

SODUS TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

Subject to Amendment

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

Tuesday, December 12, 2023- Regular Meeting

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Chandler at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board members present: Supervisor David Chandler, Treasurer Terry McCain, Trustee Loyall Bennett, Trustee Ken Peters, Deputy Clerk Victoria Chandler

Board members absent: Clerk Cheryl Andres

Presentation: Deputy Campbell presented the Berrien County Sheriff's Department's October Stats Report of the Township to the Board.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to add two items to the agenda as presented agenda as presented. Library under old and Journal Era under new. Motion carried. Treasurer McCain abstained from voting.

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion made by Peters, supported by Bennett to approve the minutes with one typo correction as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Accepted as read

Approval of the Bills:

General Fund 101: \$16,701.66

Road Fund 204: \$0.00

Fire Fund 206: \$756.71

Cemetery Fund 209: \$1,004.13

ARPA Fund 282: \$0.00

Public Works 592: \$0.00

Motion made by Bennett, supported by Chandler to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried. Treasurer McCain abstained from voting.

Public comment held: Parks caretaker Jim LaVanway updated the Board on the Township Parks. Mr. LaVanway is looking for projects for residents that need to put in community service time.

Actions Approved:

Motion made by Bennett, supported by Chandler to approve the purchase of pea gravel to be placed around the playground area in the Township Park. The limit to spend on it was set at \$900.00. This is a safety requirement. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to allow the Township attorney to research if the library building and property (presently owned by Sodus Township) can be transferred over to the Sodus Township Library Board. Motion carried.

Motion made by Bennett, supported by Chandler to cover half of the cost of the moisture repair issues needed at the library. Adams & Son estimated an Eighty Pint April Aire Dehumidifier and duct work needed plus permit cost at around \$6070.00. The cost to the Township will be around \$3035.00. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to approve the MEC Broadband Contract-Robin Grant with the Township. Sodus Township's portion will be \$5000.00 which won't be billed out until project completed in 2024-25 fiscal year. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Peters to approve the revised road projects for 2024 with the BCRD. Roads up for maintenance are Oxbow Rd, E. Nickerson Ave., River Road, and Spring Valley Ct. Total cost will be \$249,596.00 minus the matching funds of \$34,039.00 leaving the Township with an estimated cost of around \$215,557.00 for road repairs in 2024. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Peters to approve Natalie Light's application to the fire

department as a firefighter. Motion carried.

Motion by Chandler, supported by Bennett to table the budget review until next month's meeting. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to approve and renew the AT&T Metro Act for five years. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to approve putting the Township hours and names of the Board members in the Christmas edition of The Journal Era. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Peters to approve the well repair at the Fire Department by Hart Well Drilling. Motion carried.

Boards and Commission Appointments:

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to appoint Jerry Grajauskis for a new term of three years to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Ken Peters to a new term of three years to the Planning Commission. Both appointees will take Oaths by the end of the year. Motion carried.

Reports and Communications: Fire Chief, Everett Steinke, updated the Board on the Fire Department.

Board and Staff Comments: Treasurer McCain brought up a personnel concern on wages paid to Ordinance Officer Bill Tucker. Date in question was November 22, 2023. Personnel matters are only allowed to be discussed in closed session so Supervisor Chandler refused to comment on the concern.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Chandler to adjourn the meeting, supported by Bennett. Meeting was closed by Supervisor Chandler at 8:20pm. Motion carried.

Victoria Chandler

Sodus Township Deputy Clerk

MONTHLY VENDORS - December 2023

GENERAL FUND				CEMETERY FUND			
Vendor	Amount	Date paid	Done	Vendor	Amount	Date paid	Done
Adents Landscape				American Legion			
Andrew Blankenship				Andrew Blankenship			
Apex Software				David Cochran	\$ 905.98	12/13/2023	x
B.C. Clerk's Association				EMC Insurance			
B.C. Treasurer				Honor Credit Union	\$ 89.67	12/13/2023	x
B.C. Treasurer's Association				Indiana Michigan Power	\$ 8.48	12/13/2023	x
Best Way Disposal				Mark Ferry			
Big C Lumber				TOTAL	\$ 1,004.13		
Board of Review				FIRE FUND			
Board Salaries	\$ 4,598.65	12/13/2023	x	Active 911			
BS&A Software				Advanced Auto			
Caleb O Toole				Andrew Blankenship			
Cheryl Andres				B.C. Fire Chief's Association			
Community Emerg. Services				Batteries & Bulbs			
David Chandler				Best -One Fleet Service			
David Cochran	\$ 303.36	12/13/2023	x	BH Dept. of Public Safety			
Eau Claire Fruit Exchange				Brown's Locksmith			
EFTPS	\$ 1,026.70	12/13/2023	x	Ceres Solution Co.	\$ 96.23	12/13/2023	
Election Source				Darley & Co., W.S.			
Election Workers				Dinges Fire Company	\$ 261.94	12/13/2023	x
EMC Insurance				EMC Insurance			
Honor Credit Union	\$ 1,136.40	12/13/2023	x	Everett Steinke			
Indiana Michigan Power	\$ 395.81	12/13/2023	x	Fire Department Salaries			
Jennifer Dewey	\$ 95.00	12/13/2023	x	Great Lakes Truck			
Kenneth Jewell	\$ 1,168.00	12/13/2023	x	HEI Wireless			
Land Management				Honor Credit Union	\$ 185.07	12/13/2023	x
Library				Indiana Michigan Power	\$ 97.58	12/13/2023	x
Maner Costerisan				James LaVanway			
Mark Andres				Lowes			
Michigan Gas Utilities	\$ 132.18	12/13/2023	x	Michigan Fire & Safety			
Michigan Twp. Association				Michigan Gas Utilities	\$ 115.89	12/13/2023	x
PC Services				Praxair			
Planning & Zoning News				Premier Safety			
Planning Commission Salaries	\$ 304.16	12/13/2023	x	Sodus Auto Tech			
Pride				Spencer Mfg.			
RLI Surety Bond				Staples			
Ron Ketelhut	\$ 154.40	12/13/2023	x	Summit Company			
SBF	\$ 377.42	12/13/2023	x	Tele-Rad, Inc.			
Southwest Planning Comm.				Todd Steinke			
State of Michigan				Travelers Insurance			
Straub, Seaman & Allen	\$ 2,812.00	12/13/2023	x	United States Postal Service			
SW MI Assessing Service	\$ 2,000.00	12/13/2023	x	VFIS			
Terry McCain				Wayne Davis			
The Journal Era				West Shore Fire Inc.			
Travelers Insurance				Wex Bank (Citgo)			
United States Postal Service				Wyrick Co.			
VFIS				TOTAL	\$ 756.71		
Victoria Chandler	\$ 430.50	12/13/2023	x	PUBLIC WORKS			
Virginia Handy				Benton Charter Twp. Sanitation			
William Tucker	\$ 1,767.08	12/13/2023	x	Benton Charter Twp.			
ZBA Salaries				Miss Dig			
				Wightman & Associates			
TOTAL	\$ 16,701.66			TOTAL	\$ -		
ARPA FUND				ROAD FUND			
				Berrien County Road Dept.			
TOTAL	\$ -			TOTAL	\$ -		