Solon Township Board DRAFT
Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 12, 2022 7:00 P.M
Solon Township Hall
9191 S. Kasson St., Cedar, MI 49621
MINUTES

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: Supervisor Jim Lautner, Treasurer Joan Gauthier, Clerk Shirley Mikowski, Trustee Steve Yoder and Trustee Pat Deering.

Guests present: Judy Janosik, Karen Smith, Charlie Smith, Susan O'Conner, Mindy Hawley, Melinda Lautner, Dale Gauthier, Lisa Rossi-Brett, Rick Brett, Mary Taylor, Doug Fierberg, Chris Comeaux and Joe Williams.

3. Approval of Agenda
Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve the agenda with an addition under 9. Unfinished Business: F. Renewal of Par Plan Insurance for Township and an addition under 10. New Business: Lease Agreement. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Approval of Minutes
Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve the April 21, 2022 regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Public Comment
Doug Fierberg told Joan Gauthier that he was glad to see her up and walking. Mr. Fierberg said he recently purchased the wetlands by the post office and plans to keep it a natural and an animal habitat. He strongly encourages the township board to have the dumpsters removed from the recycling site and is willing to commit to raising $25,000.00 to have a pavilion built in its place. Cedar River is an incredible asset.

Melinda Lautner thanked the board for appointing her to the Parks Committee and reminded everyone of the cleanup day scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 2022. She also sits on the Leelanau County Parks Committee and shared that there is a monkey flower that grows only in Northern Michigan, and you can see them at the Old Settlers Park.

6. Correspondence
Joan Gauthier received a bill from Kasson Sand & Gravel in the amount of $463.24 for diamond dust. Shirley Mikowski said she received a call from Mrs. Budd and explained the little league fields have been left unattended and are in bad shape. They have not had diamond dust put on for years. The diamond dust was ordered by Jackie Budd without first getting approval from the township board, and the township has not paid for this in the past. Jim Lautner said the Cedar Chamber of Commerce has paid for this in the past. Mary Taylor said this request should come to the Parks Committee first. Lisa Rossi-Brett said it is not in the Chamber budget money for the little league, but they give a substantial donation which may go to uniforms. The Chamber pays non-profits $50.00 a person for setup and tear down for the Polka Fest so this is one way the little league could earn some money. Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to approve paying the bill to Kasson Sand & Gravel for the diamond dust in the amount of $463.24. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Treasurer's Report/Authorization for Payment of Vouchers:
Joan Gauthier said the checking account balance is $64,931.28 and the ARPA Funds included are $59,983.54 which leaves $4,947.74 available in the checking account. Joan also transferred $5,000.00 into the Road Improvement Fund so we will not receive any more service charges. Shirley Mikowski reported that the Fleis&Vandenbrink contract

amount of $9,100.00 that was paid from Professional Fees budget line item has now been paid from the Parks budget line item. Huntington Bank Checking $64,931.28, ARPA Funds included in checking: $59,983.54, Available in Checking Account: $4,947.74, Huntington Bank General Savings $302,777.07, Total Funds Available: $307,724.81, Huntington Bank Road Improvement Fund $10,324.50, Huntington Bank Fire Fund CD $42,711.90, Huntington Bank Fire Fund Savings $37,654.48, Total Fire Sinking $80,366.38, Huntington Bank Sidewalk Fund $13,265.55, Huntington Bank Cedar River Marina Project $24,238.70, Total other Township Funds Available: $128,195.13. Total Current Assets: $435,919.94, Parks and Recreation $8,005.70. Voucher #'s 14471-14503 were submitted for payment. Motion by Steve Yoder and seconded by Pat Deering to accept the Treasurer's report and pay vouchers as presented.
Motion carried 5-0.

8. Committee Reports:
Steve Yoder reported on the Planning Commission meeting held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022. Six members and eleven guests were present. Todd Yeomans had an excused absence.

- Tom Jessmore gave a presentation on the Wild Juniper Nursery that he is proposing to put up on the corner of County Road 651 and M-72. A Special Use Permit is required, so a Public Hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.
- Discussed proposing commercial/Business 2 along M-72 and 651 North, a commercial strip on Solon Road and Allgaier Road Grumpy's East of Solon Road, on the other side of the Robinson Court and from Cedar Auto Shop all the way to the Taco Stand on both sides of the road
- Discussed proposing PUD's from Cedar Cove up to Popa Road

Joan Gauthier asked if there are plans to add more commercial by the other auto shop north of Cedar and from the Polish Art Center to Cedar Hardware. Steve said the problem with a business district north of Cedar is that it is all swamp land, and the business district from the Polish Art Center to Cedar Hardware there is no sewer system to accommodate businesses and houses would have to be torn down.

Mary asked if she could have the contact information of those that are in charge of the ball leagues to ask them to come to the Parks Committee first for any concerns or needs for the ball fields.

Kelly Claar could not attend tonight's meeting so Mary Taylor reported the Parks and Recreation Committee met on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

- A Spring clean-up community event is scheduled for Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 10:00 A.M. - !2:00 P.M. Making a list of the park(s) needs will be part of the cleanup.
- Andy Gale will be taking lead in cleaning up the recycling site.
- Welcomed new members.
- They are starting to collect returnables once again to raise funds for the parks and will have monthly event to collect cans.
- The Northern Michigan Rowing Club will be cleaning up the Solon Beach Park on Sunday from 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
- Joan Gauthier said that Randy Herman has been helping to clean up the Beach Park.
- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. at the Solon Township Hall.

Mary Taylor had originally planned to host an Open House at the Solon Township Hall on May 7, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. to get more people interested in Tai chi, but the hall was booked for that date. She will be scheduling it for a different time, and once has a date, will send the ad information to Shirley Mikowski to be reviewed and placed in the Leelanau Enterprise.

Zoning Administrator Written Report is attached.

9. Unfinished Business
A. Township Hall/Repairs
There was nothing to report.

B. Parks

1. Recycling Site

a. Cameras

Jim Lautner said the cameras are supposed to be working, but they are not hooked up to Trudy Galla's laptop. Pat Deering said the cameras are working but you have to get the pictures from the camera. Joan Gauthier said she is going to call Trudy Galla because it is ridiculous how much money the county has spent and not have them working properly.

Joan Gauthier said one of the benches is broken by the river and is pretty sure it was the person that plowed. Jim Lautner said it needs to be taken out. The bench has a cement base so Pat Deering suggested that whoever fixes the recycling drive to pick up the broken bench.

Jim Lautner said he did not receive information from Ray Pleva about getting a price from the Leelanau County Road Commission to grate the road. Jim is going to give Mr. Pleva a call.

2. Michigan Rowing Club

b. Lease Agreement

A lease agreement presented by The Northern Michigan Rowing Club has been reviewed and revised by township attorney David Bieganowski. The lease agreement includes the use of the park from May to October, a monthly fee of $100.00 and maintenance of the park. Motion by Shirley Mikowski and seconded by Joan Gauthier to approve the lease agreement with the Northern Michigan Rowing Club for the use of the Solon Township Beach Park from May 1, 2022 – October 31, 2022 for a fee of $100.00 per month. Motion carried 5-0.

Steve Yoder said the Northern Michigan Rowing Club should check with Tim Cypher/ZA about setbacks and fence requirements.

C. Fire Department

Chris Comeaux/Fire Board Representative reported the following:
The backup ambulance is in the shop for repairs.

1. MOU

Chris Comeaux explained that Kasson Township will not sign the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) without language included that all four townships agree to pay equally for a new station. They will not agree to cover any repairs or upgrades on the current building without that language. There is currently about $400,000.00 that will be needed to take care of all repairs and upgrades of the current building. Jim Lautner said that Kasson Township had contracted with the Solon-Centerville Fire Department to be covered for fire and EMS for years and believes that the contracted amount they paid for services was also paying for equipment and building upgrades. Shirley Mikowski wants to stay with the Interlocal Agreement and have the two townships pay for any repairs and upgrades as they can. The board discussed this at length and agreed to not proceed with the MOU.

2. Strategic Plan

A 2022-2026 Strategic Plan has been proposed and Chris asked the board members to read and study the plan

3. Property Use Agreement

Motion by Shirley Mikowski and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve the Property Lease Agreement with the Cedar Fire and Rescue for the use of the Softball Field for Landing Zone Training on May 21, 2022 for $1.00. Motion carried 5-0

The Landing Zone Training will start at 9:00 A.M.

D. Cedar River Project

1. Buoys

Joan Gauthier said that there was nothing to report on the buoys.

E. Property Use Agreement(s)/Cedar Chamber of Commerce
Motion by Shirley Mikowski and seconded by Joan Gauthier to approve the Property Lease Agreement with the Cedar Chamber of Commerce for the use of Railroad Avenue and the parking area next to the Fire Station for the Cedar Polka Fest from August 27, 2022 – August 28, 2022 for $1.00. Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to approve the Property Lease Agreement with the Cedar Chamber of Commerce for the use of the Tennis Courts and three baseball fields for the Cedar Polka Fest from August 20, 2022 – September 3, 2022 for $1.00. Motion carried 5-0

F. Renewal of Par Plan Insurance for Township
Motion by Steve Yoder and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to approve to pay the insurance premium from Michigan Underwriters of West Michigan Inc. in the amount of $7,611.00. Motion carried 5-0.

10. New Business
A. South Hill Road
The property owners on South Hill Road sent a letter (see attached) asking the township board to ask the Leelanau County Road Commission to do a speed study on that road. Joe Williams is a property owner on South Hill Road and explained that there is no posted speed limit resulting in a default speed limit of 55 mph. This road has many sharp curves, a gravel surface and a portion of it is a seasonal road not maintained during the winter. Traffic can travel at significantly unsafe speeds. The property owners are required to adhere to a 500' cleared sight distance in each direction of a driveway entrance. Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Pat Deering to approve to have a letter sent to the Leelanau County Road Commission requesting to have a speed study done on South Hill Road. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Audit
Tobin and Company proposed a price of $3,200.00 to do the township audit for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022 with the cost not to exceed $100.00 for out of pocket expenses. Gabridge & Company proposed a cost not to exceed $4,175.00 which will include preparing the F-65.Gabridge & Company have also included with their price assistance to change over the Chart of Accounts that is required to be completed by March 31, 2023. Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve to have Tobin and Company do the Solon Township audit for the fiscal year ending 2022 for $3,200.00 and the cost not to exceed $100.00 for out of pocket expenses. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Sport League Agreement
Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve the Property Use Agreement for Sports League Activities for the Cedar Softball CO-ED League with Sarah Lautner being the applicant for the use of the ball fields from May 31, 2022 – October 11, 2022 for $1.00. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Special Assessment
Joan Gauthier received a call from Steve Christensen, the Drain Commissioner for Leelanau County, about a drainage district on Lake Bluffs Drive. They are requesting to have a Special District Assessment. Joan has been in contact with Barbara Jones, the township assessor, and she has done this before with one her other townships. The Drain Commissioner needs to determine how much will be charged per parcel. This will be on the winter tax bill and will include 30 parcels. The 30 property owners signed off to have this special assessment. Joan believes this will be for 20 years. Motion by Jim Lautner and seconded by Joan Gauthier to approve the Special Assessment District for Lake Bluffs Drive. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Zoning Ordinance
Steve Yoder said he will not be here for the June meeting and feels it would be very beneficial to have a Public Hearing at the July meeting to give the public another chance to give input. He asked the board members to read and study the updated Zoning Ordinance and let Tim Cypher/ZA know if you have any questions or concerns. Jim Lautner said he has read the Zoning Ordinance four times and still does not understand the Landscape Standards. Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to have a Public Hearing to receive public comment on

the Zoning Ordinance that has been amended through March 3, 2022 at the regular board meeting on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 7:30 P.M. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Lease Agreement
Motion by Shirley Mikowski and seconded by Joan Gauthier to approve the Property Lease Agreement with the Cedar Chamber of Commerce for the use of Tennis Courts for Movie Night on June 17, 2022, July 15, 2022 and September 10, 2022 for $1.00. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Public Comment
Judy Janosik asked who Joe is and if he is a developer. Joan Gauthier said his name is Joe Williams; he owns a lot of property but is not a builder. Ms. Janosik also asked if Tim Cypher/ZA could be at the Public Hearing. Jim Lautner said he will be there to explain things.

Dale Gauthier asked who will be mowing the ball fields. Todd Yeomans mowed the ball fields last year and used the Cedar Chamber of Commerce zero turn lawnmower. Joan Gauthier said Rick Brett was going to mow the fields but recently had back surgery so he is unable to. James Claar may be interested in doing the job, so Mary Taylor said she would contact Kelly Claar to see if James wants to mow, and if not, Mary may have someone else that may be interested in the job.

12. Announcements
There was none.

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13. Adjournment
Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley I. Mikowski/Solon Township Clerk

SOLON TOWNSHIP ZA'S MONTHLY PERMIT SUMMARY

PERIOD: APRIL 2022

DATE	PERMIT #	NAME	USE	RECEIPT	CK.#	AMOUNT
4/22/2022	LUP 22-07	BREWIS	LAND USE	202207	3600	$ 190.00
010-023-018-00	6701 E. LINCOLN RD	NEW DWELLING PORCH - 2 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS		7,056 S.F.		
4/26/2022	LUP 22-08	ROWE	LAND USE	202208	2955	$ 190.00
010-011-039-30	6249 E. MOORE DRIVE	NEW DWELLING ATT.GARAGE DECKS BOARDWALKS		4,506 S.F.		
4/24/2022	LDA 22-02	MCCLURE	LAND DIV.	LDA 22-02	1002	$100.00
010-022-001-60	E. PINEHURST TRAIL	LAND DIVISION CREATING ONE PARCEL				

TOTAL $ 480.00

SIGNED: Timothy A. Cypher DATE: 5/8/2022

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

Property Owners on S. Hill Rd

4/21/2022

Joseph G Williams
PO Box 247
Cedar, MI 49621

Paul Breyer
11300 S Hill Rd
Cedar, MI 49621

Timothy Dowd
11270 S Hill Rd
Cedar, MI 49621

Richard Dubs
11201 S Hill Rd
Cedar, MI 49621

Mark Cantrell
11297 S Hill Rd
Cedar, MI 49621

Robert Dallas
11125 S Hill Rd
Cedar, MI 49621

Matthew McGovern
11000 S Hill Rd
Cedar, MI 49621

Solon Township Clerk
PO Box 253
Cedar, MI 49621

Hello,

This letter is to request Solon Townships assistance in having the speed limit reviewed and hopefully, considerably lowered on S Hill Road in Solon Township. Currently, there is no posted speed limit resulting in a default speed limit of 55 mph. S. Hill Rd has many sharp curves, a gravel surface and a portion of it is a seasonal road not maintained during the winter.

With the current 55 mph designation, traffic can travel at significantly unsafe speeds and property owners also are required to adhere to a 500' cleared sight distance in each direction of a driveway entrance. (In our estimation safe travel speeds range between 15-35mph.) Maintaining 500' site clearance requires excessive and unnecessary tree removal / excavation to have a driveway installed and promotes faster unsafe speeds.

Per conversation with Craig Brown, Leelanau County Road Commission Engineer the first step is to request the Townships blessing. Secondly the Township informs the Road Commission and the RC proceeds with a speed study. The data from the study dictates a safe speed limit and finally the Michigan State Police would need to sign off.

In closing we would appreciate it if the
Township would review our request and with favor request the Leelanau County Road Commission to move forward with a speed study.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph G Willams

Paul Breyer

Timothy Dowd

Richard Dubs

Mark Cantrall

Robert Dallas

Mathew McGovern