

Sidney Township Board Minutes
December 6, 2021

The Sidney Township Board meeting held at Sidney Township Hall, 3019 S Grow Road, Sidney, Michigan on December 6, 2021 was called to order by Supervisor Peterman at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDENCE: Supervisor: Terry Peterman, Clerk: Carrie Wills, Treasurer: Corinda Stover ,Trustees: Jed Welder and Ray Leyrer

AGENDA:

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

APPROVE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Welder to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Leyrer asked if the treasurer's and clerk's reports could be attached to the minutes when they are posted on the website. He also commented that the budget meeting minutes from March 2021 are not posted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk:

Wills reported that the first installment of the ARPA funds has been deposited. We have had 2 contractors come to look at the hall and talk about what changes we would like to make. The audit is done and no errors were found.

Supervisor

None

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Laura Engel

Asked the board to redo the wind ordinance as more electric will be needed in the future and oil lines are being closed down.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stover gave the treasurer's report. Current checkbook balance is \$198,918.48. Winter taxes are out and are being collected. A new account was set up for the pandemic relief funds for ARPA.

A motion was made by Wills and seconded by Welder to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Wills presented a list of expenses for the month. Total expenses reported was \$68,402.32. That included the bill for paving Lake Side Drive and cost of the audit.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Leyrer commented that the PC meeting was held on December 1st at 7:00 p.m. Election of officers was done: Jeff Ledholtz was elected chair and Michelle Damaska was elected secretary. Kim Smiths term is up and he would like to resign if someone would be interested in taking his place on the commission. Dave Cooper and Ray Leyrer will remain as commission members. Leyrer asked the board to approve two special PC meetings; one in January and one in February, to work on the

new ordinance for short-term rentals. He also asked for approval to submit the final draft of the ordinance to the attorney and then to the township board. That request was denied as the board would like to review the draft first. Leyrer told the board he talked with MTA regarding salary pay for trustees and if that pay should include his position on the planning commission. MTA feels that the salary only covers his statutory duties and planning commission meetings are an additional responsibility and as such should be paid per meeting. The board will look into the matter.

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Wills to approve Planning Commission special meetings in January and February to continue work on the short-term rental ordinance. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

County Commissioner, Adam Petersen, gave an update on county business. The County will use ARPA funds to update the website, update the digital mapping with two new flyovers, and replace windows in the administration building. If there are left over funds, the county may opt to give money to townships, cities and villages for park improvements.

ZONING REPORT:

Dale reported he handled three new permits. That puts us at ten over what was issued last year. A letter was sent regarding junk cars at 4995 W Colby Rd and the junk yard complaint will be removed as no one will enforce the ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Short-term Rentals

Addressed under Planning Commission Report

Fire Department

Supervisor Peterman commented that the fire department has purchased a new fan. The cost will be split between the four entities and our cost will come from the bond fund.

NEW BUSINESS:

MTA Dinner

Peterman reminded the board that the MTA dinner is tomorrow night at the Settlement Church in Gowen and is sponsored by the Road Commission.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Someone asked if there is a noise ordinance in place. Yes, quiet after 10:00 p.m.

Robert Scott commented on Jed's letter that was mailed in regards to the recall petition and property owner's rights.

Lee Thomsen asked the board to check into having township wide garbage pickup and putting an assessment on the taxes. Randy Cook commented that he lives in Belvidere Township where they do have township wide pickup and his tax bill is about \$99 per year for the service.

Eric Benko has heard comments that the money for envelopes, postage etc for Jed to mail out his letters came from Township funds. He has been telling them that it's not true. He is correct. No township money or supplies have been used.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Welder to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried.

Carrie Wills
Clerk