



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

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Solon Township Board of Trustees
June 12, 2023 @ 7:30 p.m.**

Meeting called to Order by Supervisor Ellick @ 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: A.J Anielski, Robert Ellick, Mark Hoskins, Jon Stout, Dorothy Willoughby

Members Absent: none.

Also Present: Vicki and Hal Babcock, Carol Cole, Michelle Gritter, Ron Perrin, Judge Jeff O'Hara

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Public Comment on Agenda Items – none.

Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Hoskins to approve the agenda, seconded by Stout. The motion carried 5-0.

Approve Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Willoughby to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Anielski. The motion carried 5-0.

- a. Approve minutes from Board Meeting – May 8, 2023
- b. Approve corrected minutes from Staff Meeting – June 7, 2023
- b. Approve Bill List
- c. Clerk's Rev/Exp Report & Balance Sheets

Committee Reports

Cedar Springs Public Library: Member Anielski wanted to publicly thank Kamey Krume-Howe for her service as Library Director and good luck with her future endeavors. Laura at the library is making sure things continue to run smoothly. Activities this month at the library included story time, bingo, sensory stations, CTA visits, intergenerational par-tea, patio plant exchange, writer's group, book club, blood drive, stitch & chatter and an enhanced fitness class.

North Kent Community Enrichment: Work continues on the Spark Grant application for pickleball courts.

Old Business

Velzy Park: There was a concert on Thursday but turn out could have been better. Public Park restrooms are open.

Multipurpose building: Still waiting on flooring. Keyless entry will be installed this week.

New Business

- **KCRC Trenton Work Order:**
A motion was made by Willoughby to approve the work order on Trenton with the Township's portion being \$42,250.00, seconded by Stout. Motion carried 5-0.
- **KCRC Wiersma Invoice:**
A motion was made by Anielski to accept the invoice from Kent County Road Commission in the amount of \$67,738.01, seconded by Hoskins. Motion carried 5-0.
- **Kore Hi Com Invoice:**
A motion was made by Anielski to accept the invoice from Kore Hi Com in the amount of \$3,693.50, seconded by Stout. Motion carried 5-0.
- **MTA Dues Invoice:**
A motion was made by Willoughby to approve the invoice for Michigan Township Association dues in the amount of \$4607.09, seconded by Anielski. Motion carried 5-0.
- **NKCE Grant & Map:** A motion was made by Ellick to approve the plan with the revision to remove the outdoor exercise area and approve the Supervisor to sign the Sit Control Form, seconded by Stout. Motion carried 5-0.
- **Small Scale Solar Zoning Ordinance:**
A motion was made by Ellick to accept the Ordinance for Small-Scale Solar Energy Systems as recommended by the Planning Commission, seconded by Hoskins.

Roll Call Vote: Stout-Y; Anielski-Y; Ellick-Y; Willoughby-Y; Hoskins-Y.

Ordinance declared adopted.

- **Special Land Use Zoning Ordinance:**
A motion was made by Hoskins to approve the Special Land Use Ordinance, seconded by Stout.

Roll Call Vote: Stout-Y; Anielski-N; Ellick-N; Willoughby-N; Hoskins-Y.

Motion failed.

Discussion Items: none.

Correspondence

Trustee Stout: none

Trustee Hoskins: none

Clerk: The audit is happening tomorrow. Precinct 3 has been divided. New voter cards will be going out this week. Cemetery software is from 2003 and may not support the database much longer according to our IT guys. Will look into getting quotes for new software.

Supervisor: Wiersma work is coming along and the base should be in this week. Aldi's has plans in. Our intent is to continue negotiations with the City for Library services so we can move forward with a library contract.

Treasurer: The Library Board has come up with a statement regarding information for the library services contract between the City of Cedar Springs and Solon Township which they've asked we post. The post reads:

- On April 13, 2023, the Cedar Springs City Council voted to terminate the Agreement for Library Services effective October 13, 2023. The City Council also voted to immediately begin negotiating a new Agreement for Library Services with Solon Township.
- The City of Cedar Springs and Solo Township are currently in active negotiations to maintain library services for both areas. We are optimistic an agreement can be reached.
- Citizens who have concerns or questions about the contract situation are encouraged to contact their township or city, respectively.
- Solon Township: (616) 696-1718 City of Cedar Springs: (616) 696-1330

Additional public comments:

Judge Jeff O'Hara wanted to inform us of what was currently happening in the court system. He's been a judge for 9 years and the one thing he sees every single day is issues with alcohol, drugs and mental health. He has started a treatment court where they're treating the disease. All aspects are treated: spiritual health, physical health, sobriety, etc.... 2021 was the first year where there were over 100,000 overdose deaths. The old way of treatment was to throw them in jail. Now, with treatment court they're treating the disease. This includes testing all of the time, writing the judge a lengthy letter if they relapse, or having them sit through a day of court cases. He meets with them Friday mornings. The treatment court is Science and evidence based and includes 3 key components: 1) Honesty, 2) How bad do you want your life back, 3) Never give up.

Vicki Babcock wanted to clarify if the Board voted to send the Special Land Use Ordinance back to the Planning Commission, which we did. She asked if the pickleball courts were subject to the grant, which they are since we do not have the funding for them outside of the grant. She also stated that Carol Cole is an excellent grant writer.

Motion to adjourn by Anielski, seconded by Hoskins. Motion carried 5-0. **Meeting adjourned @ 8:33 p.m.**

NEXT MEETING: July 10, 2023.