

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the
Sparta Township Board
160 E. Division - Sparta MI 49345
October 12,2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Dale Bergman.

Members Present: Dale Bergman, Rachel Shangle, Marcy Savage, Chad Momber, Bill Goodfellow, Jason Bradford and Rob Steffens

Members Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE BUSINESS AGENDA:

Motion to approve the Agenda by Steffens, seconded by Shangle. **Carried 7-0**

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND TREASURER'S REPORT:

Moved by Shangle, 2nd by Goodfellow to approve minutes of September 14, 2017 **Carried 7-0**

Moved by Goodfellow, 2nd by Steffens to approve Treasurer's report. **Carried 7-0**

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Approval of the Bills

Motion to approve payment of the bills by Shangle, 2nd by Momber. **Carried 7-0**

2. Dale Flanery Request: Breweries & Distilleries as Special Uses in the AG 1 District

Flanery would like to request the Township to consider an ordinance to allow a special use in the AG1 district to set up and operate a microbrewery and a micro distillery. Currently when they have an event they must put their winery license in escrow during the event so a licensed caterer can provide the alcohol for the event using their license. With the special use Flanery's could offer beer and alcohol at their events using their own license. Goodfellow made a motion to refer the consideration of an ordinance for the special use for micro distilleries and microbreweries in the Ag 1 district to the planning commission, seconded by Shangle.

Carried 7-0

3. Engineer Appointment, Bob Goodheart

Goodheart attended the meeting and stated that he started working as an engineer in 1987 and worked with our retiring engineer Larry Wilson. Goodheart started his own business in 2002 and currently works with several Townships. He also has access to all of Wilson's files and is in contact with Wilson for questions. He also presented the board with a resume and other information about his business. Goodfellow made a motion to appoint Bob Goodheart as our new engineer, seconded by Shangle. **Carried 7-0**

4. Tree Removal Library

Sue Blackall and Nick Sanchez attended the meeting and explained to the board that the 3 walnut trees in the library park are killing all the plants around them due to the toxic chemicals they give off. Attwood Tree removal agreed to remove the 3 walnut trees and 1 elm tree for free in exchange for the wood. Steffens made a motion to have Attwood cut down the 3 walnuts and 1 elm in the Library park, it was seconded by Momber. **Carried 7-0**

5.Ostman Property

Shangle made a motion to refuse the offer on the Ostman Property at \$269,000 at this time. It was seconded by Bradford.

**Carried 6-1
Goodfellow Dissenting**

6. Burial Writ Wording

It was the consensus of the board to go ahead with the new wording on the burial writ.

Carried 7-0

7. Budget Amendments

It was motioned by Steffens to approve the recommended budget amendments, per the attached list, seconded by Goodfellow.

Carried 7-0

8. Electrical Inspector

Steffens made a motion to hire Colt Jacobs as electrical inspector if/ when Don Bates does not return from medical leave. Seconded by Momber.

Carried 7-0

OTHER INFORMATION

- Discussion of the Fire Study.
- Dale attended a farmland preservation meeting and gave the board an update.
- MTA has a budget and finance training coming up in November for those who would like to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Goodheart made a few comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Shangle and 2nd by Savage
The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Savage, Sparta Township Clerk