



Solon Township
Kent County
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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Solon Township Board of Trustees
June 14, 2011
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, Robert Ellick, Heather Zenker, Rich Straub & John Rideout

Members absent: none

Pledge of Allegiance & invocation

Public comments on the agenda items: Mrs. Babcock spoke on the proposal to remove the existing pole barn.

Approve agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Ellick to approve agenda with the additions of funding for the fire chief's training and the One-Kent resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rideout the motion carried 5 to 0.

Approve Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Straub to approve consent agenda. Ms. Zenker seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Committee Reports

Cedar Springs Public Library – no report submitted

Cedar Springs Parks & Rec – The concert in the park program begins on June 16th

Fire Committee – Don Hamblin reported on the fire committee's recommendation to establish an appraisal subcommittee. The consensus was to address this as new business at next month's board meeting.

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Old Business:

None

New Business:

Hiring of new fire fighters

Motion by Mr. Ellick to approve hiring Michael Olszewski as a fire fighter. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zenker and carried 5 to 0.

Motion by Mr. Straub to approve hiring Gregory Seely as a fire fighter. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zenker and carried 5 to 0.

Motion by Ms. Zenker to approve hiring Joshua Putman as a fire department chaplain. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rideout and carried 5 to 0.

Resignation of fire fighter

Motion by Ms. Zenker to accept the resignation of Mark Vitunskas from the fire department with the stipulation that he be placed on the first to hire list should he choose to return to the fire department in the future. Motion was seconded by Mr. Straub and carried 5 to 0.

Increase in mechanical and plumbing inspection fees

Motion by Mr. Ellick to increase the base fees plumbing and mechanical from \$30.00 to \$50.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zenker and carried 5 to 0.

Increase in building inspection application fees

Motion by Mr. Straub to table this motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellick and carried 5 to 0.

Removal of camp ground fees

Motion by Mr. Rideout to delete the current camp ground fee of \$10.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Straub and carried 5 to 0.

Resolution for property taxes for Cedar Springs Public Schools

Motion by Ms. Zenker to approve the Cedar Springs Public Schools tax resolution, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gunnell. On a roll call vote the Board voted Ellick – yes, Rideout – yes, Zenker – yes, Straub – yes & Gunnell - yes. The resolution carried 5 to 0.

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Resolution for property taxes for Grand Rapids Community College

Motion by Ms. Zenker to approve the Grand Rapids Community College tax resolution, the motion was seconded by Mr. Straub. On a role call vote the Board voted Rideout – yes, Zenker – yes, Straub – yes, Gunnell – yes & Ellick – yes. The resolution carried 5 to 0.

Resolution for property taxes for Kent Intermediate School District

Motion by Ms. Zenker to approve the Kent Intermediate School District tax resolution, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gunnell. On a role call vote the Board voted Zenker – yes, Straub – yes, Gunnell – yes, Ellick – yes & Rideout – yes. The resolution carried 5 to 0.

Resolution for property taxes for Kent City Public Schools

Motion by Ms. Zenker to approve the Kent City Public Schools tax resolution, the motion was seconded by Mr. Straub. On a role call vote the Board voted Straub – yes, Gunnell – yes, Ellick – yes, Rideout – yes & Zenker – yes, the resolution carried 5 to 0.

Approval of fire works permit

Motion by Mr. Straub to approve the fire works display permit submitted by Mr. Robert Whalen for the fourth of July. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gunnell and carried 5 to 0.

Adjustment to Budget for Zoning Legal Fees

Motion by Mr. Ellick to increase the budget for zoning legal by \$20,000.00 the motion died for lack of support. A second motion was made by Mr. Straub to approve an adjustment of \$10,000.00 to the budget for zoning legal fees. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gunnell and carried 5 to 0.

Appointment of township hall finance committee

Motion by Rideout to create a finance committee for the purpose of establishing the additional funds needed to complete the construction and furnishing of the new township offices and community room and to research options for obtaining said funding including but not limited to working with the township attorney to secure said funds. And that V. Fred Gunnell and Heather Zenker be appointed to said committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Straub and carried 5 to 0.

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Removal/Demolition of pole barn

Motion by Mr. Gunnell to authorize and direct the supervisor to get bids for the removal of the pole/horse barn located at 15185 Algoma Ave. Seconded by Ms. Zenker. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Resolution to amend the zoning ordinance for feed stores

Motion by Ms. Zenker to approve amended resolution for feed stores with special land use. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zenker. On a role call vote the Board voted Ellick – yes, Rideout – yes, Zenker – yes, Straub – yes & Gunnell - yes. The resolution carried 5 to 0.

Hiring of cleaning person

Motion by Mr. Ellick to hire Krista Nelson to clean the township offices for a fee of \$9.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by Mr. Straub and carried 5 to 0.

Authorizing spending \$300.00 to pump township septic tanks

Motion by Mr. Straub to authorize spending \$300.00 to pump the township septic tanks. Seconded by Mr. Rideout and carried 5 to 0.

Authorize fire chief's training

Motion by Mr. Straub to authorize funding \$500.00 for fire chief's training. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zenker and carried 5 to 0.

Resolution on Metropolitan Government Proposal

Motion by Mr. Ellick to approve the resolution on Metropolitan Government Proposal as advanced by One Kent Coalition. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zenker. On a role call vote the Board Ellick – yes, Rideout – yes, Zenker – yes, Straub – yes & Gunnell - yes. The resolution carried 5 to 0.

Discussion Items

None

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Correspondence

Mr. Gunnell – nothing

Mr. Straub – Discussed the MCC leadership program as possible leadership training for the fire department.

Treasurer – She is still waiting for mileages from the school districts

Clerk – nothing

Supervisor – Waiting on community development to start road work.

Public comments:

Mrs. Hamblin inquired as to the location of the feed store being proposed. Mr. Hamblin expressed concerns on moving the new hall in relationship to the pole barn and questioned if the township should postpone its construction.

Adjourn – Motion by Mr. Gunnell to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Zenker, motion carried 5 - 0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 P.M.

John W. Rideout
Solon Township Clerk