

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the
Sparta Township Board
160 E Division - Sparta MI 49345
April 14, 2016

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

Members Present: Dale Bergman, Bob Maier, Marcy Savage, Rachel Shangle, Rob Steffens
Mark Anderle and Bill Goodfellow

Members Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE BUSINESS AGENDA

Removed Historical Museum Painting quotes, added #7 Readopt Private Road Amendment,
#8 Goodfellow's explanation of the breakdown of financials for Township and Village. Motion to approve
the agenda with the corrections was made by Shangle, 2nd by Goodfellow

Carried 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Maier, 2nd by Shangle to approve the minutes of March 10, 2016

Carried 7-0

Motion by Maier to approve the treasurer's report, 2nd by Steffens

Carried 7-0

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Approval of the Bills

Motion by Maier and 2nd by Goodfellow to approve the bills.

Carried 7-0

2. Salaries of Elected Officials Statutory/Non Statutory and Trustees' Pay

Discussion on dividing the salaries of Supervisor, Clerk & Treasurer for statutory and additional duties, to be
effective after next November's elections; also paying Trustees per meeting instead of annual salary.

a. Goodfellow made a motion to approve Resolution #16-2, 2nd by Shangle. **Carried 7-0**

b. Goodfellow made a motion to approve Resolution #16-3, 2nd by Maier. **Carried 7-0**

c. Goodfellow made a motion to approve Resolution #16-4, 2nd by Maier. **Carried 7-0**

d. Anderle made a motion to approve Resolution #16-5, 2nd by Shangle. **Carried 5-2**

Maier and Goodfellow dissenting.

3. Planning Commission Recommendations

Bergman read a letter from F. Wahlfield stating he was in favor of the Bed and Breakfast.

1. C-1 Conditional Zoning, Derral and Tammy Denham Property,

Motion was made by Steffens to approve the Recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve
the C-1 conditional rezoning of the subject property, contingent upon allowing the Bed and Breakfast as a
special use in the C-1 zones, 2nd by Shangle. **Carried 7-0**

2. Bed and Breakfast special use in C-1 zones

Moved by Steffens to accept the Planning Commission recommendation to allow the Bed and Breakfast
uses in the C-1 zones, 2nd by Shangle

Carried 7-0

4. Library Millage Request

Lois Lovell reported that the renewal would help maintain the new computers and they would like to add a self-check out and take credit cards in the future. She also stated they would like to put a more professional desk in the youth room. Maier questioned why the millage was needed when the library has more than \$100,000 in fund balance. Lovell stated they do not have anywhere near that much.

Shangle made a motion to approve resolution #16-6, to put the millage renewal on the Aug. 2, 2016 ballot, 2nd by Goodfellow. **Carried 7-0**

5. Fire Department Budget

Jerry Bolen stated that the Fire Department hasn't had a raise since 2013. He also stated that they have had a 39% increase in runs and also many other increases in cost throughout the department. The Fire Department is asking for an increase of \$16,933.00 from the Township with a total increase of \$25,400.00. A proposed budget was not presented for approval. Fire Board Chairman Kristi Dougan said she preferred the Fire Board to continue working on the budget and perhaps wait until mid-year to request additional funding if needed. Maier made a motion to increase the Townships annual payment for the Fire Department operations by \$15,000.00, 2nd by Goodfellow.

Carried 6-1
Shangle Dissenting

6. Revision of the Cemetery Ordinance

Goodfellow stated that he would look over the Cemetery Ordinance from MTA and give a recommendation to some changes that we should make in our Ordinance.

7. Re-adoption of Private Road Ordinance

Shangle made a motion to readopt the Private Road Ordinance #16-1 to allow for timely publication, seconded by Steffens. **Carried 7-0**

8. Goodfellow revenue worksheet

Goodfellow explained the revenue and expense worksheet of the Village and Non-Village parts of the Township.

OTHER –INFORMATIONAL

Bergman reported that Historical Commission Chairman, Larry Carter wants to do a feasibility study to get a Grant to move the Historical Myers Museum and the Depot Museum to Downtown so that they would be visited more.

Steffens reported that they had cleared a spot for the road for the Park and are ready to start doing the grinding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lovell stated that the Language might need to be changed on the Library millage request after we get some more accurate numbers for the county and that it has to be finalized and turned in by May 10, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Maier, and 2nd by Goodfellow

Carried 7-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Savage, Township Clerk