



Solon Township
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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Solon Township Board of Trustees
November 12, 2002
Solon Township Hall
2305 19-Mile Road
Cedar Springs MI 49319

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Gary Johnson at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Fred Gunnell, Gary Johnson, Elizabeth Mulder, Ken Zank, and Rich Straub

Members absent: None

Guests & Presentations

- Special Election Cedar Springs Schools – Ellen Moore gave a brief overview of the Bond issues on the Dec. 7, 2002 special election. The state only allows the districts to project use 5 years in advance, which is what the bond monies are based on. The first proposal would add class rooms the current High School, make Cedar View 2nd – 4th grade, the middle school 5th –6th grade, and build a new Middle School for the 7th – 8th grade. Currently they have to rent portable classrooms which cost 100,000/year. The second proposal would be used to build a new athletic field. Right now the current field, Skinner Field, is leased. Both bond issues would not raise any taxes. They are just an extension of 10 years on the current bond issue. Supervisor Johnson thanked Mrs. Moore
No other Guests or Presentations.

Public comment on agenda items

None

Approve agenda

Motion made by Straub to approve the agenda with the correction to the Oct. 1 minutes and the addition to the consent agenda of an awning for the Fire Dept. door. Supported by Mulder. Motion carried, 5-0.

Approve Consent Agenda

Motion made by Zank to approve the consent agenda as follows with. Supported by Gunnell. Motion carried 5-0.

- I. a. Approve minutes from Regular October 10, 2002, Special meeting October 1, 2002.
 - 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
 - c. Approve purchase Printer for \$100.00
 - d. Reappointments to ZBA & Planning Commission



* Jackie Creveling and Fred Gunnell reappointment to the Planning Commission

e. Approve quote of \$325.00 from Bill Rau to place and awning above the door going into the main fire barn.

Pending business

Cedar Springs Library – Linda Branyan gave brief report on the District Library committee. They met on Nov. 6, 2002 and are at the next stage in the process where they are looking for approval from the Township Board to move forward. To get off ground the members of the District Library Board would be elected members. The Attorney the current committee contacted would require \$ 2300- \$2500. To help with drawing up the legal documents ... needed to get started. The District Library board would be 7 members, 4 townships members and 3 city members, all elected.

The Township Board was presented with **A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A DISTRICT LIBRARY WITH THE CITY OF CEDAR SPRINGS AND TO APPROVE THE FORMATION OF A DISTRICT LIBRARY PLANNING COMMITTEE.**

Motion was made by Gunnell to approve the above stated resolution. Supported by Straub. Roll call vote. Ayes: Zank, Gunnell, Straub, Johnson, Mulder. Nays: None. Motion carried, 5-0.

Cedar Springs Parks and Rec. – Linda Branyan reported that there is really nothing new to report, and they still need a new representative from the Township.

Supervisor Johnson thanked Mrs. Branyan for her reports.

Home Occupation/Home Based Business

Home Occupation

Johnson – sought recommendation on the proposed Home Occupation ordinance.

Straub – Have all the concerns from residents and the AD HOC committee been addressed?

Johnson - we have held many public hearings and special meetings on this. The proposed draft we have tonight is based on all the information collected.

Public comment was heard on the proposed Home Occupation ordinance, and further discussion was heard from the Board.

Motion was made by Mulder to separate the voting Home Occupations and Home Based Business. Supported by Johnson. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion was made by Gunnell to accept the Proposed Home Occupation Ordinance as written with the changes that have been recommended by the Planning Commission fro their October 5, ²⁰⁰² meeting. Supported by Zank. Roll call vote. Ayes: Straub, Johnson, Gunnell, Mulder, Zank. Nays: None. Motion carried, 5-0.

Johnson – The Township will be looking at the existing businesses and forming a committee to review each one individually and work forward to some type of possible settlement that all can agree on.

Straub – stated he would like to be on the committee.

Home Based Business

Johnson – Sought comment on the Home Based Business Ordinance.



Comment was heard from Board Members and the audience that this ordinance should be looked into a little more.

Gunnell made a motion to approve the Home Based Business Ordinance as written. Supported by Johnson. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gunnell, Johnson. Nays: Zank, Straub, Mulder. Motion failed, 3-2.

Zank made a motion that the ordinance be tabled until the February Regular Board meeting, so as to give time for the Master Plan surveys to be mailed and reviewed. There could be information in the surveys that would be helpful in making this decision. Supported by Mulder. Motion carried, 4-1.

Junk Refuse Ordinance

Johnson made a motion to table the Junk Refuse Ordinance until the December Regular Meeting to give the board time to look at the possible addition of 5 & 6 from new draft to the General Ordinance #47 we now have. Supported by Mulder. Motion carried, 5-0.

New Business

Snow Plow Bids

Johnson opened the sealed bids.

- White Snowplowing 1275.00 / season + 6.50 per bag of salt used.
- Cornell Farms 2000.00 / season - this includes all plowing and salting.

Motion made by Mulder to accept the bid from Cornell Farms, as White Snowplowing has no proof of insurance. Supported by Zank. Motion carried, 5-0.

New Phone System

Mulder suggested that the new phone system not be considered until the next fiscal year, sue to the fact that the millage did not pass. Also if it were purchased now the remainder of the office equipment budget would have to be used.

All board members agreed to wait.

Open Space Preservation Provisions.

Johnson reviewed that this is something that the State of MI is requiring. Motion was made by Zank to approve the ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOLON (OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION PROVISIONS). Supported by Mulder. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gunnell, Zank, Straub, Johnson, Mulder. Nays: None. Motion carried, 5-0.

Site Condominium Chapter

Zank made a motion approve the ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOLON (SITE CONDOMINIUM CHAPTER). Supported by Johnson. Roll call vote. Ayes: Straub, Zank, Mulder, Gunnell, Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried, 5-0.

Ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance – private street definition, other definitions, access requirements, churches in NC and HC, off-street parking and signs in MHC, adult uses et al.

Zank made a motion to approve the ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOLON (Definitions; Special Land Uses; Adult Uses; Off-Street Parking and Signage in MHC, s et al.). Supported by Gunnell. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gunnell, Zank, Mulder, Straub, Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried, 5-0.



Winter clean up of Cemetery and Township Hall

Motion was made by Gunnell to approve the quote from Dave Carew, Green Earth Management, to trim bushes and add planting to the cemetery and clean up landscaping at the township hall for \$600.00. Supported by Mulder. Motion carried, 5-0.

Correspondence

Trustee: Fred Gunnell, none

Trustee: Rich Straub commented that he would like to publicly thank the Clerk and Admin. Asst. for all their hard work on the cemetery and the election. Would like to state appreciation for the professional manner in which this board operates. Even when we disagree, respect is given to all.

Treasurer: Ken Zank, none.

Clerk: Elizabeth Mulder, would like to remind the board her resignation of September 1, 2002 was extended to January 1, 2002. That date is approaching and further extension of her resignation is not an option. Help wanted ad should to be published.

Supervisor: Gary Johnson, Echo Parks has come up again and the residents that live there would like to request that the board pass a resolution giving the owner the opportunity to get the “dedication to public use” on this property changed. No action has been taken this is just for information.

He would also like to request that the board give a token to the Solon Center Wesleyan Church for the use of their church at the Special meeting Oct.1st. Mulder stated that she felt this was not necessary due to the extreme unconvinced that they caused the residents of the township and the election workers on Election Day. The building they were forced to use had no water, bathrooms, and did not meet codes required by the state for precincts. They broke their agreement with the township by not having this building ready.

Additional Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Zank to adjourn. Support from Straub. Motion carried, 5-0

Meeting adjourned 9:35pm.

Elizabeth Mulder, Clerk

Gary Johnson, Supervisor