** On June 29<sup>th</sup>, our Trustees, Mike and Sam represented Sims Township at the Tribal Center and accepted a check for \$10,415.00 from the tribe. Pat Roche and Barbara Manor researched the purchase of a Columbarium for the Cemetery and I submitted it to the tribe in March. The tribal leaders have increased the minimum each township receives to \$2000.00 twice a year. In addition, we have been collaborating with Whitney Township in an on-going water meter replacement program which is a 4 year grant process and this time, each township received an \$18,500.00 distribution. I believe we have two more distribution cycles to go for this grant. So support the tribe, and should you participate in the games, smile when you lose as your losses are helping the townships and we Thank You in advance!

**Final Comment ...** When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer. Corrie Ten Boom