



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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Solon Township Board of Trustees
October 14, 2014 @ 7:30p.m.**

Meeting called to Order by Clerk, Mary Lou Poulsen at 7:30 pm.

Members Present: Fred Gunnell, Arthur Gerhardt, John Rideout, Mary Lou Poulsen

Members Absent: Robert Ellick

Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation

Board appointed Member Gunnell to serve as Chairman in absence of Supervisor

Public Comment on Agenda Items - none

Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Rideout to approve agenda with addition of Fire Department request to purchase hotstick, seconded by Mr. Gerhardt. The motion carried 4-0.

Approve Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Poulsen to approve consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Rideout. The motion carried 4-0.

- a. Approve minutes from Regular Board Meeting of September 9, 2014
- b. Approve minutes from staff meeting of October 1, 2014
- c. Approve Bill List
- d. Clerk's Rev/Exp Report & Balance Sheets
- e. Fire Chief's Statistics Report
- f. Building Inspector's Report
- g. Treasurer's Rep

6. Committee Reports

- * **Cedar Springs Public Library** – no report
- * **Cedar Springs Area Parks and Rec.** – Stephanie Morris presented information on the CSAP&R meeting last week and audit report. The Cedar Springs Community Building Design Committee has requested P&R consider being in charge of scheduling the use of the amphitheater they are proposing to build next to the Community Building. Ms. Morris would like some feedback from Solon Township and any thoughts or issues they would have if CSAP&R were to accept this responsibility. CSAP&R requested more information from the Design Committee. A PowerPoint presentation may be available from the Design Committee if the Township is interested in more information.
- * **Solon Market** – Vicky Babcock reported on last week's Boo-tacular and the plan for this week's Give-aways. Market will run through October.

- * **Solon Park Planning Committee** – Len Allington reported on contacts made regarding uses for the Barn and Park area for purposes such as: 4-H gatherings, archery programs, dog training and dog shows, and rent of stalls for equipment storage.
- * **Fire Committee** – Curt Steinbach reported on Fire Chief’s proposals and Fire Committee’s input on the best use of the fire millage in serving our community.

7. Old Business

- * none

8. New Business

- * **Cedar Springs Area Parks & Rec Operating Agreement**

A motion was made by Ms. Poulsen to approve Cedar Springs Area Parks and Rec Operating Agreement, seconded by Mr. Rideout. The motion carried 4 - 0.

- * **Fire Station exterior wall repair**

A motion was made by Rideout to postpone for required 3rd bid to include steel siding option, seconded by Ms. Poulsen. The motion carried 4 - 0.

- * **Barn storage rental**

A motion was made by Mr. Gunnell to table discussion until we receive engineer’s report, seconded by Mr. Gerhardt. The motion carried 3 – 1.
Public comment questioned purpose of new engineer report. Chairperson asked that questions be held for public comment area of agenda.

- * **Sealed Bids for Snowplowing**

Chairperson Gunnell opened the single sealed bid received. A motion was made by Mr. Rideout to accept bid of \$5,050 by Marty’s Construction, seconded by Ms. Poulsen. The motion carried 4 - 0.

- * **Fire Dept purchase of Hotstick**

A motion was made by Mr. Rideout to approve funds up to \$300 for purchase of Volt sensing equipment/Hotstick, seconded by Mr. Gerhardt. The motion carried 4 - 0.

- * **Fire Dept purchase of firefighting PPE boots**

A motion was made by Mr. Rideout to approve funds up to \$540 to purchase 2 pair FireDex boots, seconded by Mr. Gerhardt. The motion carried 4 - 0.

- * **Reserve Firefighter candidate**

A motion was made by Ms. Poulsen to approve Candidate Candace Wetter for position of Reserve Firefighter , seconded by Mr. Gerhardt. The motion carried 4 - 0.

Correspondence

Trustees: Mr. Rideout – nothing to report
Mr. Gunnell – nothing to report
Treasurer: nothing to report
Clerk: nothing to report.
Supervisor: absent

Additional public comments:

- L. Allington - as he understands it, original engineer report was to determine if stable could be turned into a Township Hall, new report is to determine soundness of building for other purposes.
- V. Babcock – asked if we had any idea when engineer report would be available.
- K. Lemke – was here when barn had horses, Post article prompted her to come tonight. Would like to know other’s thoughts and have some say in what happens to it.
- S. Skelonc – stated it is for township advantage to get rid of a barn that was made for Agricultural purposes and has deteriorated. Farm Market and others needing shelter can use other barns and tents for same purpose.
- L. Allington – survey taken years ago was returned by 100 respondents with 49 preferring buildings be restored and utilized, 2 preferring removal, 94 asking committee to look for potential uses.
- A. Spencer – township board’s job is to grow the township. Is providing storage in our long term plan? He would like to see a budget prepared to show the annual cost to maintain the barn. If it is cost prohibitive, are we better off selling to someone who wants to move it & restore it somewhere else. Township may be better off building something new for Market & Park uses instead of putting dollars into something outdated that has problems.
- Mr. Gunnell – Thanks to everyone for comments. Board will weigh input.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Ms. Poulsen to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gerhardt.
Meeting Adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Submitted by: Mary Lou Poulsen, Solon Township Clerk