

Meeting of Sparta Township Board

Sparta Township Hall - 160 E Division St - Sparta MI 49345

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February 12th, 2026 - 7 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Dale Bergman, Clerk Marcy Savage, Treasurer Ashley Johnson, Trustee Jason Bradford, Barb Johnson, and Rob Steffens.

Also present: Historical Society Chairman Doug Pinckey, Sparta Library Director Merri-Jo Tuinstra, and Recording Secretary Sarah Fischer.

Absent: Trustee Bill Goodfellow

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Additions or corrections to the agenda:** None.
4. **Public Comment on agenda items:** Brooks Burg of 10870 Phelps Rd, he reminded the board that township citizens and voters are in favor of the moratorium and the zoning changes.
5. **Approval of minutes and treasurer's report:**
 - a. **Approval of minutes of January 8th, 2025:** Motion by Dale Bergman for a correction on letter D. in Nancy's last name to remove the additional "er" at the end. Motion by Rob Steffens, second by Jason Bradford. The motion passed unanimously, with all members in favor.
 - b. **Treasurer's Report:** Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Rob Steffens, with a second by Jason Bradford. The motion passed unanimously, with all members in favor.
 - c. **Building Department Monthly Report:** *Informational only.*

Business Items:

1. **Approval of Bills:** Motion by Barb Johnson with a second by Ashley Johnson to approve the bills. The motion passed unanimously, with all members in favor.
2. **Approval of Dates for Board of Review: March 9th, 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., March 10th, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.** Motion by Marcy Savage with a second by Ashley Johnson to approve the dates for the Board review. The motion passed unanimously, with all members in favor.

3. **Budget Workshop Meeting Dates and Times:** Date set for February 26th at 5 p.m. Motion made by Marcy Savage with a second by Ashley Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, with all members in favor.
4. **Budget Amendments:** Marcy and Bill collaborated to add notes to the budget document outlining their recommended changes moving forward. Motion by Rob Steffens with a second by Jason Bradford to approve the budget amendments. The motion passed unanimously, with all members in favor.
5. **Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Moratorium by Resolution:** The Board discussed a proposed zoning ordinance amendment that would allow the Township to establish a moratorium by resolution. The process requires Board approval and publication in the newspaper for seven days before it becomes effective. If approved, the moratorium would be adopted at the March meeting. Materials were shared regarding potential agricultural and public health impacts related to data centers. A motion to recommend approval of the ordinance amendment was made by Barb Johnson, seconded by Marcy Savage, and passed unanimously.

OTHER INFORMATION:

Rob, a member of the Kent County Agricultural Preservation Board, an informational session will be held for landowners interested in preserving their farms. The session is scheduled for February 19 from 10:00–11:00 a.m. at 13955 Cascade Road in Lowell. Representatives, including Haley Stikeman, will be available to provide information and answer questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURMENT: Motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm EST by Marcy Savage, second by Barb Johnson. The motion passed unanimously, with all members in favor.

Submitted by: Sarah Fischer

Reviewed by: Marcy Savage, Clerk