

SODUS TOWNSHIP

4056 King Drive
Sodus, MI 49126
269-926-6285

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

Subject to amendment

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 - Hearing for the 2023-2024 Budget

Hearing called to order by Supervisor Chandler at 6:30 p.m. All Board members were present.

Supervisor Chandler stated the reason for Budget Hearing. There were two notices posted and a notice published in The Journal Era in the March 8th edition.

Treasurer McCain read through the proposed budget for revenues and expenses for fiscal year 2023-2024 by cost centers.

The Board worked to amend the cost centers of the general and fire funds appropriations to balance with the revenues.

Public comment held: None

Motion made by Chandler to adjourn the meeting, supported by Bennett and so declared by Supervisor Chandler at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Cheryl Andres,

Cheryl Andres, Sodus Township Clerk

Tuesday, March 14, 2023- REGULAR MEETING

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Chandler at 7:37 p.m. All Board members were present.

Minutes of the February 7th and 21st meetings were reviewed by the Board. Motion made by Chandler, supported by Andres to accept the minutes as presented.

Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Bills presented: General Fund 101: \$18,379.88, Cemetery 209: \$3,424.46, Fire Fund 206: \$15,969.56

Motion made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve paying the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

Chokwe Pitchard, Berrien County Commissioner representing Sodus Township was in attendance and introduced himself to the Board.

Everett Steinke, fire chief, updated the Board on the Fire Department.

The repairs on the 1920 have been completed. The 1960 will need a roller for the hose which will cost \$363.18

They are checking into soap to purchase for the fire trucks through Spencer. The cost will be \$74.80 to \$100.00 for a five-gallon pail. The fire department also will be needing three strap kits for the radios in the trucks at \$179.80 per kit, plus eight noise reducing microphones at \$115.21 each.

The Annual Firefighter Pancake Breakfast will be held on April 23, 2023. The cost will be \$10.00/adult \$4.00/child. There will a bake sale also this year at the breakfast.

Caleb O'Toole, Ken Morgan, Angelika Hagar and Karen Morgan were also in attendance. There were questions on the International Property Maintenance Code.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Andres to add one item to the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Peters to accept the bids for the road projects this year as presented in the Berrien County Township Road Agreement. They were for Rock Edwards Road, Watson Road, Shanghai Road. Watson Road, Hartman Road. Total Township share \$120,165.00. Motion carried.

Motion to rescind by Chandler, supported by Andres the motion made last meeting to promote Todd Steinke from Lieutenant to Captain at the fire department. Todd wants to stay on as Lieutenant. Motion rescinded.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to approve increasing the salary of Fire Department Lieutenant from \$850 to \$1000.00 annually effective April 1, 2023. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Chandler to increase the ARPA money donated to the Broadband Grant from \$5000.00 to \$10,000.00, no support motion dead.

Resolution #7-2023 made by Andres, to approve the amendments to the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 and the amended budget as presented, supported by Chandler. Roll call: Andres- yes, McCain-yes, Bennett-yes, Chandler-yes, Peters-yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Andres, supported by Bennett to approve Sodus Township's annual subsidy rate of \$13,685.00 for the upcoming fiscal year 2023-2024 for Community Emergency Services with Medic 1. Motion carried.

Resolution #8-2023 made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve the pay increase of the Township Supervisor for the 2023-2024 fiscal year by 3%. Roll call: Andres-yes, Chandler-abstained, McCain- yes, Peters- yes, Bennett-yes. Motion carried.

Resolution #9-2023 made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve the pay increase of the Township Clerk salary for the 2023-2024 fiscal year by 3%. Roll call: Andres-abstained, Chandler-yes, McCain- yes, Peters- yes, Bennett-yes. Motion carried.

Resolution #10-2023 made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve the pay increase of the Township Treasurer salary for the 2023-2024 fiscal year by 3%. Roll call: Andres-yes, Chandler-yes, McCain-abstained, Peters- yes, Bennett-yes. Motion carried.

Resolution #11-2023 made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve the pay increase of the Township Trustee salaries for the 2023-2024 fiscal year by 3%. Roll call: Andres-yes, Chandler-yes, McCain- yes, Peters- abstained, Bennett-abstained. Motion carried.

Resolution #12-2023 made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve the General Appropriations Act of 2023 as presented with the amendments from the budget hearing. Roll call: McCain-yes, Andres-yes, Bennett-yes, Peters- yes, Chandler-yes. Motion carried.

Resolution #13-2023 made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to approve the Best Practices Resolution which stated that the Township supports and participate in the creation of an inter-municipality committee for the purpose of studying area governmental problems of mutual interest and concern: and to provide authority for the committee to receive gifts and grants. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Peters- yes, McCain-yes, Chandler-yes, Andres- yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler to adjourn the meeting, supported by Bennett and so declared by Supervisor Chandler at 9:18 p.m. Motion carried

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Andres, to approve changing the dump passes from TWO to ONE for the year 2023. The pass is good for 2 yds of trash from April 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023. Available for pick up Friday, March 31, 2023 at the Hall. Motion carried.

Cheryl Andres

Cheryl Andres, Sodus Township Clerk