



**Solon Township**  
Kent County  
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Cedar Springs, MI  
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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Solon Township Board of Trustees  
September 9, 2008  
Solon Township Hall  
2305 19-Mile Road  
Cedar Springs MI 49319

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Robert Ellick at 7:30 P.M.

**Members present:** Fred Gunnell, Richard Straub, John Rideout, Robert Ellick and Heather Zenker.

**Members absent:** none

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public comments on the agenda items:** None

**Approve agenda:**

Motion by Mr. Straub to amend the agenda to include motion to action on Fire Chief's recommendation. Motion was seconded by Mr. Gunnell, motion carried 5 to 0.  
Motion made by Mr. Straub to approve amended agenda, Ms. Zenker seconded motion. Motion carried 5 to 0.

**Approve Consent Agenda:** Motion made by Ms. Zenker to approve consent agenda. Seconded by Mr. Ellick. Motion carried 5 to 0.

**Committee Reports**

Cedar Springs Public Library – written report submitted  
Cedar Springs Parks & Rec – Ms. Zenker reported on the summer concert program.

**Old Business:**

Motion by Mr. Rideout to remove construction / remodeling of township hall from old business. Seconded by Mr. Ellick, motion carried 5 to 0.

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### **New Business**

#### Resignation from Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Mr. Gunnell to accept the resignation of Cassie Selders. Seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried 5 to 0.

#### Motion to authorize funding for fire fighter 1 & 2 training

Motion by Mr. Straub to approve funding up to \$500.00 for fire fighter 1 & 2 training for employee Terri Kornoelje. Motion was seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried 5 to 0.

#### Resignation of fire fighter

Motion by Ms. Zenker to accept resignation of fire fighter Cheryl Spangenberg. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell. Discussion – Mr. Ellick stated that she has resigned four times in the past and rescinded Fire Chief decided to accept it this time. Mr. Rideout expressed concern that there appears to be an underlying problem that is not being addressed and should be before any action is taken. Motion carried 4 to 1 Mr. Rideout descending.

#### Repair of fire hydrant

Motion by Mr. Straub to authorize spending up to \$700.00 for the repair of fire hydrant located at Lime Lake. Motion was seconded by Mr. Gunnell. Motion carried 5 to 0.

#### Motion to modify the purchasing rules of the Personal Policy

Motion by Mr. Rideout to change the Solon Township Purchasing Policy from (current) The Township shall require sealed competitive bidding for any contract of \$2,000 or more. To (proposed) The Township shall require sealed competitive bidding for any contract of \$2,000 or more. Professional services such as architectural and engineering fees may be exempt from the competitive bidding process. Motion was seconded by Mr. Straub. Motion carried 5 to 0.

#### Approval of engineering and architectural fees

Motion by Mr. Rideout to approve funding of up to \$13,000.00 for architectural and engineering fees provided by Callen Engineering, Inc.. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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Motion to modify the Personal Policy (Building Maintenance)

Motion by Mr. Rideout to modify personal policy to transfer responsibility for building & grounds maintenance from clerk to supervisor. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Reappointment of Gerald Skelonc to Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Mr. Rideout to reappoint Gerald Skelonc to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion was seconded by Mr. Straub. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Reappointment of Richard Straub to Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Mr. Rideout to reappoint Richard Straub to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion was seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Appointment of Richard Hays to Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Ms. Zenker to appoint Richard Hays to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ellick. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Authorization for funding \$260 for the purchase of new chain saw for fire department.

Motion by Mr. Gunnell to authorize funding of \$260 for the purchase of new chain saw for fire department. Motion was seconded by Mr. Rideout. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Renewal of Motion - Kent County Investment Pool Agreement

Motion by Ms. Zenker to approve Kent County Investment Pool Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell. Discussion – concern was expressed by Mr. Straub & Mr. Rideout the document was outdated and the funds were unsecured. Motion carried 3 to 2 with Mr. Straub and Mr. Rideout descending.

Fire Chief's Recommendation

Fire Chief discussed Captain Doug Gabrielse's evaluation and made a recommendation that he be removed from his duties as Captain and demoted to fire fighter. Since Mr. Gabrielse has requested a hearing on this issue with the Fire Committee it was recommended that he be suspended from his duties as an officer until his evaluation can be reviewed by the Fire Committee on October 8, 2008. Motion to suspend Doug Gabrielse from his Captain position until reviewed by Fire Committee was made by Mr. Straub. Motion was seconded by Mr. Gunnell. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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**Correspondence**

Mr. Gunnell – nothing

Mr. Straub – nothing

Ms. Zenker – nothing

Mr. Rideout – nothing

Mr. Ellick – Discussed concerns as to possible lawsuit and Wiersma Road work.

**Public comments** – none

**Adjourn** – Motion by Mr. Straub to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried  
5 – 0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

John W. Rideout

Solon Township Clerk