

Sidney Township Board Minutes
July 3, 2023

The Sidney Township Board meeting held at the Sidney Township Hall at 3019 S Grow Road Sidney, Michigan on July 3, 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; Trustee: Ray Leyrer, ABSENT: Trustee, 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 Stover to approve the minutes as presented from the June 5, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

CORRESPONDENCE :

Clerk:

Wills received a flyer from MTA regarding a training session on Assessment and Taxation. The class is August 1 in Cadillac. Stover and Wills would like to attend to help understand how the Headlee Amendment and other equalization laws affect township assessments. Its \$100 per person.

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Stover to approve sending Stover and Wills to the training session for Assessment and Taxation at a cost of \$100 per person. Motion carried

Wills reported that she has had some training from Trusted Solutions for using Quick Books so the board will see some changes in the format of future reports.

Supervisor

Peterman received a letter from the Drain Office informing the township that they will be spraying along the Denmark Drain. There were comments that the drain work done a few years ago has never been cleaned up. Peterman will talk to the Drain Commissioner about the problem, Peterman recently attended a sewer advisory meeting. Finances seem to be good now so there should be no changes in the assessment fees. MCC is thinking about constructing dorms at the campus. That issue will be addressed later.

A bill for \$2000 was received from the Sheridan Fire Authority for attorney fees for creating the authority contract. The township feels that since we have not joined the authority, we should not be responsible for those fees.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Brandon Stowell from Sheridan Fire Authority

Brandon updated the board on changes being made on the authority board. He reported that he has applied for a grant from the state that will be used to update fire equipment and asked if we would sign a letter of recommendation to send with the application. He would like to work with the township on answering all of our concerns about the contract that kept us from joining the fire authority. He will make sure all the board members get a copy of the final contract.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stover gave the treasurer's report. Current checkbook balance is \$302,114.78

Current balance in the park fund is \$45,324.75 and the Covid Relief Fund is \$131,150.27

Money was received from Local Community Stabilization Authority \$11,110.37 which is a lot larger amount than the usual smaller payments. The money is a reimbursement for fees collected by the state from telecommunication companies.

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 \$26,411.35 Included is a payment for Foster Swift for work done on the STR Ordinance and the first application of chloride for the Road Commission.

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 Commission met on June 6 at which time they discussed changing the zoning on 14 parcels within the sewer district to water front residential. The change will give property owners of large parcels a better opportunity to make property splits.

Leyrer reported the number of parcels with deeded lake access on the following lakes in the township and the number of Short-term Rentals that will be permitted per the new ordinance:

Pearl Lake: 23 residential parcels/2 STR's

Dickerson Lake (parcels in Sidney Township): 42 residential parcels / 4 STR's

Nevins Lake: 102 residential properties/10 STR's

Derby Lake: 136 residential properties/13 STR's

Twin Stoney Lakes: 8 residential properties/ 0 STR's

Peterman reported that three very qualified people had applied for the open position on the planning commission: Kevien Bullen, Craig Bucholtz, and Kim Hansen. He would like to appoint Kim Hansen to the commission as she has served as the alternate member for several months.

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Wills to approve appointing Kim Hansen to fill the vacancy spot on the planning commission. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Petersen was not present

ZONING REPORT:

Zoning Administrator, Dale Main, was not present

OLD BUSINESS

Local Covid Funds-Addition to Building

Painters hve been working on painting the hall. A comment was made that the contractor had a deadline of 120 days from the date of excavation. The board will check the time line and contact the contractor.

Parks

A bid was received on repairing the North pavilion in the park for \$5200 and \$2100 to add a layer under the ceiling. Some of the posts are rotted out so the board would like a quote for the cost to replace the whole pavilion with new. A quote for new cement will also be needed.

Short-term Rental Ordinance

The board reviewed the second draft of the proposed STR Ordinance that was received from Attorney Abdo. Section 2 (J) regarding liability insurance was deleted. The board would like to have that paragraph put back in. The rest was approved as submitted.

A motion was made by Wills and seconded by Stover to approve the second draft of the STR Ordinance as presented with Section 2(J) being put back in.

Roll Call Vote: Stover: yes, Wills: yes, Peterman: yes, Leyrer: No, Benko: Absent Motion carried.

Website

We have received the first attempt at the new website. What we have reviewed so far is not what we would like. Stover and Wills will meet to review the website draft and let the developer know what we would like changed.

Cemetery

Peterman and Wills attended the class in Mt Pleasant about cemetery administration. The class was very informative. It was suggested that the township should have an ordinance in place to cover cemetery issues.

Jones Tree Removal told Peterman his skid steer is being repaired and he will finish fixing the ruts in the cemetery as soon as the machine is fixed.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Laura Engle commented that answers concerning the progress of the sewer petition could be found on the Dickerson Lake website of contact Shawn Adams.

Joe Hansen asked when the met towers for the wind studies would be removed. Apex signed five-year leases for the towers.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Carrie Wills