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**SANDS TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
SANDS TOWNSHIP OFFICE COMPLEX
February 14, 2023**

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** –D. Walch called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. **Roll Call** – Darlene Walch, David Kallio, Kent Koehn, Justin Yelle and Carolyn Kerkela
Absent – None
Employees in Attendance: Randy Yelle, Tom Wahlstrom
Public in Attendance: Jeremy Nutt, Bridget Nutt, Todd Yelle, Chad Andresen, Dave Hendrickson, Stan Wittler, Marge Forslin, John Forsllin, Timothy Crossett, Corey Stach, Jill Artibee, Don Britton, and Molly Ombrello. Courtney Timmons, Seth Koches, Rickey Wilson, and Bob Kallio (via Zoom)
3. **Public Comment:**
John Forslin shared concerns about the climate and how it is affecting our Earth.
Molly Ombrello, Speedway attorney, stated what has been done by the Speedway to come to an agreement, and shared items they were asking for that were sent to the Township attorney.
Tim Crossett asked about the possibility of having a non-consumption, non-sale event in the Township at the fairgrounds.
Courtney Timmons said he is available for questions regarding the Solar Project.
4. **Agenda:** C. Kerkela moved, K. Koehn seconded, to approve the agenda with item 10.g.i (Zoning Update – Sands Speedway) to be addressed after the Agenda, item 8.a (Superior Trade Zone/Savion) to be addressed after 10.g.i, and with the addition of 10.i – Disposal of Breathing Air Compressor. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- 10.g.i Zoning Update (Sands Speedway):** D. Walch moved, D. Kallio seconded, to enter into a Closed Session for this agenda item, consistent with MCL 15.267 and 268 (attorney opinion due to pending litigation). Roll call vote was unanimous. The Board entered Closed Session at 7:11.

The regular board meeting reconvened at 7:27. No action taken on this agenda item because there are additional questions for the attorney.
- 8a. **Superior Trade Zone / Act 328 / Savion:** D. Walch moved, K. Koehn seconded, to move forward with a Public Hearing held at a Special Meeting on February 28 at 7:00 PM, with the *Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement*, the *New Personal Property Exemption Agreement*, and the *Resolution Approving a New Personal Property Exemption Application for Superior Project Solar, LLC* as agenda items. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
5. **Consent Agenda:** J. Yelle moved, D. Kallio seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
 - a. **Minutes:** January 10, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes approved as presented.
 - b. **Financial Reports**
 - i. **Treasurer’s Report**
 - ii. **Accounts Payable/General Ledger** – General Fund Checks #37531 - #37593, including the electronic liability checks, for \$556,531.79 and Tax Collection Checks #3779 and #3794 for \$535,238.92 approved as presented.
 - iii. **Budget Reports**
 - c. **Department/Committee Reports:** Accepted and placed on file.
 - i. **Fire Department**

- ii. Sanitation / MCSWMA –
- iii. Zoning –

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- d. **Correspondence** – Memo Re: Recycling & Transfer Station Staffing
- e. **Miscellaneous** – Information from Justin Yelle Re: Carbon Credits and Forest Management/Proforestation

6. **Treasurer's Report– Checking Account Balances (as of January 31, 2023):**

General Fund \$775,088.14 **Trust & Agency** \$0.00 **Fire Fund** \$363,494.31
Ambulance Fund \$320,922.52 **Parks/Rec** \$286,322.55
Sanitation \$39,153.03 **Taxes** \$958,506.92 **Road Repair Fund** \$413,390.54

CD Totals:

Ambulance \$287,089.30 **Roads** \$274,480.38 **Fire Dept** \$219,331.64
General Fund \$1,175,466.37 **Parks & Rec** \$55,636.26

Money Markets:

Fire \$48,462.30 **Cemetery Perpetual Care** \$3,236.08
Road Repair Fund \$86,103.86 **General** \$170,446.27

- a. **KBIC Grant (Fire Department)** – C. Kerkela moved, J. Yelle seconded, to approve the Fire Department's revised proposal for the \$5,000 grant money received and purchase a refurbished Lifepak 1000 AED, a generator, 20 helmet lights and 20 flashlights. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

7. **Clerk's Report**

- a. **QuickBooks Update** – C. Kerkela moved, D. Walch seconded, to approve the Payroll Renewal for QuickBooks for an estimated \$650. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- b. **May Election** – C. Kerkela reported there will be a May election for a MARESA millage proposal. C. Kerkela moved, D. Kallio seconded, to approve taking \$150 from Contingency, leaving, \$10,280, and increasing the Elections expenses in the General Fund by \$150, for a total of \$9,210. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. **Mileage Increase** – C. Kerkela reported the IRS mileage reimbursement rate is now 65.5 cents per mile.

8. **Supervisor's Report**

- a. **Superior Trade Zone/Act 328/SAVION**– Addressed earlier.
- b. **Recycling Electronics**- D. Walch gave an update.
- c. **Grashoff Documents** – The boxes of documents related to Sands Township will be shipped from Phil Grashoff's office, as he is retiring. Approved by Clerk and Supervisor under authority from Resolution #12122017.

9. **Old Business**

- a. **Garbage Truck Purchase** – D. Walch gave an update.
- b. **New Fire Truck Purchase** – D. Walch moved, C. Kerkela seconded, to moving forward with the truck purchase from Pomasl, and contracting with Sourcewell to audit the proposal and ensure a fair price. Current estimated price is \$615,935.76, with \$120,000 coming from Township ARPA funds. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. **Emergency Shelter** – No Update.
- d. **Reflectors on Silver Creek Road and Street Light Request**– Options will be explored.
- e. **Fire Department SCBA Bottle Bid** – D. Walch moved, J. Yelle seconded, to authorize the Fire Chief to prepare a bid for the used SCBA bottles up for sale by bid from Breen Township. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

- f. **Board of Review Appointments** – D. Walch moved, C. Kerkela seconded, to approve John Hambleton, Carolyn Myers, and Pamela Lajewski-Pearson (alternate) as members of the Board of Review. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

10. New Business

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- a. **Active911 Renewal** – C. Kerkela moved, J. Yelle seconded, to approve the renewal of the Active911 service for Fire and EMS for \$375. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- b. **Fiscal Year '23-'24 Wages** – C. Kerkela moved, K. Koehn seconded, to approve wages as presented, with an 8.7% cost of living increase. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. **Salary Resolutions** –
Resolution 02142023S, Resolution to Establish Township Officials Salary – D. Kallio moved, J. Yelle seconded, to approve the Resolution as written. Roll call vote was unanimous.
Resolution 02142023T, Resolution to Establish Township Officials Salary – C. Kerkela moved, D. Kallio seconded, to approve the Resolution as written. Roll call vote - Aye: Yelle, Walch, Kallio, Kerkela, Nay: None, Abstain: Koehn
Resolution 02142023C, Resolution to Establish Township Officials Salary – D. Kallio moved, K. Koehn seconded, to approve the Resolution as written. Roll call vote was unanimous.
Resolution 02142023Trustee, Resolution to Establish Township Officials Salary – K. Koehn moved, D. Walch seconded, to approve the Resolution as written. Roll call vote was unanimous.
- d. **Resolution 02142023 PE** – C. Kerkela moved, K. Koehn seconded, to approve the 2023 Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test, with the Poverty Exemption attachment, as presented. Roll call vote was unanimous.
- e. **Steer Tires for Garbage Truck** – J. Yelle moved, D. Walch seconded, to approve the purchase of 2 new steer tires for the Garbage truck from Pomp's for \$827.17. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- f. **Administrative Assistant Position** – C. Kerkela moved, D. Walch seconded, to post the position online through Indeed and have K. Koehn and C. Kerkela review applications and interview applicants. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- g. **Zoning Update**
i. **Sands Speedway** – Addressed Above
ii. **Board/Commission Application** – Received and placed on file.
iii. **Rezoning Request** – Will be brought to the March meeting
- h. **Connect MI** – K. Koehn gave an update
- i. **Disposal of Breathing Air Compressor** – Fire Department can bring to the metal recycling bin at the Transfer Station.

11. Public Comment –

Don Britton expressed appreciation from the Speedway for the Board's consideration of the situation. They would like to get this issue resolved before race season. Joelle Olson questioned the moving around of agenda items and why the Township attorney was not in attendance at the meeting to discuss the Speedway issue.

12. Adjournment – D. Walch adjourned the meeting at 8:44 PM.