

Sidney Township Board Minutes
February 5, 2024

The Sidney Township Board meeting held at the Sidney Township Hall at 3019 S Grow Road Sidney, Michigan on February 5, 2024 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, Trustee, Erik Benko

AGENDA:

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Benko 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 January 8, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

CORRESPONDENCE :

Clerk:

Wills remarked that she will be in the office on February 24, 2024 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for picking up or returning absentee ballots or registering to vote.

Supervisor

Peterman reported that the MTA dinner is scheduled for February 20 at 6:00 at the Settlement Lutheran Church in Gowen. Three board members plan to attend.

Peterman wants to order 50 of the stakes for corner markers at the cemetery. They are \$10 per stake.

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to have 50 stakes made at a cost of \$10 per stake, Motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Marty James, Central Montcalm Schools Superintendent was there to explain the need for the school millage proposal that will be on the February 27, 2024 ballot. This proposal is in no way related to the proposal that was turned down at last year's election. This bond is for operating costs to keep the school open. The millage will only affect properties that do not have a homestead exemption. The second millage proposal is a request for an increase to make up for the Headlee rollback.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stover gave the treasurer's report. Current checkbook balance as of January 31, 2024 is \$322,432.31

Current balance in the park fund is \$5,448.89 and the Covid Relief Fund is \$45,245.64.

The hall rentals are up. The board questioned why the Girl Scouts use the building for free when the non-profit rental fee is set at \$35. The rental agreement wording needs to be updated to reflect the free use by Girl Scouts.

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Wills 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 \$16,742.38

After researching the accounts, she found that one more payment for farm rental was due to the Drain 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 will meet again on March 5, 2024 at 7:00. They will continue to review the by-laws.

Leyrer made a motion to approve the commission's appointment of officers: Dave Cooper, Chairperson, Shawn Wheat, Co-chairperson, Michelle Merritt, secretary, ~~Kim Smith, Trustee~~, and Ray Leyrer as board's representative. Motion was seconded by Wills. Motion carried. **Corrected: Kim Hansen, Committee Member**
The Planning Commission meeting dates need to be posted.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

County Commissioner, Adam Petersen, was not present

ZONING REPORT:

Dale reported that there has been no change to the property at 2600 Muskrat Road, Another ticket will be issued. The property is going in the tax sale. The property on Derby Road is bad again. Dale will need to take a look at that one.

STR's: Dale will send a letter to the owner of the home with a rental in the basement. The new home on Lakeside is ready for inspection and the property on the island in Derby Lake has been sold.

Dale also commented that the college is thinking about putting in housing for students. We will need to know what is being done so the issue of the sewer hookup and rates can be determined.

He has been asked by several residents to reconsider constructing a pickle ball court.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS:

Benko attended the last Sheridan fire meeting. The budget was presented. The annual assessment will be increased to \$20,000 for each township and village in the authority. They are hoping to get a one mill proposal on the August ballot. If approved, we will no longer have to pay the annual assessment. It was suggested that each township take a turn being responsible for overseeing the audit which can be done along with the township's audit. The cost recovery ordinance was passed which will allow the authority to bill the homeowner's insurance company for the fire run.

No decision has been made if the Stanton fire department will join the authority.

OLD BUSINESS

Addition Update

Stover reported that the electrician will be in this week to finish the electrical work in the new kitchen. The closets are finished but still need plumbing for the sink, counters and counter tops.

The light used to highlight the flag needs to be adjusted. As it is now, it doesn't shine on the flag. The electrical work needs to be completed at the park now that the pavilion is completed.

New Business

There was no new Business.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Hodges asked about the road work for Muskrat Road, They need to build up the road, replace plugged culverts and ditches need to be cleaned out.

Mr. King asked when the test towers would be taken down. No one seems to know when they will be removed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Carrie Wills