

**SOLOON TOWNSHIP**  
**STAFF MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 3, 2018**

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

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

**Present:** Ellick, Gunnell, Gerhardt, Hoskins, Poulsen, J. Austin, Drake

**Absent:** Doane

**Guests:** Amanda Gerhardt, Cedar Springs Parks and Rec., John Bitely arrived during meeting.

**Departmental Activities**

- Assessing – out on field work.
- Building – busy with new houses, remodel, pole barns. Permits for larger houses than recently built.
- Zoning – Jerry is over-busy.
- Fire Department –Received 2 resignations – from personnel who had low participation and no participation. No new applications received. June was normal workload. July has had booming start with the storm damage – nothing critical. Request for hose and ladder inspection handed out. Slow down on Tender 1 build – waiting for door. Vender sticks with Sept 1 delivery date.
- Cedar Springs Parks and Rec – Amanda Gerhardt has been with CSP&R for 12 years now and has dealt with turnover of several positions the organization deals with, including City Manager, Township Supervisors, School Superintendent, Athletic Director, Boosters. At the last meeting of the P&R Board, discussion regarding expectation of member attendance/participation resulted in compilation of “Roles of Representatives” and “Roles of Municipalities” that were shared with the Twp Board. Revenue and Expenditure information is not on the website but Budget is around \$115,000. Event offerings/participant revenue *percentage* going up and township support revenue *percentage* going down. Costs for scholarship programs, school camps and literacy programs discussed.

**Topics of Discussion**

- Motion by Ellick to accept resignation of FD personnel Scott Johnson & Justin Blalock, second by Gunnell, motion carried 5-0.
- Motion by Gerhardt to extend Moratorium for AR-1, AR-2 until November 14, 2018 for outcome of the referendum on the November ballot, second by Hoskins. Motion carried 5-0.
- Tax foreclosure properties – Supervisor to contact interested parties for Stonecrest property. Clerk to advertise for RFP on Algoma property.
- Motion by Ellick to submit ballot for MML W.C. Fund, second by Poulsen, motion carried 5-0.
- Motion by Gunnell to extend AT&T METRO Act Right of Way permit to December 31, 2023, second by Gerhardt, motion carried 5-0.
- Credit Card proposal – no action.
- Park Committee requests approval to put a Paper-Gator on site for fundraising – Board ok with plan.
- Supervisor informed board that KCRC sent letter to HydroVac to stop dumping.
- Supervisor shared pictures of Middle Lake/Echo Park misuse.

**Public Comment:** See J. Bitely comments attached regarding AR-1 AR-2 Moratorium.

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

- \* Proposal to control mole activity in cemetery - \$500.
- \* Hose & ladder inspection bid
- \* Septic systems pumped – approx. \$600/ea for Hall, Park & FD. Park also needs riser repaired.
- \* Park rules submitted by Supervisor
- \* J. Bitely request to remove Moratorium for AR-1, AR-2.

Adjourned 12:24 pm.

NEXT MEETING August 1, 2018

**Comments from John Bitely, July 3, 2018 Staff Meeting:**

“I am notifying the Board it is my belief the moratorium is invalid because the justification was to re-examine Zoning. Zoning was completed a couple of months ago so extending the moratorium would not be appropriate.”

Has the board consulted the township attorney? Extending the moratorium is based on an invalid purpose. It appears you are using it for Zoning purposes rather than what a moratorium is for. Justification for moratorium is invalid because of referendum.

**At this point in the meeting, Supervisor Ellick called Township attorney, Mark Van Allsburg’s office.** Mr. Van Allsburg is out of the office and will respond when he returns.