

Minutes of the Sparta Township Board
Regular Meeting of September 9, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Sparta Township Hall, Sparta, Michigan and Virtual Via Zoom Media

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

Absent: Bill Goodfellow

Also Present: IT Specialist Ken Shangle, and Recording Secretary Jan Redding

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

Public Comment- There was a question about the date of an upcoming Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, which is scheduled for October 13.

Approval of the Minutes and Treasurer's Report-Motion by Shangle, second by Savage to approve the minutes of August 12, 2021. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion by Steffens, second by Johnson to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carries unanimously.

Approval of the Bills- Motion by Shangle, second by Savage to approve the bills as presented, except that the Kent County Road Commission bill will be held. Motion carries unanimously.

Freedom Cruise-the event will be held on Saturday, September 11.

Zoning Board of Appeals Appointments-Supervisor Bergman nominated Don Doyle and John Kozal be re-appointed to their positions on the ZBA. ZBA Chairperson Terry Jost spoke in support of both nominees. Motion by Savage, second by Johnson to appoint Ken Humphreys. He currently sits on the Planning Commission and would become the representative from that board to the ZBA. Motion passes 5-1 with Bergman voting nay. Motion by Shangle, second by Savage to appoint John Kozal. Motion carries with unanimous roll call vote.

Historical Commission-motion by Bradford, second by Shangle to appoint Miranda Hills-Cairn to fill a term ending 2022. Motion carries with unanimous roll call vote. There was discussion of the number of non-residents appointed to the Commission. Motion by Steffens, second by Johnson to appoint Sally Irish Kennamer to fill a term ending 2024. Motion carries with unanimous roll call vote.

Riverview Mobile Home Park Resolution-tabled

Library Kitchenette Remodel-several quotes were reviewed. Motion by Shangle, second by Johnson to accept the quote from Stephen Kline Builders at \$8090. Two-thirds of the cost will be paid by the Township. The other third will be paid by the Library, and the Library administrators will make choices for finishes and styles. Motion carries with unanimous roll call vote.

Hascher Property Purchase-there was discussion of purchasing property adjacent to Fairplains Cemetery. The Board had previously approved the purchase, but there were details that would need to be negotiated. It was the Board's consensus that another meeting should be scheduled with the property owner.

War Monuments-A community group has requested the Board consider consolidating a number of war monuments and memorials in one location, and recreating a monument that had been removed. Motion by Johnson, second by Shangle that the existing Civil War memorial at the cemetery not be moved. Motion carries unanimously. It was decided that more research should be done before any further decisions are made. There was also concern over availability of funding.

Informational Items- Savage reported that the financial audit has been completed. A study to assist with proper

use of the ARPA funds was approved at a cost of \$200.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Redding, Recording Secretary