

**SANDS TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING
SANDS TOWNSHIP OFFICE COMPLEX
December 14, 2021**

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** –D. Walch called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. **Roll Call** – Darlene Walch, Justin Yelle, Kent Koehn, David Kallio and Carolyn Kerkela
Absent – None
Employees in Attendance: Randy Yelle, Lee Yelle, Carolyn Myers
Public in Attendance: Robert Anderson, Darlene Allen, JoAnna Mitchell, Bob Kallio (via Zoom), Marge Forslin (via Zoom), Rickey Wilson (via Zoom), Bob Myers (via Zoom)
3. **Public Comment:**
Darlene Allen, Joanna Mitchell, Carolyn Myers, and Marge Forslin, all from League of Women Voters, spoke in favor of the Resolution on the agenda and in support of protecting democracy and the right to vote (full written comments available in the office).

Robert Anderson, from Voters Not Politicians, also spoke in favor of the Resolution and the importance of easy and secure access to voting for everyone (full written comments available in the office).
4. **Agenda:** K. Koehn moved, C. Kerkela seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: 5
Nays: 0 Motion carried.
5. **Consent Agenda:** D. Kallio moved, K. Koehn seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of 5c3, Groundwater & Well Testing Report, and moving it to 10e under New Business.
Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
 - a. **Minutes:** November 9, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes approved as presented.
 - b. **Department Reports:** Accepted and placed on file.
 - a. **Treasurer's Report**
 - b. **Fire** – No Report
 - c. **Ambulance** –
 - d. **Sanitation / MCSWMA** – No Report
 - e. **Cemetery** – No Report
 - f. **Zoning** –
 - c. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Personnel** – No Report
 - b. **Parks & Recreation** - No Report
 - c. **Groundwater & Well Testing** – *Moved to New Business (10e)*
 - d. **Library** – No Report
 - e. **Commission of Aging** –
 - d. **Correspondence** – None
 - e. **Miscellaneous** –
 - a. **Accounts Payable/General Ledger** – General Fund Checks #36517 - #36582, including an electronic payment, for \$44,521.91, and Trust & Agency Checks #36523 - #36524 for \$330.00 approved as presented.
 - b. **Budget Reports**

6. Treasurer's Report –

Checking Account Balances (as of November 30, 2021):

General Fund \$717,639.25 **Trust & Agency** \$0.00 **Fire Fund** \$263,258.76
Ambulance Fund \$254,451.84 **Parks/Rec** \$222,444.48
Sanitation \$3,592.03 **Taxes** \$14,488.63 **Road Repair Fund** \$315,791.13

CD Totals:

Ambulance \$280,887.51 **Roads** \$272,905.62 **Fire Dept** \$215,895.43
General Fund \$669,492.62 **Parks & Rec** \$54,775.50

Money Markets:

Fire \$48,378.07 **Cemetery Perpetual Care** \$3,100.65
Road Repair Fund \$86,001.13 **General** \$169,799.62

7. Clerk's Report

- a. **December Payroll** – Due to the holidays, payroll deadline is noon on Friday the 17th.
- b. **2022 Meeting Dates & Time** – C. Kerkela moved, J. Yelle seconded, to approve the 2022 meeting schedule as presented, noting the change in the November meeting date. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. **Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Dues** – No action.
- d. **Annual Maintenance FD Cutters** – Acknowledge payment of \$1,160 for annual maintenance on cutters for the Fire Department, approved under Resolution.
- e. **Office Hours/Staffing** – It was noted Lee will cover the front office during the time Pam is out of town.

8. Supervisor's Report

- a. **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** – D. Walch gave an update.
- b. **Superior Trade Zone** – No Update.
- c. **Transfer Station Hours** – D. Kallio moved, J. Yelle seconded, to approve the change in Transfer Station hours as presented, adding in Thursday hours and adjusting Saturday hours beginning January 2022. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

9. Old Business

- a. **DNR/Cliffs Land Agreement** – No Update.
- b. **Wages (Sanitation, EMS & Fire)** – D. Walch moved, C. Kerkela seconded, to approve the adjustments to EMS & Fire pay effective with the January payroll. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. **Sanitation Millage** – J. Yelle shared information on new trucks.
- d. **Draft Recreation Plan (2nd Reading)** – D. Walch moved, D. Kallio seconded, to adopt the amended 2016 – 2021 Recreation Plan as presented. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

10. New Business

- a. **Planning Commission Reappointments** – C. Kerkela moved, J. Yelle seconded, to reappoint Cory Bushong and Suzanne Sundell to the Planning Commission for 3 year terms. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

- b. Resolution #12142021 - Protecting Democracy and Promoting Ballot Access – K.** Koehn moved, D. Kallio seconded, to adopt the Resolution as presented. Roll call vote was unanimous. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- c. Fire Department Officers –** D. Walch moved, C. Kerkela seconded, to accept the Fire Department officers as voted by the Department: Chief Tom Wahlstrom, Assistant Chief #1 Ben Yelle, Assistant Chief #2 Brian Kleven, Captains Andy Linsmeier & Greg Orchard, Training Officer Frank Rosado, Assistant Training Officer Pat Mager, Secretary Tim Reeves. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- d. Zoning Update –** R. Yelle gave an update on several zoning issues. C. Kerkela moved, D. Kallio seconded, to approve sharing the Summary of the Attorney Opinion regarding Mr. Curran’s SUP/PUD request. Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
- e. November Well Report –** Discussion followed on water levels.

11. Public Comment – Carolyn Myers shared appreciation from her husband for the Fire Department and EMS when he needed their services in an emergency.

12. Adjournment – D. Walch adjourned the meeting at 8:24 PM.

Carolyn Kerkela, Clerk

Darlene Walch, Supervisor