

Sidney Township

Minutes

March 1, 2021

Meeting was conducted as a virtual Zoom meeting

Supervisor Peterman called the Sidney Township Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

AGENDA:

A motion was made by Welder and seconded by Stover to approve the agenda as amended to add under New Business: Last board meeting and Board of Review. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Leyrer and seconded by Welder to approve the minutes from the February 1, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

CLERK

Wills reported that she has received letters from Roy Overly and Robert Scott, township residents opposing the construction of wind turbines. Leyrer asked if copies of the letters could be added to the minutes that are posted on the township website.

SUPERVISOR

Peterman explained that this meeting was being held via Zoom and that because of the moratorium approved at the February meeting, there would be no discussion about the wind turbine project.

Peterman reported that Board of Review dates are March 8 from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. and March 10 from 9:a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Shawn Wheat is no longer able to serve on the board. Wills noted that since the topic of board of review was being discussed now, they might as well address the issue here instead of under New Business. Board of Review members need to be reappointed.

A motion was made by Wills and seconded by Stover to reappoint Randy Lund and Dale Main to the Board of Review. Motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

None

REPORTS:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The treasurer's report was received. Current checkbook balance is \$168,568.17

Stover reported that a few hall rentals have been scheduled and today was the last day for winter tax collection.

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

CLERK'S REPORT:

Wills presented a list of expenses for the month. Total expenses reported was \$10,697.81.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Planning Commission meets Wednesday, March 3 at 7:00 by Zoom. Agenda will cover the park grant and the wind/solar ordinance. A link for the meeting will be on the township website at Sidneymi.org.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Adam Petersen, County Commissioner

Adam reported that the county has approved improvements to three county parks: Ford Lincoln, Krampe, and McCarthy. Rates for rental of the parks have been increased. A part time person will be hired to assist with mowing and upkeep in the parks this year. The board also approved hiring another assistant prosecutor.

ZONING REPORT:

Only zoning activity was issuing two property splits.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wind Ordinance

Ordinance has been sent to the attorney.

Nothing further because of the moratorium approved at the last meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Controlled Burn

Peterman reported that the Stanton Fire Department will be conducting a controlled burn on March 14 at 254 Grow Rd.

Last Board Meeting

Leyrer commented on the incidence from the February board meeting in which Welder had made remarks to citizens using the chat part of the zoom meeting. He asked Welder if he would like to respond or apologize for his remarks. Welder had no comments. Leyrer explained that Welder has embarrassed himself as well as the other board members.

A motion was made by Leyrer to ask Welder to submit his resignation from the township board. The motion failed for lack of support.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Several citizens thanked Leyrer for his motion asking for Welder's resignation and voiced their disappointment that none of the other board members supported the motion.

Others wondered if there would be more meetings set up by Apex. The last zoom meeting seemed to be just a one-sided event to promote the wind project. Several questions asked by participants were not answered.

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Albert Jongewaard from Apex said there will be other meetings scheduled. There were over one hundred questions posed from the last meeting. The presenters were not able to answer all of them that night but will be posting answers to all on their website. Answers are based on facts and science.

Peterman announced that he will be scheduling the public hearing for the ordinance when it is ready and it will be held at either the community center in Sheridan or the gymnasium at MCC.

Peterman asked how much land owners would be paid each year for leasing property. Albert responded that the amounts are not usually divulged as they vary based on number of acres, amount of wattage produced and other factors.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Stover and seconded by Welder to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m..  
Motion carried.

Carrie Wills  
Clerk