

Sidney Township Board Minutes
May 1, 2023

The Sidney Township Board meeting held at the Sidney Township Hall at 3019 S Grow Road Sidney, Michigan on May 1, 2023 was called to order by Supervisor Peterman at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE: Supervisor: Terry Peterman, Clerk: Carrie Wills, Treasurer: Corinda Stover; Trustees: Ray Leyrer, Erik Benko

AGENDA:

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Stover to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Benko to approve the minutes as presented from the April 3, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

CORRESPONDENCE :

Clerk:

Wills reported that the annual report for the ARPA funds has been completed and submitted. Emails were received from residents of Derby Lake regarding ongoing problems with behavior and misconduct of people renting short-term rental homes.

Supervisor

Peterman explained why there were no special meetings prior to the regular board meeting for reviewed by the county planning commission and they have until May 6 to submit their recommendations.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Cory Baker, Baker Sanitation

Cory informed those in attendance that he is the owner of Baker Sanitation and is available for trash pickup service in Sidney Township. He has been asked to prepare a quote for the township regarding a township wide trash pickup program.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stover gave the treasurer's report. Current checkbook balance is \$357,744.55
Current balance in the park fund is \$46,945.61 and the Covid Relief Fund is \$192,087.70

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Wills to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Stover reported that the Stanton community fire department adopted a 5% increase in their budget to account for raises given to the fire fighters. That would make the amount due from our township \$17,671.50. We only budgeted for \$15,000 from the general fund so she would like approval to use funds in the fire bond for the overage of \$2,671.50.

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Wills to pay the budgeted amount from the general fund of \$15,000 and pay the additional cost from the fire bond. The total amount of the bill will be paid from the general fund with a refund of \$2,671.50 reimbursed from the fire bond.

Roll Call Vote: All voted yea. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Wills presented a list of expenses for the month. Total expenses reported was \$30,189.52

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to approve the Clerk's report and pay the monthly expenses. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Leyrer gave an update on the status of the STR ordinance. The county planning commission has until May 6 to submit their recommendations for the ordinance. The attorney will then revise the ordinance to include the language for limiting the number of rentals allowed in the township.

A new pc member needs to be appointed to replace Jeff Lodholtz who has submitted his resignation from the commission. An application for the position will be run in the Daily News and applications will be reviewed at the next board meeting.

Leyrer attended a class on the land division act held at MCC. The two hour class counts as part of the required training for planning commission members.

Leyrer discussed changing the zoning district for parcels within the extended sewer district map.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

County offices will be shut down early a couple of days for training, the new trash compactors for recycle are being installed, Equalization report was given and shows a big increase in tax values for the county, county blight ordinance has been sent out to each township. We will not need to do anything to change our existing ordinance as ours will be primary and county ordinance will be additional uniform way to enforce. Combining the county clerks offices together in one location was discussed.

ZONING REPORT:

Zoning Administrator, Dale Main, gave an update of the status of the reported zoning complaints. He issued eight permits and one split. Complaints removed from the list were: 139 S Sheridan Road, 5160 S Miles, 3019 Oak St, Hillman Rd, and Oak Street at Nevins Lake. One ticket should be issued and another site will be visited on a regular schedule to make sure work proceeds.

OLD BUSINESS

Local Covid Funds-Addition to Building

Some of the windows have been installed and the rest should be in by the 14th. They are waiting for the electrician and plumber and the contractor will get a quote for painting the hall.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ballpark

Infield improvements are needed at the ball field. Red clay should be laid on the field and the batter's cage needs repaired or replaced.

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to allocate \$4000 from the park fund for the infield repairs. Motion carried.

Bruce has looked at the North park pavilion that needs to be repaired. To tear it down and replace the pavilion would cost about \$25,000. To repair materials would be about \$8,000, cement \$2,300 so with labor would be at least \$10,000.

The board suggested getting more bids but we need to know what exactly it is we need to have done.

Roads

The board has received two new jobs from the Road Commission asking if we would approve gravel resurface on Brown Road from South Township Line to County Farm Road and Holland Road from South Township Line to County Farm Road.

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Stover to approve the contracts for the two new jobs at a cost of \$8,638 for each project. Motion carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Glenda asked if there was a copy of the sewer district map. There is one on the website.

Jennifer remarked that the copy of the STR ordinance submitted to the county planning commission should have been the one already approved by the board.

Jim Hodges reported that Muskrat Road where he lives has not been resurfaced or maintained for over twenty years. It needs to be graveled. Someone is running their sump pump water into the road. Terry will take a look at it and talk to Mark at the Road Commission.

Ann Marie Wuebeling asked if anything has been done on Hansen Road between Miller and Ferris Roads

Residence of Derby Lake addressed the board with issues still existing with renters at the short-term rental homes. Renters are still creating problems for neighboring property owners. They commented that limiting the number of rentals to 15% would still allow at least 18 rentals on Derby Lake. Could that limit be increased to 10%?

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Carrie Wills