

**SOLON TOWNSHIP  
STAFF MEETING MINUTES  
June 6, 2018**

15185 Algoma Avenue  
Cedar Springs, MI 49319  
616-696-1718

**CALL TO ORDER at 10:00 am** by Supervisor.

**Present:** Ellick, Gunnell, Poulsen, Doane, J. Austin, Drake

**Absent:** Gerhardt, Hoskins

**Public Hearing – Middle Lake Regulations -** See attached.

Motion by Ellick to adopt resolution requesting MDNR assistance with special local ordinance governing Middle Lake, seconded by Gunnell. Roll Call vote: Ellick-Y; Gunnell-Y; Poulsen-Y, motion carried.

**Departmental Activities**

- Assessing – Field work letters sent and some responses received. Preparing mapping for visits. Gearing up for tax bill data transfer with treasurer. Discussion on proposal from Mich Dept of Treas for property assessment in all municipalities.
- Building – going strong, 52 lines in log book for May. New software working well. New computer installed today for Bldg Dept will help that along.
- Zoning – great guns – bldg. permits usually requiring zoning permit also. Dealing with lake issues now that weather changed.
- Fire Department – Breathing air compressor air was sampled and good quality making FD self sufficient for air now. Discussed: charge account at Hometown Express, E-1 damage estimate coming, Dept photo taken and purchased 2 large pics for hanging at FD and hall, Lakeside Park community activity went well, roster handout, Asbestos testing will cost \$300 for FD bathrooms. FEMA called Barnes asking for more information for SCBA grant application from Solon/Cedar/Sand Lake – should know in 8 weeks – would give Solon 16 air packs for \$11,020 match on \$110,200 cost.

**Topics of Discussion**

- Motion by Poulsen to approve Hometown Express charge account for ethanol-free fuel for Chief and Deputy Chief, second by Gunnell, motion carried 3-0.
- Motion by Poulsen to accept resignation of FD personnel J. Schmidt, second by Ellick, motion carried 3-0.
- Tax foreclosure property – get request for bids to demolish in paper. May keep garage. Then plan is to sell land with well/septic as is.
- July staff meeting date changed to Tuesday, July 3.
- Motion by Gunnell to approve application for fireworks display request, second by Poulsen, motion carried 3-0.
- Motion by Ellick to authorize transfer of \$80,144 from General Fund to Fire Operating Fund per budget, second by Gunnell, motion carried 3-0.
- Discussion of Olin Lakes, Echo Park, Clear Lake.
- Policy to accept electronic signatures on PC resolutions (MTA info). Bob to talk with Keith.

**Items for the next regular Township Board Meeting:**

- \* Building Department shelving quote - \$1895
- \* Resolution for referendum on November ballot

Adjourned 12:46 pm.

NEXT MEETING July 3, 2018

## Public Hearing – Middle Lake Regulations

June 6, 2018

John Simmons – Lake is too small to have jet ski hours. Bigger boats are causing problems too.

Fisk – 17 years ago, he suggested regulations to the Association.

Susan Simmons – Important to note Echo Park is a mini park which toddlers & elderly enjoy. We would start a precedent if allowed larger boats and jet skis, etc. Development is haphazard – no handicap area, etc. In 2015 thought township put plan together to make it more like a regular park area.

Tim Finch – Has a deck, boat and jet ski. Boat is not intended for this lake, but to be trailered to Hardy, etc. Was repairing it. Wish neighbors were friendly enough to bring issues to him. Middle Lake is considered an all sports lake by State of Michigan. He is within his legal rights. His 17 year old does use the jet ski.

Tom Robinson, Eno Dr – Supports township pursue “no-wake” ordinance with DNR for 2 reasons – safety and care for the lake’s ecosystem. Children are safer with no jet skis. Ecosystem health needs rules to manage. Less activity lately from ducks, geese, swans. 1/3 of the lake is not navigable. Strongly suggests this should be taken up with DNR.

Don Boezwinkle – disagrees that the ecosystem is problem. Had eagles. Geese were nesting – eagles came – geese were gone.

? (resident) – Would like to make comments on Echo Park that do not pertain to public hearing for Middle Lake regulations. 1/3 of the Park is green area with No Parking signs put up. Wants personal property removed from Park. What is Township’s view of the sand dumped on grass, personal property, docks, which make it look like it’s private? Suggests township officials drive down and look at what’s there now.

[Supervisor stated: the signs were put up by the Road Commission to keep people from parking on the county road. Parking on the grass is allowed. In the past, the area was kept up (mowed) by the residents and mostly used by the residents. Appears more trouble between residents/neighbors now than previous.]

Don Nunn – re: no-wake, personally thinks should be all electric motors. He bought a pontoon that included a gas motor that would be hard to run on no-wake. Recommends require all to go electric.

Tom Robinson – Echo Park – launching boats, almost violence last summer – pontoon was penned in – someone has taken personal control of who can launch and when. Normal launching place is now too steep and someone put big stones in the best area for launch. Gas cans, etc left on public property by some residents. Need Rules.

Finch – white fence next to public launching on other side causes problem. People insuating he won’t allow others to use it. Doesn’t want people backing onto grass he’s maintained for 30 years. Is wet land and sinks down. Will look like muddy mess if public regularly uses it. Proposes white fence moved so will allow 2 parking spots and also to improve landing. Association doesn’t want to because that would bring more people. Neighbor in past put boulders on public launch area.

[Supervisor stated this is not private land so residents are not allowed to dictate what others can or cannot do there.]

? (resident) - What is next step? [Supervisor explained that if the township adopts resolution, it is sent to the DNR and the DNR takes it from there, starting with another public hearing for the residents.]

Motion by Ellick to close the hearing, second by Gunnell. Motion carried 3-0.