

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

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 -Regular Meeting

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

Minutes of the January 10, 2023 Regular meeting and January 26, 2023 Special Budget Meeting, were read and approved with three corrections on a motion by Bennett, supported by Andres. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was accepted.

Bills presented: General Fund 101:	\$21,884.08	Road Fund 204:	\$0.00
Fire Fund 206:	\$1,524.75	Cemetery Fund 209:	\$762.71
Public Works Fund 592:	\$3,291.93		

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

Public comment held: Todd Steinke with the Fire Department approached the Board requesting permission to apply for the AEP "Heart of Cook" Grant. The grant will be for the amount of \$6,149.65 and used to purchase needed equipment for the fire department. Everett Steinke, Fire Chief, updated the Board on upcoming trainings and the meetings he and other firefighter have attended, maintenance and repairs needed on the fire trucks, and on the Air- Pack Grant.

Motion made by Bennett, supported by Chandler to approve DOT testing and Pump function testing and all the fire trucks through Spencer's in South Haven. Chief Steinke will make the arrangements with Spencer's. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to add two items to the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Moton made by Peters, supported by Bennett to approve the repair and maintenance of the following roads for 2023.

The proposed plan for 2023 is as follows:

Oxbow Road, Pipestone to Kirk	HMA	\$100,000.00
E. Nickerson Ave., Pipestone to end	Ultra-Thin	\$25,000.00
Watson Road, Merry to US-31	Sealcoat	\$45,000.00
Watson Road, Merry to Twp. Line	Scratch and Seal	\$40,000.00
Rock Edwards Dr., Sodus Pkwy to Watson	Sealcoat	\$15,000.00
Shanghai Rd., Naomi to Kirk	Sealcoat	\$16,240.00
Hartman Rd., Hillandale to Pipestone	Scratch and Seal	\$43,128.00

For a total amount of \$284,368.00, which may vary when final bids come in.

Sodus Township was recognized for having the lowest percentage of roads in poor condition out of all the municipalities in Berrien County by the Berrien County Road Department.

Motion carried.

Motion was made by Chandler, supported by Bennett to approve and grant to Todd Steinke authority to apply for the "Heart of Cook" grant offered by AEP on behalf of the Sodus Township Fire Dept. The grant will be for the amount of \$6,149.65 and used to purchase needed equipment for the fire department. Motion carried with 5 ayes.

Resolution #4-2023, motion made by Chandler supported by Andres, to adopt the poverty exemption income guidelines and asset test for 2023 for taxation exemptions for those residents that qualify. A copy of the entire resolution is available in the hall office. Roll call vote: McCain-yes, Andres-yes, Chandler-yes, Peters-yes, Bennett-yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Chandler, supported by Peters to approve Supervisor Chandler, Trustee Bennett, Treasurer McCain and possibly a few planning commission members to attend a six-week course presented by MSU at Lake Charter Township on Planning and Zoning. The cost is \$250.00 per attendee. Motion carried.

Resolution #5-2023, motion made by Andres, supported by Chandler to approve support for the "Berrien County Trails Master Plan". Part of trail will pass through a small area of Sodus Township when completed. Roll call: Chandler-yes, Andres-yes, McCain-yes, Peters-yes, Bennett-yes. Motion carried.

Clerk Andres announced that there will be a School Election on May 2, 2023 which will have millages for Lake Michigan College and Eau Claire Schools to vote on. Precinct voting starts at 7am and closes at 8pm. Absentee ballots will be available March 23, 2023. No early voting will be available for this school election other than Absentee Ballots.

Motion made by Andres, to adjourn the meeting, supported by Chandler and so declared by Supervisor Chandler at 8:02 p.m. Motion carried.

Cheryl Andres

Cheryl Andres, Sodus Township Clerk