

SOLON TOWNSHIP STAFF MEETING MINUTES February 8, 2017

Solon Township Hall
15185 Algoma Avenue
Cedar Springs, MI 49319
616-696-1718

CALL TO ORDER by Clerk Poulsen at 10:00 a.m. Member Gunnell elected to lead the meeting in absence of the Supervisor.

Staff Present: Gunnell, Hoskins, Gerhardt, Poulsen, Doane, Drake

Staff Absent: Ellick

Guests: Gerry Skelonc, Steve Skelonc

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES:

- **Assessing:** Wrapped up End of Year permit entries. Splits and values should be well set. Gearing up for notices in February and Board of Review in March.
- **Building Dept:** January surprisingly busy in building department with several permits issued.
- **Zoning** – no report.
- **Fire Department:** • Joint SFD/Red Cross smoke detector program has begun with information going out to residents in several forms and some responses. • With direction from Fire Committee and Supervisor, Fire Chief met with new Cedar Springs Manager to restart discussion on cooperation between the 2 departments on Med 1 & Med 2 runs east of 131. • Live burn has been scheduled for March pending asbestos inspector approval. • Two firefighters have had change in hours at their regular job so may become more available for weekday calls. • Truck from DNR surplus has been delivered to B&B Trucking, working on 3rd version of specs. RFPs may go out once specs are set, upon approval of Township Board. Build time is approximately 9 months. Cannon Township has excess hose that may be given to SFD. • Radios for dispatch changes have been delivered to the County and will be disbursed to municipalities. SFD is to receive 32 portable and 7 mobile radios. \$4400 radios life expectancy is approx 15 yrs. Expectation is to go live in 2018 or 2019, but 3 new towers necessary first. • Rescue tools have been delivered and training set for February 9. Old tools will be listed for sale. • Chairman Mathers has been searching other websites for examples of vision statements and is working on welcome letter for SFD. • Discussed roster, equipment returns by ex-firefighters, participation graph, firefighter rep to Fire Committee. • Member Hoskins offered services of eye doctor to give presentation if Chief is interested. • Discussed request from Fire Committee to add Drug and Alcohol Screening to February board meeting agenda. Do we need to add random and after-incident with reasonable suspicion to township drug testing policy? Do we need training for current policy requirements? • Chief Drake's request for 10 hour holiday pay for daytime firefighter instead of 8 has been added to Board meeting agenda and should also address vacation and personal time.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- Public comment: G. Skelonc, S. Skelonc.
 - Requested board exercise due diligence in updating Zoning and Master Plan. Expressed concern of attention to details for new housing projects or commercial projects, especially traffic studies on 17 Mile Road, working with DEQ for wetland & ground

- water levels affecting neighboring properties, setbacks, service road and limiting curb cuts. Mentioned problems on Trent Ridge and Simmons they feel could have been avoided with more attention by Planning Commission.
- Concerned that township is not following up on problems with commercial bottled gas tank on Trenton. Gate is not secure, trees are dead and township not enforcing original plans or complaints. Trucks coming in at odd times, not sure whether they are from the gas company or trespassers. Asked if association shouldn't be required to secure and maintain – possibility of township bringing up to required state and charging homeowners with their tax bills.

ITEMS FOR REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING:

- Public Hearing on Community Development Block Grant Application
- Public Hearing on CSAP&R Master Plan
- Resolution CDBG application 2017
- Resolution CSAP&R master plan
- SFD request to increase holiday, personal, vacation days hours
- Discussion on township employee Drug & Alcohol Testing policy & training

Next Meeting: March 1, 2017

Submitted by Clerk Poulsen