

Solon Township Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 11, 2021 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: Mary O'Neill, Chris Comeaux, Steve Glazier, Melinda Lautner, Andrew Gale, Sandi McArthur, Ellen Fred, Dale Gauthier, Deb Flees, Cindy Gale, Ray Pleva, Brian Rowley, Mary Taylor and Kelly Claar.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to approve the agenda with two additions under Unfinished Business: E. Fleis&Vandenbrink/Park Survey and F. M-72 Light. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Steve Yoder and seconded by Pat Deering to approve the October 14, 2021 regular meeting minutes as written. 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 reported that the township has received \$112,098.35 in ARPA funds which is \$1,554.65 less than was approved by the state. TCF Checking \$78,720.66, TCF Bank General Savings \$102,769.78, Total Funds Available: \$181,490.44, TCF Bank Road Improvement Fund \$5,344.32, TCF Fire Fund CD \$42,679.30, TCF Fire Fund Savings \$513.15, Total Fire Sinking \$43,192.45, TCF Sidewalk Fund \$8,870.99, TCF Oleson Foundation Grant/Playground Equipment \$10,101.14, TCF Cedar River Marina Project \$29,187.26, Total other Township Funds Available: \$96,696.16 - Total Current Assets: \$278,186.60, Parks and Recreation \$7,683.80, ARPA Funds received - \$112,098.35. Voucher #'s 14249-14285 were submitted for payment. Motion by Shirley Mikowski and seconded by Joan Gauthier to accept the Treasurer's report and pay vouchers as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Committee Reports:

Steve Yoder reported the Planning Commission meeting was held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Six members and three guests were present. Meg Paxton was excused.

- All members that have their term expiring would like to be reappointed.
- The survey is complete and ready to be sent out with the 2021 winter tax bills.
- The meeting dates for the 2022-2023 fiscal year have been set and will be forwarded to the clerk.
- The December meeting has been cancelled because there are no agenda items.

Kelly Claar reported the Parks and Recreation Committee met on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Solon Township Hall. All members and one guest were present.

- Had a zoom meeting with Fleis & Vandenbrink
- Ron Novak and Kelly Claar put stakes into place where the boat wash stations will be placed; they are waiting on board approval before pouring the cement slabs.
- There are items that have been found at the Beach Park and building materials left from the pavilion roofs.
- The fire department no longer has the green address signs, so Kelly will check with Cedar Hardware on purchasing signs for the parks.
- The fire chief agreed to do the playground maintenance check temporarily. They will get him the list.
- The next meeting is tentatively planned for Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Solon Township Hall.

Brian Rowley from Fleis&Vandenbrink said they had a team meeting by zoom with the Parks Committee. Mr. Rowley distributed copies of the Master Plan for parks and comments should be sent to Fleis&Vandenbrink. There has to be a 30 day notice for the Parks Plan. There also needs to be a Public Hearing on January 13, 2022. The Parks and Recreation Plan will be put on the website, but a hard copy needs to be available to the public. Cindy Gale offered to have a copy available for residents at her place of business in Cedar.

The Cedar Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring Light up Cedar on Friday, November 26, 2021. Mary Taylor asked if it would be okay to decorate the front of the township hall and the board gave her the go ahead.

Zoning Administrator Written Report is attached.

9. Unfinished Business

A. Township Hall/Repairs

Shirley Mikowski asked if it was okay to keep the main hall at 65 degrees, and the board agreed.

B. Parks

Joan Gauthier reported she was at the Solon Beach Park and took pictures, and was sorry she did not bring them to the meeting. She is not happy with how the pavilion roofs were done. They put shingles on top of shingles and the hole in the roof was not patched properly. A big mess of building materials was left behind. The four trees have not been removed as of this date. Pat Deering tried to contact his brother before the meeting to see if the four trees have been removed. Pat has also tried to contact Consumer's Energy about the tree on Sullivan St. Pat's Dad trimmed and fertilized the other tree on Sullivan St. Joan continued with the Beach Park that there are mounds of dirt left from a new home construction on Sandbar Drive. Popp's Excavating has been going back and forth on the township road. The big trucks have made big holes in the driveway, some of the asphalt is completely gone, and the lawn has been ruined by them driving over it. Joan also has concerns of where the boat wash station may be placed because it may cause congestion because the turnaround is so small and narrow at the Beach Park. Kelly Claar is concerned that if the boat wash station is placed by the parking lot, no one will use it.

Jim Lautner will contact Tim Cypher/ZA to have him check the damage done on the road and lawn and into the liability.

1. Recycling Site

a. Recycling Agreement

The township's recycling contract with the county ends December, 2021. Jim Lautner said the cameras have not been installed yet. Pat Deering is on the Solid Waste Council and said the Council recently met and approved a one year contract to forward to Solon Township. Shirley Mikowski said she goes to the recycling site 2-3 times a week. It is no longer a recycling site, but a dump site; it is a constant flow of junk. The Solid Waste Council is working on installing cameras, and Melinda Lautner said there has been a delay in installing the cameras. Joan Gauthier asked if the cost is \$11,000.00 for all of the cameras for all sites, and Pat Deering said it is for specific sites and only for four cameras. Joan went on to say that this township has been asking for cameras for the last five years and now that we have come to the end of the contract the county is going to install them. Jim Lautner noted that they have raised the lease rate from \$1,250.00 to \$3,600.00 annually. Shirley said she is done with the township paying all the money to

maintain the site, and it is time for the recycling site to go to another township. It looks like a pig sty. The comments from guests were why they are being punished because of a few that do not recycle properly. They pay an annual fee of \$29.00 to have recycling here. Joan noted that Solon Township does not receive the \$29.00 fee. Jim Lautner said the township is not removing the recycling site; it will be the county that will be removing it. Steve Yoder does not know what will change with cameras and received a call today asking that the site stay for at least a year until it is relocated at another site. Pat Deering said it has been good for the community and maybe we could find another site so it is not such an eyesore. Jim Lautner said the contract expires December 31, 2021. This will be discussed at the December meeting.

2. Solon Beach Park

See above.

a. Tree Removal

See above.

C. Fire Department

Chris Comeaux/Fire Board Representative gave the following report:

- Thanked the board for bringing up the light on M-72. If a blinker light is put in, it will be very difficult to get a stop light.
- The union contract has been ratified, and will go into effect on January 2, 2022.
- The 5-year plan is being revisited and the revisions will be sent to the clerks.
- There will be another paramedic interviewed which will bring it to six paramedics on staff.

D. Cedar River Project

Ray Pleva gave the following update:

- Ray said he still has two phone calls to make regarding the buoys.
- They are still waiting to hear back on the two funding requests from the ARPA Funds allocated to Leelanau County, and the grant funding request sent to Congressman Jack O'Malley for \$1.9 million.

E. Fleis&Vandenbrink/Park Survey

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Steve Yoder to have a Public Hearing to receive public comment on the proposed 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan 2022-2026 on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 7:30 pm. Motion carried 5-0.

The 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan 2022-2026 can be viewed at www.leelanau.gov/solontwp.asp.

F. M-72 Light

Steve Yoder said he saw on the Leelanau County Road Commission site and a recent article in the Leelanau Enterprise stated M-DOT was putting in a caution light on the crossroads of M-72 and County Road 651 instead of the full stop light as originally stated. Jim Lautner suggested everyone call M-Dot. Jim will be calling M-Dot to get more information.

10. New Business

A. KCI 2021 Winter Tax Bills

Joan Gauthier said to send out the survey with the winter tax bills will be an extra \$300.00. The estimated project cost is \$1,138.00, but will probably cost more because Joan feels every homeowner should be sent a survey. Once Joan gets a new quote, she will sign it.

B. Appointments

Motion by Shirley Mikowski and seconded by Joan Gauthier to place an ad in the Leelanau Enterprise seeking applicants to fill the positions for Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Parks and Recreation, Sexton and Township Hall Custodian. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Snowplowing

The board agreed to have Shirley Mikowski contact Schaub Outdoor Services to see if they will continue to snow plow the recycling site and the township hall this winter.

11. Public Comment

Mary O'Neill thanked the board for engaging with Fleis&Vandenbrink. Ms. O'Neill encouraged the board to keep the recycling site in Cedar, but maybe a smaller site in an area that could have a cement pad. Getting rid of the recycling site with this short notice is short sighted. The recycling site does bring people into Cedar which helps the businesses.

Brian Rowley from Fleis&Vandenbrink gave an update on the sewer feasibility study. Tim Cypher/ZA gave them some of the records from the past sewer study and they are pulling records from the health department. As part of the feasibility study, a study group needs to be created which has not been done yet. Mr. Rowley asked the board to create that study group as soon as possible which should include at least one board member, some of the business owners and local residents.

Ray Pleva noted that when he is at the recycling site there are times when there are 2-3 cars within minutes of each other. Most of us recycle properly and there is probably only 2-3% that do not. Mr. Pleva encouraged the board to wait until the cameras are installed to see if they make a difference before getting rid of the site.

Jim Lautner said we were told five years ago that the people, including those from other townships, were going to police the recycling site to keep it from being a dump site. This did not happen. It seems like Solon Township has to do the fighting. Five years ago the county gave us a hard time to put up a fence and made a lot of promises they didn't keep. Solon Township presently receives \$1,250.00 annually for the county site, and Solon Township has the cost for grading and snowplowing. If the county would take care of their sites, there would probably be more townships willing to have a site, but it has been up to the township to take care of the county operated site.

Cindy Gale owns a local business in Cedar and said the recycling does bring people to Cedar and it does help her business.

Happy Veterans Day and thank you for serving!

12. Announcements

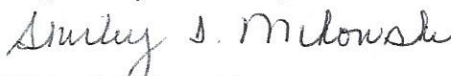
There was none.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Shirley I. Mikowski
Solon Township Clerk

SOLON TOWNSHIP ZA'S MONTHLY PERMIT SUMMARY

PERIOD: OCTOBER 2021

DATE	PERMIT #	NAME	USE	RECEIPT CK.#	AMOUNT
10/15/2021	LUP 21-24	THIRD MILLENNIUM	LAND USE	202124	7009 \$ 250.00
010-540-001-00	8683 S. GOOD HARBOR TR	STUDIO ATTACHED SHED - NO DWELLING SPACE		2,688 S.F. S.F.	
10/31/2021	PLA 21-03	TSB PROPERTY & PARKER		PLA21.03	1060 \$ 100.00
010-022-009-00	E. HOXIE ROAD	PROPERTY LINE ADJUSTMENT BETWEEN ADJOINING PARCELS			
010-022-010-00					

TOTAL \$ 350.00

SIGNED:

Timothy A. Cypher

DATE: 11/1/2021

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