

MINUTES

SUTTONS BAY TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

October 11, 2023, 5:15 P.M.

Suttons Bay Township Office, 95 W. Fourth Street, Suttons Bay, MI 49682

CALL TO ORDER

Tom Nixon, Township Supervisor, called the regular meeting of the Suttons Bay Township Board to order.

Roll Call:

Present: Tom Nixon, Dorothy Petroskey, Doug Periard, Debbie Slocombe, Jean Moe

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

As amended with special Board meeting on September 28, 2023. Motion made by Dorothy Petroskey, 2nd by Jean Moe, motion passed

Tom Nixon addressed the board and all present regarding Margie Johnson's passing

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brad Thomas brought up an issue with traffic at the intersection of St Mary Street & Jefferson Ave. Concern for speeding traffic and pedestrians.

Tom interjected saying the issue should be brought to the Suttons Bay Village Board, not the Township Board.

ZOOM Guests offered public comment: no responses

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

MEETING MINUTES APPROVED:

09/13/23 Motion: Debbie Slocombe, 2nd: Doug Periard, minutes accepted as presented

09/28/23 Motion: Dorothy Petroskey, 2nd: Doug Periard, minutes accepted as presented

REPORTS

Planning & Zoning: Steve Patmore unavailable to attend tonight's meeting. He has submitted his report. Tom read from Steve's report. Herman Park Update: parking lot refinished, bike lane, walking path, sealed cracks, surface refinished. Pickleball court painting completed, funds short (\$20,000) to complete fencing this year.

6C.- No SPARKS Grant for the playground

E.- Professional tennis court painters estimate for courts 1 & 2 received were double the amount quoted from 2 years ago.

Park Supervisor, Bill Drozdalski:

Short of funds for fences

Item 6D- Look at preliminary work for future road construction path for 3 reasons

1. water problem on North side
2. walking path
3. construction site, equipment entering

Gosling Czubak Engineering contacted due to 2 private homeowners allowing Suttons Bay Township to use their property (Baldwin & Herman)

Next Park & Rec meeting in 2 weeks

Pump Track verbiage proposed, recognition signs - size of signs similar to backboard on site

Wind Screens being removed 10/24/23

Dog Park: canceled new trees, wait until Spring 2024. Irrigation being pulled 10/25/23 no water for new plantings. Ok to put up donation signs. Tree planting scheduled for Sunday 10/14/23 at 9:00a.m. Crew will arrive at 8:00a.m.

Fire Authority: Dorothy Petroskey

Attended a solar panel presentation for roof

Sent some bills to collection and some were written off.

OLD BUSINESS

Payment of Bills: information requested and given on several payments made.

Motion to pay unpaid bills as of October 11, 2023 presented by Township Clerk Jean Moe in the amount of \$97,988.51, Motion made by Tom Nixon, supported by Debbie Slocombe, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1- Suttons Bay Township Short Term Rental (STR) Agreement

Presented the current STR document & revised STR Draft to the board. Draft being reviewed by attorney. Discussed parking issue, on or off property, paved area, in right of way. Board should be prepared to discuss revised edition at next meeting

2- County Road Commission Agreement

Tom reviewed the document with the board. Will not sign until \$45,000 in bank and commit the remaining \$15,000 from SB Township as previously agreed.

3- Dog Park

Tom Allen's recommendations will be followed in regards to NO FOOT TRAFFIC ON LARGE DOG PARK UNTIL SPRING 2024. Grass is starting to sprout and needs time to grow & not damaged from early use

Signs can be installed (there are roughly 100)

- Reaching over fencing from small dog park
- Wait until a good base of snow is covering grass

- Wait until Spring 2024 to enter Large Dog Park

4- Zoom- Should Suttons Bay Township continue to offer public viewing of meetings via Zoom? Modify or keep as currently used? Needs someone to monitor guests signed in. Necessary for attorneys, bad weather, public hearing, recording secretary's minutes.

Possible options for modifications:

- Allow comments/interaction
- View only option
- Record for accuracy of minutes

Agreed to check with other commissions/boards for their policy and revisit at November meeting

5-DRAFT Proposal of Boards Bidding & Purchasing Practices/Procedures/Guidelines: Tom read the document for all to discuss and comment on. Once agreed upon, then send for legal review

- Nothing on file as to how this is done at Suttons Bay Township level
- Begin to explore something in writing
- Gifts: need clarification- 501 c3

6-Closed Meeting Session RE: Park Supervisor Review

Tom discussed how this would take place. Tom Nixon made a motion to close this portion of the public Suttons Bay Township Board Meeting, 2nd by Dorothy Petroskey. Votes as recorded

Jean Moe: Yes Doug Periard: Yes Debbie Slocombe: No Dorothy Petroskey: Yes
Public Meeting Adjourned at 6:21. All board members moved into a Closed Session behind locked doors

*Recording Secretary, Mary Kuznicki did not return to the open Session of the Suttons Bay Township Board Meeting due to a previous engagement. Dorothy Petroskey recorded the remainder of the meeting.

Motion by Doug Periard Second by Debbie Slocombe to return to open session at 7:00 p.m., local time on October 11, 2023.

5 Yeas, 0-Nays. Motion Carried.

Motion by Slocombe second by Petroskey to delegate Suttons Bay Township Trustees Jean Moe and Doug Periard to collect information and interview interested persons pertaining to concerns expressed by Suttons Bay Township Trustee Debbie Slocombe regarding Suttons Bay Township Park Supervisor Bill Drozdalski and to provide a written report to the Township to be delivered within 60 days. The delegates shall be authorized to engage township legal counsel with regard to the review and the preparation of the report.

5-yeas 0-Nays. Motion Carried

Public Comment:

Comments were received from the following individuals regarding the Park Supervisor. Jeanne Aldrich, Gary Hoensheid, Deb Palms, and Jeff Slocombe

Board Member Comments:

Trustee Slocombe reminded everyone that the tree planting will take place this weekend.

Supervisor Nixon indicated that the audit was received and Elmer's will be snow plowing the entrance to Herman Park. Nixon indicated that Attorney Figura indicated the new fee for services will be \$190 per hour.

Supervisor Nixon read a prepared statement and indicated effective October 31, 2023 he was resigning as Supervisor of Suttons Bay Township.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Mary Kuznicki, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved as-presented on November 8, 2023

Jean Moe, Suttons Bay Township Clerk