



Solon Township
Kent County
2305 19 Mile Road NE
Cedar Springs, MI
49319 Tel 616 696-1718
Fax 616 696-3970

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Solon Township Board of Trustees
March 14, 2006
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, John Rideout, Robert Ellick, Heather Zenker, and Rich Straub
Members absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation given by Pastor Dibell

Guest & Presentations: None

Public comments on the agenda items: Gerald Skelonc expressed concern about the proposed salary increases as well as a proposed fire department millage.

Approve agenda: Motion made by Mr. Rideout to approve the agenda with the deletion of the item addressing adjustments to the 2005 – 2006 budget. Seconded by Mr. Straub. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Approve Consent Agenda: Motion made by Mr. Straub, seconded by Ms. Zenker to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Old Business

Cedar Springs Public Library – Ms Zenker submitted monthly library report.

Cedar Springs Parks and Rec. – no report submitted

Property for new township hall – no action

New Business

Public hearing on Industrial Development District – The township assessor and several township residents spoke on the issue. Mr. Rideout expressed concerns regarding the neighbors, Mr. Attwood stated they shared those concerns and were addressing them. Motion was made by Mr. Straub and seconded by Ms. Zenker to close the public hearing. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Resolution establishing an Industrial Development District. Ms. Zenker made the motion to approve the resolution establishing an industrial development district for Atwood Forest Products, Inc. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Gunnell – yes
Mr. Ellick – yes
Ms. Zenker – yes
Mr. Rideout – yes
Mr. Straub – yes

Motion carried 5 to 0

Resolution approving application of Atwood Forest Products industrial facilities exception. – Mr. Straub made the motion to approve the resolution approving application of Atwood Forest Products industrial facilities exception. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Ellick – yes
Ms. Zenker – yes
Mr. Rideout – yes
Mr. Straub – yes
Mr. Gunnell – yes

Motion carried 5 to 0

Resolution to establish Trustee's salary – The motion was made by Mr. Rideout to increase the Trustee's salary from the current rate of \$85.00 per meeting to \$90.00 per meeting. Seconded by Ms. Zenker.

Roll call vote:

Ms. Zenker – yes
Mr. Rideout – yes
Mr. Straub – yes
Mr. Gunnell – yes
Mr. Ellick – yes

Motion carried 5 to 0

Resolution to establish Clerk's salary – The motion was made by Mr. Straub to increase the Clerk's salary from the current rate of \$19,000.00 per year to \$22,000.00 per year. Seconded by Ms. Zenker.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Rideout – no
Mr. Straub – yes
Mr. Gunnell – yes
Mr. Ellick – no
Ms. Zenker – no

Motion failed 2 to 3

After the motion failed Mr. Gunnell expressed a desire to change his vote to no on the resolution involving the Clerk's pay.

Resolution to establish Treasurer's salary – The motion was made by Mr. Rideout to increase the Treasurer's salary from the current rate of \$19,000.00 per year to \$22,000.00 per year. Seconded by Mr. Straub.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Straub – yes
Mr. Gunnell – yes
Mr. Ellick – yes
Ms. Zenker – no
Mr. Rideout – no

Motion carried 3 to 2

Resolution to establish Supervisor's salary – The motion was made by Ms. Zenker to increase the Supervisor's salary from the current rate of \$19,500.00 per year to \$24,500.00 per year. Seconded by Mr. Straub.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Gunnell – yes
Mr. Ellick – yes
Ms. Zenker – no
Mr. Rideout – no
Mr. Straub – yes

Motion carried 3 to 2

Pay increase for the Administrative Assistant - The motion was made by Ms. Zenker to increase the Administrative Assistant's hourly rate from the current rate of \$11.81 per hour to \$13.00 per hour. Seconded by Mr. Rideout. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Pay increase for the Fire Chief - The motion was made by Mr. Rideout to increase the Fire Chief's annual salary from the current rate of \$8400.00 per year to \$8800.00 per year. Seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance - Ms. Zenker made the motion to approve the resolution establishing changes to the current zoning ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Rideout.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Ellick – yes
Ms. Zenker – yes
Mr. Rideout – yes
Mr. Straub – yes
Mr. Gunnell – yes

Motion carried 5 to 0

Hopping Site Condominium Development – A representative made a request for the board to modify the existing resolution. Mr. Straub made the motion to approve the resolution approving final site condominium development plan for Hopping Site Condominium Development as written. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell.

Roll call vote:

Ms. Zenker – yes
Mr. Rideout – yes
Mr. Straub – yes
Mr. Gunnell – yes
Mr. Ellick – yes

Motion carried 5 to 0

Koopsen Rezone – Ms. Zenker made the motion to approve the resolution to amend the Zoning Ordinance from Agricultural Residential District to Highway Commercial District. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Rideout – yes

Mr. Straub – yes

Mr. Gunnell – yes

Mr. Ellick – yes

Ms. Zenker – yes

Motion carried 5 to 0

Increase in Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals fees – Motion by Mr. Ellick to increase the Planning Commission application fee from \$400.00 to \$650.00 and the Zoning Board of Appeals application fee from \$350.00 to \$500.00. Seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Pay Increase for Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals – Motion by Mr. Straub to increase the pay for the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals from the current \$60.00 per meeting to \$65.00 per meeting. Seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Fire Department Millage – Motion by Mr. Rideout to request a one (1) mill fire millage in the August general election for the sole purpose of funding the township fire Department for operational and equipment requirements. Seconded by Ms. Zenker. Mr. Straub made the motion to amend the motion to include real property in the authorized uses. Seconded by Ms. Zenker, Motion carried 4 to 1.

Authorization for Treasurer to attend Michigan Municipal Treasurer’s Institute – Motion by Ms. Zenker to allow her to attend the Michigan Municipal Treasurer’s Institute. Seconded by Mr. Gunnell. Motion Carried 5 to 0.

Hope Network (Dial-a-Ride) funding – Motion by Mr. Rideout for Solon Township to continue to support the Hope Network dial a ride program through Community Block Grant funding in the amount of \$2,000.00. Seconded by Ms. Zenker, motion carried 5 to 0.

Correspondence:

Trustees – Mr. Straub spoke of trip to Washington. Mr. Gunnell – nothing to report.

Treasurer – nothing

Clerk – nothing

Supervisor – Discussed the possible donation of about one acre of land for possible township park & Echo Park issues. Mr. Blackburn asked to be allowed to purchase old computer for \$75.00. Motion by Mr. Gunnell to allow Mr. Blackburn to purchase old computer for \$75.00. Seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Additional public comments – none

Adjourn – Motion by Mr. Rideout to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Straub. Motion carried 5 – 0. Meeting adjourned at 9:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

John W. Rideout