

SODUS TOWNSHIP
4056 King Drive
Sodus, MI 49126
269-926-6285
TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Subject to amendment

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 -Regular Meeting

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Chandler at 7:30 p.m.. All members were present.

Minutes of the December 10th regular meeting were read and approved with one correction on a motion by Bennett, supported by Chandler. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was read and approved on a motion by Peters, supported by Bennett. Motion carried.

Bills presented: General Fund: \$22,315.33 Cemetery: \$847.98 Fire Fund: \$5,384.84
Road Fund: \$0.00 Public Works: \$1,799.37

Motion made by Morgan, supported by Bennett to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Public comment held: Lt Josh Sutherland from the Berrien County Sheriff's Department dropped off the November 2019 Incident Report to the Board.

Interim Fire Chief Wayne Davis and Interim Assistant Fire Chief Austin Carlson requested a new desk top computer for the fire station. The fire station laptop is low on memory which makes it slow and time consuming trying to file fire reports with the State. Also discussed the option of purchasing a fire reporting system software program and maybe four turn out gears. The Board will take these items under consideration in the new budget year.

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

Motion made by Peters, supported by Morgan to approve the fire department filing for a grant with the DNR for new pump for the 1960 grass rig truck at a cost of \$1990.00. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to appoint Wayne Davis as new Fire Chief and Austin Carlson as new Assistant Fire of the Sodus Township Fire Department, effective immediately. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Peters to commit \$1000.00 from the committed funds balance account of Capital Improvement to remodel the fire department office. Motion carried.

Resolution #1-2020 made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve the IRS 2020 mileage reimbursement rate for business use of vehicle at .575 per mile for current year. Roll call: Morgan-yes, Andres-yes, Bennett-yes, Peters-yes, Chandler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Andres to increase these fee rates as presented:

Board of Appeals Hearings from \$350.00 to \$450.00

Special Land use Hearings from \$350.00 to \$450.00

Master Plan Book from \$30.00 to \$50.00

Add New fees:

Land Division and Combination Application (Applicant pays Berrien County Filing Fee) \$200.00

Property Line Adjustment Application first split \$100.00 each additional split \$75.00

Cemetery Fees:

Cemetery Weekend, Holiday or Less than 24 hour notice fee from \$100 to \$150

Cemetery Disinterment Permit from \$50.00 to \$100.00

Cemetery Transfer of Ownership of Plot from \$50.00 to \$100.00

Cemetery Change of name Designation/Occupant of Plot from \$50.00 to \$100.00

New fee:

Additional charge of Snow removal to access a grave for open/close \$150.00

A list of all Township fees is available on website or at the hall. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Morgan to approve three percent (3%) subsidy rate increase for Medic 1. Motion carried.

Motion made by Morgan, supported by Chandler to approve collecting 2020 summer taxes for Benton Harbor Area Schools at a rate of \$3.50 per parcel. Motion carried.

Motion made by Peters, supported by Morgan to politely decline the donation of land parcel number 11-19-0026-018-00-1 to the Township by Mary and Don Dockerty. Motion carried.

Motion made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve applying for 50/50 grant with the State of Michigan to purchase a tabulator to be used for Absentee Voter Counting Board. If the grant is awarded the Township would be responsible for cost share rate of 50 percent of the tabulator, plus any additional costs such as software, modems, and any other components needed for the tabulator. The full price of a new tabulator averages around \$10,000.00. Motion carried.

Motion made by Morgan, supported by Chandler to approve Township Secretary, Johnny Case, as her designee to act on her behalf for tax collection purposes. By law, before the passage of HB 4209, only the Township Treasurer was allowed to collect taxes on certain days of the tax season, and this will allow for more opportunity for Township residents to pay their taxes.

Motion made by Chandler to adjourn the meeting, supported by Andres and so declared by Supervisor Chandler at 9:05 p.m.. Motion carried.

Cheryl Andres

Cheryl Andres

Sodus Township Clerk