



**Solon Township**  
Kent County  
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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Solon Township Board of Trustees  
June 15, 2009  
Solon Township Hall  
2305 19-Mile Road  
Cedar Springs MI 49319

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Robert Ellick at 1:10 P.M.

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

**Members absent:** none

**New Business**

Purpose of the meeting was to discuss building a new township hall and fire Barn on the property located at 15185 Algoma Ave.

Also in attendance was Bruce Callen of Callen Engineering, Inc., Deans Rooks an architect and Chris Curless a local resident.

Mr. Callen began the meeting by making a presentation outlining a potential concept, which included a site plan. Mr. Rooks then showed the Board a conceptual drawing of the proposed building. Cost of construction was discussed with estimates of \$400,000 if the building was reduced in size to serve as a fire barn only plus \$200,000 for parking or 1.5 million dollars if the entire building was used for both the fire barn and the township hall. Mr. Rideout suggested building only the fire barn and consider building the new hall as a separate building. The consensus of the Board was to build everything under one roof using the existing building.

There was much discussion regarding different things that could be done with the building. One major concern was parking for the fire trucks. It was accepted that the large trucks would have to be parked two deep. Mr. Curless suggested replacing the three doors in the plan with two 24-foot doors thus allowing more maneuvering room.

Mr. Straub discussed the concept of leaving the building whole and building the fire department section only at the current time and to wait until additional funding could be attained to finish the rest of the building. The community center was also discussed with discussion focused on the size of it and as to if such a large room was needed.

Discussion then turned to the two grants that are currently available for construction of fire barns. Mr. Callen discussed the grant writing procedures. It was noted that this is not a one or two person job but rather that everyone should be involved to contribute items to support the grant from their respective areas.

No decision was made at this time, as the focus will be on attaining funding through the grant program. Future plans will be dependant on that.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Straub and seconded by Mr. Gunnell. Motion carried 5 to 0. Meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM.

John W. Rideout  
Solon Township Clerk