

Sharon Township Board Meeting Minutes

APPROVED

August 7, 2014

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The Sharon Township Board held its regular meeting on August 7, 2014. Supervisor Psarouthakis called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. There were 9 public attendees.

ROLL CALL: Mikel, Psarouthakis, Spiegel, Simons: PRESENT Farmer: ABSENT

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Psarouthakis added: Farmer Sand & Gravel Lawsuit under New Business.

Motion by Spiegel to approve the amended agenda, supported by Mikel. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 26, 2014 MINUTES:

Motion by Spiegel to approve the agenda as presented, supported by Psarouthakis. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: A Planning Commission question was asked, Psarouthakis said it would be answered later in the meeting.

SUPERVISORS REPORT:

Psarouthakis reported that the road commission has approved \$50,000.00 to do repair on approximately 15 sections of Pleasant Lake road. He stated that the road commission had told him the project would be starting in August. He reported that the board will be contacting the Historical Society about the possibility of donating some historical books found in the township hall during this renovation project. He also reported that the Internet expansion initiative with neighboring townships and Connect Michigan continues. Their next meeting will be held in September.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Simons reported for May and June. May there was very little activity expect for making the bond payment. June had some activity due to delinquent taxes coming in.

Motion by Psarouthakis to approve the financial report, supported by Spiegel. Motion carried.

ZONING REPORT: Administrator Wilson reported on the Spensley Property Land split. He also reported that he and his committee have completed work on their civil infraction, penalty provisions, and dog control ordinances, the next step will be for the board to look at them. Psarouthakis added for the audience that currently our ordinances allow for criminal proceedings therefore we started looking into the civil infraction process in order for the township to handle infractions as a "civil" ticket rather than criminal ticket. Wilson also reported that Angela Sloan of Farmer Sand and Gravel submitted a Special Use permit for a gravel mining operation on a piece of property the company owns on the West side of M52- it has been sent to the planner to look at set-backs, etc. He is waiting for the planner to get back to him.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Bill Lewis reported that the planning commission is going to be very busy in the upcoming months, they will be working on: Farmer Sand and Gravels Special Use, the Verizon tower going up, Zoning Ordinances changes (in which each require a public hearing and then board approval).

He reported on their annual meeting in June where there was a mix up with 2 board members on (after Kathy Spiegels appointment as trustee). He informed the board that since Patricia Farmer was appointed, Spiegel had to step down unless Farmer decided to step down, Farmer choose to stay on. Due to losing Spiegel the planning commission is looking to hire a "research assistant" with computer and research skills- it would be a paid position, to fill the responsibilities Spiegel held. Lewis also reported that this made the Planning Commission be down one member in which needed to be filled. After posting about the position, a local resident expressed interest. Psarouthakis and Lewis have talked and met with Denise Riethmiller, Lewis gives his approval for her to join the PC.

Motion by Psarouthakis to appoint Denise Riethmiller to PC, supported by Spiegel. Motion carried.

Lewis reported on the attendance at the last PC meeting and said Dobis, Cole, & Lewis: PRESENT Farmer: ABSENT

MLB: Psarouthakis reported that the MLB had a “workshop” and have scheduled a meeting for next Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at 7pm about the gravel pits and electing officers. No actions were taken at the workshop. Angela Sloan, a representatives from Farmer Sand and Gravel will be at the August 13, 2014 meeting to update the MLB on the status of operations and reclamation of their existing gravel pit operation located on the East side of M52.

CACA: No meeting, no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Township Hall Renovations:** The front is completed and the process of submitting reimbursement paperwork for our grant monies has begun. Renovations on the inside will begin next week and a large storage trailer will be dropped off.

Psarouthakis reported that during renovations the board will continue to hold its regular office hours in the front of the building, however, the SEPTEMBER board meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd at 7pm at the SHARON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL (on the corner of M52 and Pleasant Lake Rd) and that the OCTOBER board meeting will be held on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2nd at 7pm at the SHARON UNITED METHODIST CURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL (on the corner of M52 and Pleasant Lake Rd)

Mikel said she would get these meeting change notices posted at the township hall and in the paper as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **ELECTION:** Mikel reported that the township has a 22% turnout and that Sharon Township residents should be proud. She had election results posted at the township hall and said she would be willing to answer any questions anyone had. She also reported needing Election Inspectors to work the November election.
- b. **FARMER SAND & GRAVEL LAWSUIT:** Psarouthakis reported that the board has previously been dealing with a situation where Farmer Sand and Gravel had been mining in violation of the township ordinances on the West side of M52, the board held a Special Meeting and a Public Hearing to discuss the matters, provide for Farmers Sand & Gravel to give their input, and take Board actions as required. On this date (August 7, 2014) the township was served and is being sued by Farmer Sand & Gravel and Sharon Township Trustee, Patricia Farmer. Psarouthakis reported that the papers have been delivered to the township attorney, stated that is unfortunate that this has happened, and that the Board will be as transparent as we can with the whole process to the residents and at board meetings.

APPROVE BILLS: Mikel presented the warrant report.

Motion my Psarouthakis to approve the warrant report, supported by Simons. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Resident asked “why if the board appointed Farmer to the planning commission can’t they recall her” Psarouthakis informed the resident that you cannot rescind a board members position on the PC until the end of their “Board of Trustee position term.” Another resident inquired about if the money for the lawsuit to pay the Township attorney was coming from the general fund, Psarouthakis answered that “yes” the funds would be coming from the general fund at this time.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:40 p.m.

Sharon Township Clerk