

Sidney Township
Minutes
July 5, 2021

The Sidney Township Board meeting held at Sidney Township Hall, 3019 S Grow Road, Sidney, Michigan on July 5, 2021 was called to order by Supervisor Peterman at 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDENCE: Supervisor: Terry Peterman, Treasurer: Corinda Stover, Clerk: Carrie Wills, Trustees: Jed Welder and Ray Leyrer

AGENDA:

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Welder to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Welder to approve the minutes from the June 7, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk:

Wills read letter from Lynn Marie Henschell regarding the county planning commission's comments on the wind and solar ordinances.

ARPA American Rescue Plan Act.

Federal money that can be used for situations caused by or affected by the pandemic will be coming from the state treasury. Board members were each given a copy of what kinds of things the money can and cannot be used for. Wills asked the board to start thinking of ways to use the funds.

Supervisor

Peterman reported that the next MTA meeting will be August 17 at McKennas in Lakeview.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Laura Engels spoke in favor of the wind turbines.

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stover gave the Treasurer's report. Summer taxes are out. Current checkbook balance is \$145,305.

A motion was made by Wills and seconded by Welder to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Wills presented a list of expenses for the month. Total expenses reported was \$.12,074.02

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Welder to approve the Clerk's report and pay the monthly expenses. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Next planning commission meeting is September 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Adam Petersen gave an update on county business including budget talks start next week and there is now over \$1 million surplus in the county accounts.

ZONING REPORT:

Dale reported that he issued only one permit in June. He gave an update on the status of the current complaints. Three locations can now be removed from the list.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinances

Wind Ordinance

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Leyrer to approve the wind ordinance as presented with corrections made for spelling errors. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Peterman, Stover, Wills, Leyrer Nays: Welder

Solar Ordinance

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Stover to approve the solar ordinance as presented with corrections made for spelling errors. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Peterman, Stover, Wills, Leyrer Nays: Welder

NEW BUSINESS:

Pickle Ball

Stover received a request to paint lines on the basketball court for a pickle ball court. The board agreed that it would be allowed as long as they take care of painting the lines and furnish their own net.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Roxanne Niner reported that the last party to use the park left it a mess with scattered trash. She wondered if a deposit could be collected when the pavilion is rented and not refunded when no cleanup is done.

Robert Scott commented that he felt it was a conflict for Jed to vote on the wind ordinance because he has a signed lease with Apex.

Bob Thompson stated that he had sat under a running wind turbine and the noise was bad. He would not want to live near one.

Larry Engel responded that he was in Beal City and didn't hear any noise from turbines there.

Kevin Murphy from Winfield Township commented that turbines cannot be turned off whenever you want. They are not seasonal and run constantly.

Albert Jongewaard said they had submitted information openly and he is always available if anyone wants to talk to him about the turbines. He commented about land owners rights for use of their own property.

A comment was made that there are other zoning restrictions in place that control the use of personal property. This will be no different than other restrictions for property use.

John Mulenburg read part of the Michigan Zoning Act that states it is the board's duty to make decisions that protect the community as a whole for the health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

Ray Leyrer thanked the board and the planning commission for all their work. Alternates stepped up to help when needed. The township is not against going green but feels solar would be more appropriate.

Others in attendance thanked the board for approving the ordinances and listening to their input.