

MINUTES OF THE SPARTA TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meeting of Thursday, June 11, 2026, 7 PM
Sparta Township Hall, 160 E. Division St., Sparta MI

This meeting could be viewed live at Sparta Township - YouTube

Present: Supervisor Dale Bergman; Clerk Marcy Savage; Treasurer Ashley Johnson;
Trustees Barb Johnson and Rob Steffens
Also Present: Sparta Library Director Merri-Jo Tuinstra, Sparta Fire Department Chief Dan
Olney, and Recording Secretary Toni Potes
Absent: Trustees Jason Bradford and Bill Goodfellow

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance: Supervisor Bergman called the meeting to order at
7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions or Corrections to Agenda: Motion by B. Johnson, second by A. Johnson, to approve
the Agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment for Agenda Items: Sparta Chief of Police Andrew Milanowski inquired if the
Board would consider allocating funds to the Sparta Police Department for the acquisition of
an A.E.D. for their third truck/car. The approximate costs are \$2800 for the A.E.D., \$400 for a
case, and other medical supplies for a total of \$3200 to \$3500.

Sparta Fire Department Chief Olney piggybacked on Chief Milanowski's statements. He
supports the request.

Approval of the Minutes and Treasurer's Report

1. Approval of Minutes — May 14, 2026: Motion by Savage, second by B. Johnson, to
approve the Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Report: Motion by Savage, second by B. Johnson, to approve the
Treasurer's Report. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Building Department Monthly Reports: No action taken.

Business Items

1. Approval of Bills: Motion by Savage, second by Steffens, to approve bill payments.
Motion carried unanimously.
2. Lease Agreement with Sparta Historical Friends: After review of the agreement by B.
Johnson, motion by B. Johnson, second by A. Johnson, to approve signing the agreement.
Motion carried unanimously.
3. Social Media Policy: Motion by Savage, second by A. Johnson, to deny approval of the
proposed policy. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Planning Commission Recommendation — 9440 Sparta Ave. C-1 to C-2: After review of the request and recommendation of the Sparta Township Planning Commission by B. Johnson, motion by Steffens, second by B. Johnson, to accept the Planning Commission recommendation to rezone the property. Roll call vote: Savage, yea; A. Johnson, yea; B. Johnson, yea; Steffens, yea; Bergman, yea. Motion carried 5 to 0.
5. Public Safety Revenue Sharing — Ashley: After review of the report by A. Johnson, motion by B. Johnson, second by A. Johnson, to table the matter until next month so that the Board may think about and investigate the options available. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Informational: Savage provided a copy of an article to go in the paper, seeking approval before publication. Motion by A. Johnson, second by B. Johnson, to add Steffen's suggested language in the first paragraph clarifying this includes all Village properties, then publish. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Johnson is working again in the cemeteries. There is more participation.

Supervisor Bergman provided information regarding low-flying helicopters checking electrical equipment and ground water conditions.

Steffens provided a County Drain work update. The sports park pond dredging and repairs are about done. Then the parking lot will be addressed.

Public Comment: Sparta Library Director Tuinstra reported the event at the library last night was on TV; Miranda was there. The Library was packed with kids and adults. This Saturday hosts a free event from 10 AM to noon for kids. The summer reading program will have more participants than last year. She met with the Sparta DPW regarding removing stones about five feet back as well as two feet by handicap parking spots, which will be evened out. She answered other questions of the Board.

Adjournment: Motion by B. Johnson, second by Savage, to adjourn at 7:50 PM. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Sparta Board will be Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
—Toni Potes
Recording Secretary