

Solon Township Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 14, 2020 7:00 P.M.
ELECTRONICALLY
Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82025516342?pwd=OU50ME1Wc0FxUIZVUkt6SHJOdm04UT09>

Meeting ID: 820 2551 6342

Password: 051765

or

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 820 2551 6342

Password: 051765

MINUTES

Supervisor James Lautner read the agenda as required when a meeting is held by electronic remote access.

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Jim Lautner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present by electronic remote access: Supervisor Jim Lautner, Clerk Shirley Mikowski, Treasurer Joan Gauthier, Trustee Ron Novak and Trustee Steve Yoder

Guests present by electronic remote access: Judy Janosik, Mary Taylor, Kelly Claar, Samantha VanderVlucht, Fire Chief Chris Comeaux, Tim Cypher/ZA, Evelyn Richardson, Warren Fuller and Daniel Fortune.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Shirley Mikowski and seconded by Joan Gauthier to approve the agenda with an addition under New Business: C. Executive Order 2020-77. On a voice vote motion carried 5-0.

Jim Lautner requested the board members raise their hands for motions so it can be seen by all members.

4. Approval of Minutes

April 16, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve the April 16, 2020 regular meeting minutes as written. By a show of hands motion carried 5-0.

April 16, 2020 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to approve the April 16, 2020 Closed Session meeting minutes as written. By a show of hands motion carried 5-0.

5. Public Comment

There was none.

6. Correspondence

There was none.

7. Treasurer's Report/Authorization for Payment of Vouchers:

Joan Gauthier said the township received a State Revenue Share check and delinquent taxes, so some of the funds that are presently in the checking account will be moved to the Fire Sinking Fund. Jim Lautner explained the State

Revenue Sharing comes from the sales tax received by the state. Jim shared concerns that with all of the businesses that have been shut down due to the COVID-19, the State Revenue Sharing may be drastically reduced. Chemical Bank Checking \$52,813.14, Chemical Bank General Savings \$135,740.54, Total Funds Available: \$188,553.68, Chemical Bank Road Improvement Fund \$5,343.15, Chemical Bank Fire Fund (Northwestern Bank) CD \$6,675.94, (Chemical Bank) Savings \$161.72, Total Fire Sinking \$6,837.66, Chemical Bank Sidewalk Fund \$10,191.98, Chemical Bank Cedar River Marina Project \$21,543.13, total other Township Funds Available: \$43,915.92 - Total Current Assets: \$232,469.60. Voucher #'s 13561-13588 were submitted for payment. Motion by Steve Yoder and seconded by Ron Novak to accept the Treasurer's report and pay vouchers as presented. By a show of hands motion carried 5-0.

8. Committee Reports:

The Planning Commission May meeting was cancelled due to the COVID-19 social distancing requirements.

Kelly Claar reported on the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 that was held via conference call.

The board members received a proposal for the Solon Beach Park prior to the meeting (see attached).

- The first request was to order 4-5 large boulders to protect the well head. Joan Gauthier asked why the use of boulders. Kelly Claar explained that there would be no maintenance with the boulders, and would need a minimum of three boulders. Tim Cypher/ZA said he had three steel ballards that were protecting a well head on one of his properties that he would donate; someone would need to pick them up. Tim said he will take a picture of them and send to Kelly. Joan also mentioned that there are a lot of trees at the park that should be removed.
- The second request was to allow dogs in the park with a six foot leash. Shirley Mikowski questioned why we are letting dogs in the park when dogs have not been allowed in the parks for years. Kelly Claar said it would bring more people to the beach park. She noticed at the Cedar Community Park, that even though there are signs posted, there are dogs that are not on leashes. Kelly does not believe the "No Animals Allowed" signs are even being enforced, and said it is not fair for those who are obeying the signs. Shirley noted the Solon Beach Park is not big enough for dogs to be allowed even on a leash. She has witnessed people bringing their dogs to both parks even though there are many signs posted. Jim Lautner said it is better to have the "No Animals Allowed" signs up in both parks; then at least the ordinance can be enforced. Jim suggested for them to take their dogs to Vlack's Park where there is forty acres for them to run. Tim Cypher/ZA said when he does see dogs in the park; he enforces the ordinance and has them take their dogs out.
- The third request was to have an extension put on the dock. Ron Novak spoke with Brent Garvin, who installs the dock, to contact SOS from whom the dock was purchased to see what could be done. Ron said he would come back to the board with a proposal for their approval. Jim Lautner said it is not necessary to get the board's approval because it is a safety issue and needs to be taken care of as soon as possible.
- The fourth request is to have the parks maintenance crew weed whip the grass around the three "Welcome to Cedar" signs. Joan Gauthier noted that Dale Gauthier, one of the maintenance crew, said he would take care of weed whipping by the signs.
- The next meeting date is Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 6:15 P.M. via conference call. The call-in number is -1-605-313-4118 and the access code is: 177975.

Ron Novak said the well head is presently protected by a large stone and trees. Ron also wanted to know if we are restricting people from going to the park because of the Governor's orders. Jim Lautner said the state parks have been closed. Joan Gauthier said that Dale has seen someone from the Sheriff's Department at the park several times.

Zoning Administrator Written Report is attached.

9. Unfinished Business

A. Township Hall/Repairs

There was nothing to report.

1. Cherry Capital/Wi-Fi

Tim Maylone from Cherry Capital Connection has not provided a proposal for high speed internet for the township as of date.

B. Parks

1. Recycling Site

Ron Novak said that Weber Excavating accepted the job by the recycling site, and will be pleased to do the work. Jim Lautner said there is money in the Road Fund to do the project.

a. Recycling Agreement

Correspondence was sent from the Leelanau County Solid Waste Council asking the Board to approve the Interlocal Agreement which allows a ballot question to be placed before the voters in November of 2020 on funding programs using PA69 of 2005. The ballot language has been approved for up to \$35.00/year per housing unit. The proposal is for the funding of Waste Reduction Programs and for the collection of materials for recycling. The Interlocal Agreement allows the public to vote on the fee in November. PA138 requires that the ballot language to propose the recycling fee for a period of ten years. Motion by Joan Gauthier and supported by Steve Yoder to accept the Leelanau County Interlocal Recycling Agreement to be put on the ballot with the ballot language to include the proposed surcharge shall be up to \$35.00 per housing unit, and will be collected for 10 (ten) years (2021-2030) on the winter ad valorem tax bills. By a show of hands motion carried 5-0.

2. Trailer

Ron Novak asked that the township board consider selling the old trailer for \$1.00 to the Cedar Chamber of Commerce. There is a volunteer who would water the flowers in Cedar this summer if she had a trailer so as not to dirty her new car. Joan Gauthier suggested the township keep the trailer and the Chamber just borrow it. Ron noted that there is no license plate on the old trailer, and Joan said it was put on the new trailer. Jim Lautner said to purchase a new plate whenever the Secretary of State opens up again.

Mary Taylor is continually looking for funding for the playground. Mary will know by June if we receive the Olson Grant for \$20,000.00. The Masonic Grant for \$20,000.00 is a wait and see. Mary is asking for approval to write the grants for DTE Energy, Consumers Energy, and the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation. Jim Lautner said to apply for the grants as long as they are not a matching grant.

C. Fire Department

Fire Chief Chris Comeaux gave the following report:

- The department received new extrication tools that were purchased with Grant Funding from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa Chippewa, and they have received the seat **Scott** air paks that were purchased through a FEMA Grant, through the assistance of firefighters.
- The new engine is scheduled to be delivered by mid-August, which is ahead of schedule.
- Chief Comeaux recently wrote an AFG (Assistance to Firefighters Grant) in the amount of \$32,364.00 to acquire ten sets of structural turnout gear. He is also writing a SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) Grant through FEMA. The amount that is being requested is \$518,000.00. There is some matching to the grant and is funded over a three year period. This grant is intended to offset the cost to add the three new full-time employees when we are able to move from basic life support to advanced life support.
- The department was approved by FEMA and the Michigan State Police to cost recover any expenses the department may incur due to COVID-19, but the department has not met the costs.
- There has been a 20% increase in call volume, with not many of them related to COVID-19. There have been ten related calls to COVID-19. The call volume overall is up 30% from 2019.

D. Cedar River Project

Mary Taylor reported that the Seed Grant through the Rotary has been temporarily shut down and is hoping that it will be opened up at the end of this month so the grant can be submitted.

E. Millage Rate

There was nothing to discuss at this time.

F. Sidewalk

Ron Novak said Novak Masonry has received the signed agreement and plans to complete the job this summer. .

G. Flynn v Solon Township

Tim Cypher/ZA reported that he and Township Attorney David Bieganowski are scheduled to meet with Mike Sheffer and his attorney on sight this Friday at 12:35 P.M. Mr. Sheffer is putting up more fence so he can be compliant. Mr. Cypher will send an update after the meeting via email. Mr. Cypher has given his available dates for mediation, but there have been no dates set as of this date.

10. New Business

A. Fireworks

Shirley Mikowski requested this be on the agenda to discuss a letter that was received from a township resident sharing the incident of fireworks that took place on July 4, 2019. The neighbors across the street were shooting off fireworks, and then proceeded to shoot off fire rockets across the road and over their property and house. The resident shared that in the letter they could do nothing to stop this because there is not an ordinance in our township regarding fireworks. The resident's concern was the possible danger of fire or injury by shooting the rockets across a busy county road and over other people's property and their house. Jim Lautner explained that a firework ordinance would not address this complaint, and there is no mention of whether they did call the Sheriff's Department. The resident needed to contact the Sheriff's Department because this was a safety issue that could only be addressed by them. Jim said this is an enforcement issue that does not pertain to any Fireworks Ordinance. An ordinance would not address this complaint, but would only refer to the days and hours that fireworks can be used in the township. Ron Novak noted the letter stated that the resident could not do anything because the township did not have an ordinance in place, but to his knowledge, this incident would not be covered by an ordinance. Joan Gauthier said she was under the understanding that an ordinance would only cover when fireworks could be used, with July 4th being a given day that fireworks can be used.

B. Audit

Tobin and Company proposed a price not to exceed \$3,000.00 to do the township audit for the fiscal year ending 2020 and an additional \$300.00 to prepare the F-65. Gabridge & Company proposed \$3,920.00 which includes preparing the F-65. Motion by Shirley Mikowski and supported by Joan Gauthier to have Tobin and Company do the Solon Township audit for the fiscal year ending 2020 for \$3,000.00 plus an additional \$300.00 to prepare the F-65. By a show of hands motion carried 5-0.

C. Executive Order 2020-77

Joan Gauthier attended a MTA presentation via Zoom and shared how townships are required to have policy on proper etiquette in place to protect residents and board members from contracting the COVID-19 virus. Jim Lautner believes that is for the bigger townships that have offices and employees. Tim Cypher/ZA said the governor has extended the variable for open meetings until the end of June. Joan said she would check into this further to provide more information so it may be discussed at the June meeting. Warren Fuller noted that he travels to a lot of places/hospitals, and policy for this is pretty much self declared.

11. Public Comment

Warren Fuller suggested the township purchase a municipal license plate for the trailer because it may cost less. He also asked about the Ironman and the Recycling Agreement the board just approved.

Jim Lautner said it was an Interlocal Recycling Agreement that all of the townships are asked to approve so it can be placed on the November ballot. Jim said Ironman triathlon will not be going through Long Lake Township.

Ron Novak said it was a government license plate that was on that trailer.

12. Announcements

There was none.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to adjourn the meeting. By a show of hands motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley I. Mikowski

Shirley I. Mikowski/Solon Township Clerk

SOLON TOWNSHIP ZA'S MONTHLY PERMIT SUMMARY

PERIOD: APRIL 2020

DATE	PERMIT #	NAME	USE	RECEIPT CK.#	AMOUNT
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THERE WERE NO LAND USE PERMITS ISSUED IN APRIL

TOTAL \$ -

SIGNED:

Timothy A. Cypher

DATE: 5/6/2020

TIMOTHY A. CYPHER
SOLON TOWNSHIP ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
231-360-2557
TIM@ALLPERMITS.COM

LEELANAU COUNTY INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

THIS Agreement, made and entered into by and between the COUNTY OF LEELANAU, a municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Michigan (hereinafter referred to as the "County"), and Solon (hereinafter referred to as the "Village/Township" or "participating unit of government"), is entered into by the parties pursuant to Public Act 69 of 2005.

RECITATIONS:

Leelanau County, as required by Act 641, P.A. 1978, as amended, has adopted a Solid Waste Management Plan. As required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, a major component of the Solid Waste Management Plan is the County's Recycling Program, which encompasses waste reduction and collection of consumer source separated services and related educational programs.

The Village/Township, by resolution, adopted the Leelanau County Solid Waste Management Plan as its guideline for addressing the solid waste management issues of the Township.

Public Act 69 of 2005 allows, by resolution of the County Board of Commissioners, an election to charge an amount greater than \$25.00 per year per household, but not more than \$4.00 per month or \$50.00 per year per household, for waste reduction programs and for the collection of consumer source separated materials for recycling or composting including, but not limited to, recyclable materials, as defined in part 115 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.11501 to 324.11550, household hazardous wastes, tires, batteries and yard clippings.

Leelanau County, along with the townships and villages, is responsible for funding such programs as recycling, electronics recycling, composting and household hazardous waste collection programs, and other such services in Leelanau County.

The Leelanau County Board of Commissioners has passed a Resolution authorizing the election as outlined in PA 69 of 2005, and imposition of the Act 69 funding mechanism is consistent with the Leelanau County Solid Waste Management Plan.

The Public Act 69 of 2005 charge shall be assessed to all housing units in the county and property owners and said charge will be placed on the Village/Township winter ad valorem property tax bills. The local Treasurer shall collect the surcharge at the time the winter ad valorem property taxes are collected.

It is expressly understood and agreed by the County and the Village/Township that this Agreement shall terminate after the 10th year of collection of the Act 69 funding.

STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT:

Based on the above-stated facts, the Village/Township hereby agrees to participate in the Interlocal Agreement and authorize an election in the Village/Township. The date of the election shall be November 3, 2020 and the amount of the proposed surcharge shall be up to \$35.00 per housing unit, and will be collected for ten (10) years (2021-2030) on the winter ad valorem tax bills. The Leelanau County Planning Director is designated as the individual to negotiate the Interlocal Agreement with the municipalities and townships within the county and each municipality within the County will have until July 31, 2020 to approve an Interlocal Agreement with the county. **Commercial businesses will not be subject to the proposed surcharge.**

All funds so collected under PA 69 of 2005 shall be administered by Leelanau County in accordance with the Leelanau County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Nothing stated in this Agreement precludes the Village/Township from providing its own curbside recycling program in compliance with the Leelanau County Solid Waste Management Plan.

The persons signing this Agreement certify by their signatures that they are duly authorized to sign this Agreement on behalf of said parties and that this Agreement has been authorized by said parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the authorized representatives of the parties hereto have fully executed this instrument.

WITNESSED BY:

COUNTY OF LEELANAU

Date

Chairperson, County Board of Commissioners

WITNESSED BY:

James C. Lenth (Solon Village/Township)

Shirley S. Michowski
Date 5/15/2020