

Sidney Township Board Minutes
January 3, 2022

The Sidney Township Board meeting held at Sidney Township Hall, 3019 S Grow Road, Sidney, Michigan on January 3, 2022 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: Jed Welder and Ray Leyrer

AGENDA:

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

APPROVE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Welder and seconded by Stover to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2021 meeting with the following amendments: Ray voted Nay on the motion for the approval of the minutes and the budget meeting minutes not on the website were from March 2020 not 2021. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk:

Wills reported that she received the renewal proposal for the liability insurance for 2022. Copies were sent prior to the meeting. Premium went down \$1 from last year so cost is \$3,186 plus the \$200 associate member fee.

A motion was made by Wills and seconded by Stover to accept the renewal proposal from MML for the liability insurance for 2022. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received from the township assessor to approve resolutions to adopt alternate start dates for March, July and December 2022 Board of Reviews and a resolution to adopt taxpayers to protest in writing by letter or email.

Motion was made by Wills and seconded by Welder to approve the Resolution to Adopt Alternate Start Dates for March, July and December 2022 Board of Reviews and Resolution to Adopt Taxpayers To Protest In Writing By Letter or Email. Motion carried.

Supervisor

In response to the issue presented at last months' meeting, Peterman reported that he and Wills had talked to Mike at MTA to confirm that Leyrer should be paid for each planning commission meeting he attends. Because it is not a part of his statutory duties those meetings should not be included in his annual salary and should be additional pay.

A motion was made by Wills and seconded by Leyrer to reimburse Leyrer for past meetings that he has attended for the planning commission. A check will be issued as soon as the dates and attendance have been confirmed. Motion carried.

The issue of sending a drafted ordinance to the attorney for review before the board has had a chance to review it was also discussed with MTA. An ordinance can be reviewed by the board either before or after the attorney reviews it. The Planning Commission was approved to send the draft of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance to the township attorney before it is reviewed by the board.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Laura Engel

Laura read a statement to the board regarding wind turbines and future electric shortages.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stover gave the treasurer's report. Current checkbook balance is \$162,784.81

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 \$7,425.20.

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:

A special meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 5, 2022 to work on the Short-Term Rental Ordinance. Leyrer remarked that Kim Smith's term on the commission has expired and he would like the board to find a replacement. Shawn Wheat has shown an interest in being on the Planning Commission.

- A motion was made by Welder and seconded by Stover to appoint Shawn Wheat to the Planning Commission to fill the term previously held by Kim Smith. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Adam Petersen reported that the County Commissioners had met today and he was re-elected as Vice Chair of the board. The board approved an increase in the medical budget for the Sheriff's Department and is looking at addressing the OSHA mandate for wearing masks in regards to the Covid pandemic.

ZONING REPORT:

Dale reported that no permits were issued last month. The property owner on Sidney Road has one year to complete cleanup per a county issued ticket.

OLD BUSINESS:

Covid Funds-Addition to Building

The board discussed proceeding with the plans to build the addition on the hall. Because it is a government building, sealed plans will be required. The board needs to check on a variance for the close proximity to Sidney Road and find out how it will affect insurance and sewer upgrades.

Trash Service Interest (up to 6)

Stover has been asking tax payers if they are interested in having a township wide trash pickup paid by an assessment on the taxes. So far she has had 6 people show an interest.

NEW BUSINESS:

Derby Lake-Private Road Chip Seal

A petition has been presented to the board asking for their assistance in contracting with the Montcalm County Road Commission to chip seal Island Drive on Derby Lake. The cost for the work would be collected from property owners on Island Drive by a special assessment on the tax roll.

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Welder to approve working with the Road Commission and the property owners to chip seal Island Drive, Motion carried.

Cleaning Lady

Stover reported that Pat Closson's husband has been very sick and she would like to take some time off to be with him. She asked if we could find a substitute to do the cleaning until she can return to her position. The board agreed that a substitute would be appropriate until Pat can return.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

A question was asked about replace the doors in the township hall. The doors will be replaced when the building is remodeled.

A comment was made regarding waste being dumped on property on Brown Road by the Greenville Waste Department. The waste is agro liquid that is injected into the ground and has been approved by both the federal and state departments.

What is the relief fund? The board explained ARPA funds from the government.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Welder and seconded by Stover to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Carrie Wills
Clerk