

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the  
Sparta Township Board  
160 E Division-Sparta Mi 49345  
August 12, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Dale Bergman.

Members Present; Dale Bergman, Sue Bitely, John Fynewever, Bill Goodfellow, Bob Maier,  
and Rachel Shangle

Members Absent: Rob Steffens

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Additions or Corrections to Business or Consent Agenda:**

Add item #9 POW/MIA Resolution

**PUBLIC COMMENT** None.

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of the regular Board Meeting held July 8, 2010 & Treasurer's Report

Motion by Goodfellow and seconded by Shangle to approve the minutes & treas. report. **Carried 6-0**

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Approval of the Bills**

A motion was made Goodfellow, seconded by Fynewever to approve the bills. **Carried 6-0**

**Budget Amendment**

It was noted that the repaving of the Library Parking Lot caused the library budget to be in a negative state, therefore an amendment to correct the budget and bring it out of the negative state was needed. To keep it in line with future expenditures it was felt we would need to add \$15,000 to that line item.

Motion by Maier to amend the library budget buildings & grounds line item an additional \$15,000.

Seconded by Fynewever. **Carried 6-0**

An additional line item needing amending was noted by Shangle. There is no line item for Planning Fees, but there is \$3,500 in the reimbursement/misc. line item. Motion by Shangle to add planning fees at \$3,300 and cut the misc. to \$200. Seconded by Goodfellow. **Carried 6-0**

**Pension Plan Update**

Bergman reported that he, along with John & Pat Fynewever, and Bitely had met with Kelly Potes from Choice One Bank, as well as Steve VanderLoon from Edward Jones. They are going to meet with Geoffrey Lansky of the Ted Hartleb Agency also. They plan to have information at the September board meeting for the board to review.

**Medical Marihuana Act**

We received a recommendation from Main Street Planning, as well as our attorney Cliff Bloom, that it would be to our best interest to have an ordinance in place for regulations pertaining to this matter. Shangle noted that MTA had had a symposium this summer on the matter. After much discussion it was decided by the board to look into the information MTA has available and establish regulations on Medical Marihuana in the very near future.

### **The Right Place Request**

Bergman informed the board that The Right Place is an organization that promotes economic development in West Michigan. They are requesting \$3,750 (\$750/year) from Sparta Township. It was the consensus of the Board that we do not have the money in our budget to cover such an expense, but we will work with them to provide information, etc.

### **Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Fees - Base Rate & Inspections Fees**

Information was provided by the Building Inspector, Casey Patterson, showing that Sparta Township is charging fees below the states recommended fees charged for various permits, and we are not charging for any additional inspections needed above and beyond the base fee inspections. Casey has drawn up new permits for Elec., Plumb., and Mech., with the rates being adjusted to the states recommendations and including fees for additional inspections. Motion by Maier to adopt the permit fees as presented by the building inspector and update our permit application forms. Seconded by Goodfellow.

**Carried 6-0**

### **Cliff Turner, Assessor Contract Agreement**

The members of the board reviewed the agreement presented by the current assessor, Cliff Turner. After discussion it was felt that Mr. Turner was doing a great job and we would like to retain his services and approve his contract as presented. Motion by Shangle to accept the contract as presented.

Seconded by Bitely.

**Carried 6-0**

### **Resolution to Levy Library Millage**

Motion by Fynewever to adopt Resolution 10-11 to levy the Library Millage with our current taxes.

Seconded by Shangle.

**Carried 6-0**

### **POW/MIA Recognition Day Resolution**

A letter from the Vietnam Veterans of America was presented, requesting that we issue a resolution proclaiming September 17, 2010 as Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Day. Motion by Goodfellow to adopt Resolution 10-12 proclaiming such. Seconded by Maier.

**Carried**

**6-0**

### **Other Informational**

Bergman and Shangle reported on a meeting they had with Rich Benham of INVISUS, a company dealing with security issues and identity theft. It was felt we should probably look into having some safety protection in place and will look at the matter further when developing policies at the subcommittee.

Bitely mentioned that the homeowner at 153 W. Division was in the office and there was a possibility of selling their property and it would be an ideal spot to add cemetery lots, as it is adjacent to Greenwood Cemetery. Shangle also noted that the house may be a good location for the Historical Commission to utilize as a future museum site. The board thought it may be of interest for both cemetery expansion and a museum location. We will inform the Hist. Comm. for them to consider.

Bitely reminded the board that the Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> MTA Regional Meeting was approaching and we should make our reservations soon to save on the cost if anyone is interested. Reservations should be made by 9-20-2010.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Maier to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Goodfellow.

**Carried 6-0**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00P.M

Sue Bitely - Sparta Twp Clerk

