

Sidney Township Board Minutes
March 6, 2023

The Sidney Township Board meeting held at the Sidney Township Hall at 3019 S Grow Road Sidney, Michigan on March 6, 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 Stover to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Stover to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2023 special meeting as presented. Motion carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk:

Wills received the proposed contracts from the Road Commission for the budget meeting on March 20

Supervisor

Peterman informed the citizens that a MIOSHA complaint had been filed in regards to the Planning Commission meeting on February 9, 2023. The hall door was not unlocked for the meeting as Peterman was attending a meeting in Sheridan that night and forgot to stop at the hall. The letter from MIOSHA and Peterman's response are posted on the bulletin board for all to view.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

None

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stover gave the treasurer's report. Current checkbook balance is \$333,160.39
There were no changes made to the park fund or the covid relief fund.

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 \$17,093.63.
The drains at large were paid and the bill for the new iron filter/softener was also paid.

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 reported that the planning commission for December did not have a quorum so the meeting was rescheduled for February 9. At that meeting the board took action to change the by-laws for meeting dates to be changed from the first Wednesday of the month to the first Tuesday of the month.
The commission is recommending that the current members be reappointed for 2023. The township board needs to take action to approve the appointments.
The next quarterly meeting will be on March 7, 2023

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Petersen reported that the county commissioners are trying to create a blight ordinance that can be approved by each township so that regulations will be uniform countywide and enforcing the ordinances will

be easier for the sheriff's department. The issue of combining the county clerk and register of deeds offices was turned down for at least this voting period. The question was asked what will be done for the blight ordinance in townships that are not zoned. That detail has not yet been decided on.

ZONING REPORT:

Zoning Administrator, Dale Main, gave an update of the status of the reported zoning complaints. The burnt house on Sidney needs to be completed by summer; Miles Road can be removed from the list; the burn out on Oak Street has obtained permits and has brought in a dumpster and installed silt fences. No changes to the remaining complaints.

OLD BUSINESS

Local Covid Funds-Addition to Building

Horn Construction will begin removing the sidewalk and bricks from the front of the hall this week. The doors and windows have been ordered and construction will begin as soon as frost restrictions are lifted. Mr. Horn requested a down payment to pay for supplies.

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Wills to approve paying Horn Construction \$62,000 with funds from the covid relief fund. Roll call vote: Benko-yes, Leyrer-yes, Peterman-yes, Stover-yes, Wille-yes. Motion carried.

Website

The board will address the issue of the website at the budget hearing.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to come before the board.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mark Walters asked the board where we are at with signing the fire incorporation agreement. He stated that the fire board is willing to sit down and discuss the problem areas with us. They really want Sidney to remain a member of the fire authority. There was discussion of conducting a special meeting with Eric McKay from the village of Sheridan, the attorney representing the other townships and fire board members.

A comment was made that he was glad the township took the time to study the agreement and didn't sign it without addressing our concerns. The fire authority board should not be given more power to make decisions than the people. He thanked the board for looking out for the people's best interest.

Dave Overholt was concerned that the response time for Stanton to cover the more distant properties could be too long. By time they reach those locations it could be too late. He feels safety for township residents should be our main concern.

Zack Wright agrees that he appreciates our due diligence but feels we need to consider the safety of life situations.

This issue seems to be the biggest concern for residents living farther from Stanton than Sheridan. There was also concern that home insurance rates could increase because of the increase in response time.

David Burk requested that Wise Road be considered for road repairs this year. There is a washed-out area and the road is always a mess.

A fund raiser for the Fire Department will be held March 24th at 5:00 pm at the Community Center in Sheridan.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Motion carried.

Carrie Wills