

Sidney Township Board Minutes  
June 5, 2023

The Sidney Township Board meeting held at the Sidney Township Hall at 3019 S Grow Road Sidney, Michigan on June 5, 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 May 1, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

CORRESPONDENCE :

Clerk:

Wills received a letter from Amy Thomas, 9-1-1 Director, thanking everyone for their support for the proposal on the May ballot.

Supervisor

The new toys are all painted and in the park. A part on the trailer has already been broken.

GUEST SPEAKER:

None

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stover gave the treasurer's report. Current checkbook balance is \$363,532.83  
Current balance in the park fund is \$45,537.47 and the Covid Relief Fund is \$131,150.37  
Second payment was made to Horn for construction costs for the new addition.

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

CLERK'S REPORT:

Wills presented a list of expenses for the month. Total expenses reported was \$65,806.37

Gravel work was done from 4 contracts: Hansen Road, Brown Road and 2 on Holland Road, Workers Comp premium was paid, parts for the new flagpole, Sheridan Fire Dept and Attorney fees for the STR Ordinance

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:

Planning Commissions meets tomorrow night, June 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Wills and seconded by Stover to accept the resignation received from Jeff Lodholtz. Motion carried.

Applications for the open seat on the commission were received from three interested people: Kevin Bullen, Craig Bucholtz, and Kim Hansen. Interviews will be scheduled with the applicants and a recommendation will be made at the July board meeting.

#### COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

County Commissioner Adam Petersen reported he and the county clerk met to discuss the move to combine the clerk's office into one location at the court complex. He has been appointed to the county planning commission which may be disbanded, depending on the board's decision as to the value of the commission. The audit came back good, millages are up for renewal next year for MSU, EMS, and the Sheriff Department. He recommended not signing the county's new blight ordinance as they are still discussing the validity of the ordinance draft.

#### ZONING REPORT:

Zoning Administrator, Dale Main, gave an update of the status of the reported zoning complaints. The owner of property on Sidney Road reported he does have a working sewer and is still working on rebuilding; 1641 Holland Road still working on cleanup, and mowing issues were reported for three properties.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### Local Covid Funds-Addition to Building

The contractor says drywall sanding will be done this week and trim will be installed. The work should be completed within the next three weeks. Still waiting for electrician and painters.

##### Parks

Peterman says he can't find anyone to submit a bid for repairs for the pavilion. The board discussed purchasing more picnic tables including a couple for the ball park. Peterman will check on prices for the tables.

Stover reported that donations for the park which are made in memory of the loss of a loved one have been collected since 2018. She asked for ideas on how to create some kind of memorial to list the names of those donations and add new ones as they are received.

##### Short-term Rental Agreement

The board reviewed the draft of the proposed STR Ordinance that was received from Attorney Abdo. It was decided that the board would not approve the proposed Ordinance at this meeting but will wait until the suggested changes have been made by the attorney and reviewed at the July meeting.

These are the changes recommended by the board:

- Section 3 (C): change "common household" to "single family dwelling"
- Section 3.21(B)(4)(a): Correct "paragraph 6(B)(8)" to "Paragraph 2(D)(9)"
- Section 2(C): change "surrounding" to "with deeded access"
- Section 2(D)(1): Is a duplication of A. Does it need to be in there twice?
- Add language to control abutting property owners from applying for a permit just to keep rental owners from getting permits by raising the number over the 10% limitation. Also add language concerning a waiting list.
- Section 2(G): delete "and address" of property owner
- Section 2(K): delete the whole subsection K
- Section 3(A): second line change "upon conviction" to finding a violation"
- Section 3(D): what is section 9 of the ordinance for restoring a revoked license
- Section 5: Was removed from the previously adopted ordinance because violations would be handled as a civil infraction and settled through the courts.
- Add language regarding not issuing a new permit to the next applicant on the waiting list if an existing permit has been suspended but can issue a new permit to the next applicant on the waiting list if an existing permit has been revoked.

##### Website

No word yet on the status of the new website. We will need to contact them and see where we are at with the progress.

NEW BUSINESS:

Blight Ordinance

The blight ordinance issue was tabled as recommended by Commissioner Petersen.

MTA June 20 at Stanton American Legion

MTA is at 6:00 p.m. Three board members will attend

Cemetery – Dirt – Repair ruts left from tree removal

The damage to the cemetery created by the contractor who removed trees which was supposed to be done by Memorial Day has not yet been fixed. Terry will contact him again to see why it is not done.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

The board was asked if anything can be done about the noise made by motorcycles at the Sidney Bar. People should call and complain to the Sheriff Department to see if they can do anything.

Ann Sargeant thanked the board for working with both sides (rental owners and abutting property owners) when working on the Short-term Rental Ordinance

The question was asked if a dock can be put in on a deeded lake access. That question should be directed to an attorney.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Carrie Wills