



Solon Township
Kent County
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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Solon Township Board of Trustees
November 9, 2004
Solon Township Hall
2305 19-Mile Road
Cedar Springs MI 49319

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Cynthia Ferguson at 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Fred Gunnell, Cynthia Ferguson, Heather Zenker, Elizabeth Mulder and Rich Straub

Members absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Guests & Presentations

Jennifer August, Township resident, presented to the Boards a packet she has put together regarding animal nuisance and control. She is requesting that the board adopt a barking dog and nuisance ordinance. She has gathered information on existing similar ordinances for surrounding townships and Kent County. The Kent County Sheriffs have stated that unless the township has an ordinance on this matter there is nothing they can enforce. Motion was made by Ferguson to table this matter for a special meeting to give the board opportunity to review the material for a possible amendment to our existing animal ordinance and come up with a proposed amendment for the next regular board meeting. Seconded by Mulder. Motion carried, 5-0.

Public comment on agenda items

None

Approve agenda

Motion made by Ferguson to approve the agenda with correction to old business ("18 Mile" changed to 19 Mile) and addition to new business approval of sending Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer to MTA Tax collection 101, November 30, 2004. Seconded by Straub. Motion carried, 5-0.

Approve Consent Agenda

Motion made by Straub to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Ferguson. Motion carried 5-0.

- I.
 - a. Approve minutes from Regular meeting for October 12, 2004.
 - b. Approve Bill list and accept Written Department and Committee Reports
 - October Bill List
 - Assessor's Report
 - Fire Chief's Statistics Report
 - Clerk's Budget Report
 - Building Inspector's Report
 - Treasurer's Report



Old business

Cedar Springs Public Library – Donna Clark, Cedar Springs Library Director gave a brief report to the Board on the Libraries activities. Friday morning story time has been a great success. It has brought in many new patrons. Expressed the libraries thankfulness for all the townships supports.

Cedar Springs Parks and Rec.- No representative present. Clerk Mulder reminded the board about requested input for the Parks and Rec. 5 year Master Plan. They would like input by December.

Portable Office Space – Nothing new at this time.

New Business

Traffic Control – Ferguson stated that have been concerns expressed regarding the intersection at 20 mile and Algoma. Discussion with all present that a previous study by Kent County concluded that the intersection doesn't warrant a stop sign on Algoma or Traffic light. There is very little pedestrian traffic and not enough accidents to warrant another study. Public commented that since the repaving of Algoma double yellow no passing zones have been expanding since the new paving and that should help with this matter. Contact person for any comments should be directed to Jeff Best at Kent County Transportation Traffic and Safety Department.

Increase of Electrical Permit Fees from 80% to 90% – Pat Huffman, Electrical Inspector, informed the board that in approximately 1990 or 1991 the payment to him was 90% in was reduced to 80%. He is now requesting that the 90% be reinstated. Straub questioned if the increase would be warranted as the township does the administration part. He also rose the question of how much does it cost the township to pay for the administration. Zenker made a motion to table this matter until further research can be done to address these issues. Seconded by Ferguson. Motion carried, 5-0.

Cemetery Burial Fees – Mulder stated that the current sexton, Gary Butler, has expressed that burial fees should be considered for a possible increase. No information has been received yet. Straub made a motion to table and action. Seconded by Gunnell. Motion carried, 5-0.

Fire Department Appointment - Don Hamblin read the recommendation to the board that Joyce VanderMey be appointed to the position of Captain. Straub made a motion to approve the appointment Joyce VanderMey as Captain. Seconded by Ferguson. Motion carried, 4-1. Straub made a motion to have the supervisor write a letter of thanks to the fire board members for all time and effort. Seconded by Zenker. Motion carried, 5-0.

Approve Educational Opportunities – Straub made a motion to approve

1. Sending all board members and their deputies to MTA new officials training December 17, 2003.
2. Sending Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer to MTA Tax Collecting 101.

Fire Department Requested Purchases

- \$880.00 PORTER CABLE 3500 watt Honda engine generator
- \$1036.00 2 new pagers from Pro Comm. Inc. @ \$513.00 each.

Fire Chief Havens explained the board the requested purchases and the need to these expenditures. Mulder made a motion to approve stated purchases. Seconded by Gunnell. Motion carried, 5-0.



Correspondence

Trustee: Fred Gunnell- Hearing scheduled with the Planning Commission for Shell Gas & Oil was a no show so it was tabled.

Trustee: Rich Straub – Please remember November 11, 2004 as “the 11th day the 11th hour,” in observance of our Countries Veterans Day.

Treasurer: Heather Zenker – Would like to thank the board for the opportunity to serve and is waiting for the winter taxes supplies.

Clerk: Elizabeth Mulder – Would like to make a motion to change the regular staff meeting from December 1 to December 8th and also approve a Special Board Meeting following the Staff Meeting. Seconded by Straub. Motion carried, 5-0.

Supervisor: Cynthia Ferguson – Express her many thanks and appreciation to the public and staff for all their support during her brief appointment to supervisor.

Additional Public Comment

Public comment/discussion heard concerning 20 Mile & Algoma intersection.

Adjournment

Motion made by Straub to adjourn. Second by Gunnell. Motion carried, 5-0.
Meeting adjourned 8:27p.m.

Elizabeth Mulder, Clerk