

Minutes of the Sparta Township Board
Regular Meeting of June 10, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Sparta Civic Center, 75 N. Union St., Sparta, Michigan and Virtual Via Zoom Media

Present: Township Supervisor Dale Bergman; Township Treasurer Rachel Shangle; Township Clerk Marcy Savage; Trustees Bill Goodfellow, Barb Johnson, and Rob Steffens

Also Present: Attorney Cliff Bloom, Planner Sara Moring-Hilt of Fresh Coast Planning, IT Specialist Ken Shangle, and Recording Secretary Jan Redding

Absent: Jason Bradford

Call to Order-Bergman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance-The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda-Motion by Johnson, second by Shangle to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carries unanimously.

Public Comment- None

Approval of the Minutes and Treasurer's Report- Motion by Shangle, second by Savage to approve the minutes of May 13, 2021. Motion carries unanimously. Motion by Steffens, second by Johnson to approve the closed session minutes of April 27, 2021. Motion carries unanimously. Shangle requested that approval of the closed session minutes from May 13, 2021 be held for discussion during a closed session.

Motion by Goodfellow, second by Steffens to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carries unanimously.

Approval of the Bills- MTA training package price options were reviewed. Motion by Savage, second by Shangle to purchase the Plus option. Cost plus annual dues is \$6671.78. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion by Steffens, second by Shangle to approve the bills as presented. Motion carries unanimously.

Farm Labor Housing-motion by Johnson, second Steffens to adopt the zoning ordinance text amendments regulating Farm Labor Housing. Motion carries with unanimous roll call vote.

Mural Quotes-no new information on the price quotes for proposed murals was available. There will be more information available at the July Board meeting.

Library Tree Trimming and Removal-Motion by Goodfellow, second by Steffens to accept the proposal from _____ for tree trimming and removal at the Sparta Library for a cost of \$1200. motion carries unanimously.

Library Kitchenette-the Library kitchenette has become partially unusable, and quotes for repairs were reviewed. The Board requested additional information about what is included in the quotes, and that there be clarification of what is included in each. Tabled until July meeting.

Library Soffit Painting-this item will be tabled until July.

Peak Property-Greg Peak presented the Board with information on a piece of property he owns at the end of Ecklund Street. The property abuts the Sports Park and if purchased by the Township, could provide a walking trail access to the park. The Board asked for public comment on the proposal. Several homeowners living on Ecklund Street spoke in opposition to the proposed use of the property. They cited concerns over parking conflicts, road maintenance, security on their properties and the proposed trail, and environmental impacts. No action was taken on the proposal, as the Board would like to study the matter further.

Closed Session-Motion by Johnson, second by Shangle to enter closed session at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing privileged and confidential communication from Attorney Bloom. Motion carries with a 5-1 roll call vote. Goodfellow voted no. Open Session resumed at 8:45 p.m.

Outdoor Gathering Permit-Planner Sara Moring-Hilt presented an application from Elizabeth Morse on behalf of

the Sparta Chamber of Commerce to conduct Sparta Town and Country Days Beer Tent at property owned by Chad Momber located at 2124 12 Mile Rd. The application was reviewed and required minimum conditions were found to have been met. Motion by Steffens, second by Johnson to approve the permit with the following conditions:

1. Fire Chief approves the proposed entrance
2. \$5000 bond is posted
3. Sparta Township is named as co-insured on a \$2,000,000 policy, and the policy information is provided to the Township
4. The name of the security company being contracted is provided to the Township
5. The building located on the property is not used
6. All other requirements of the ordinance are complied with

Motion carries unanimously.

Informational Items- the Township Assessor received a perfect score on the State of Michigan Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements (AMAR).

It was clarified that Village residents are not eligible to vote in the upcoming referendum election.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Redding, Recording Secretary