

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 15, 2003**

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Board was held on January 15, 2003 at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gudith, and led in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Gudith, Wright, Knikelbine, Shanahan and Roerig.

Absent: None.

AUDIENCE

Gudith asked to remove Al Lyon from the audience portion of the meeting as he was unable to attend, and to move the Wolters Realty Litigation Decision from Unfinished Business to Audience as most of the audience was present due to that agenda item.

Gudith stated the Board would be unable to make a decision as to whether or not the township would appeal the judge's determination in the case of Wolters Realty vs. Saugatuck Township. He read a letter from the Township attorney which stated Judge Beach will be issuing a revised Opinion and therefore the Board would need to wait until that is received before making any decisions in regard to the case.

Audience comments were then taken from 7:04 to 7:25. All comments were against the ruling of the judge and in support of an appeal to the case.

Motion by Wright/Gudith to take a 10 minute recess. Carried unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None.

MINUTES

Pertaining to the minutes of 12/18/02. **Motion by Gudith/Knikelbine to accept as presented.** Carried unanimously. Pertaining to the minutes of 12/19/02. **Motion by Gudith/Shanahan to accept as presented.** Carried unanimously.

BILLS/FINANCIAL REVIEW

Motion by Wright/Roerig to accept general fund, and cemetery bills in the amount of \$14,373.73. Roerig asked if a budget amendment would be necessary to allow for the overage in attorney fees. Wright stated it would be necessary. Roerig requested to initiate the budget process for the next fiscal year. Motion to pay bills carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Gudith read 3 letters from residents in support of an appeal to the Judge's ruling against the township in the case of Wolters Realty vs. Saugatuck Township.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Board of Review Vacancy. Gudith stated he has been unable to fill the vacancy at this time, but will continue to look for qualified candidates.

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- B. Ravines Street Light District. Wright updated members on the request by Ravines to form a special assessment district for the purpose of paying for street lights. **Motion by Wright/Knikelbine to approve the Ravines Estate Street Light District.**
Carried unanimously.
- C. Cemetery Grave Prices. Board discussed options to restrict residential plot pricing. Shanahan asked if the resolution could better define a resident and board agreed to postpone action.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Planning Commission. Shanahan presented a price of \$10,000 per entity for updating the comprehensive master plan and the need for all three communities to be included. Village of Douglas President, Tim Glinski offered the Villages intention to participate. Roerig suggested including the cost in the next fiscal year budget and asked what the townships position is with regard to adopting PA 177. Shanahan stated due to our joint master plan we can opt out of adopting the act. He asked Gudith and Wright to send a letter of understanding from the attorney stating we do not have to comply with PA 177 to Allegan County and the State of Michigan.
- B. Road Commission. Roerig reported attending the annual resurfacing meeting at the County where it was agreed to resurface Lake Shore Drive from the Douglas Village limits at 130th Ave. south to the wash out. He added Old Allegan Road remains a priority and will be holding a Road Committee meeting on February 6th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss resurfacing priorities.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine reported an increase in ridership and that Director Cherie Giller will consider the possibility of running for Super Bowl Sunday.
- D. Triangle Water Committee. Wright reported DEQ has signed the agreement and water line construction will be starting. Board discussed the required policy of capping the wells of those residents being served by the water line.
- E. Fire Authority. Roerig asked for clarification of what an EMS call requires. Gudith stated Fire Board representative Marty Raebel will be attending the next meeting to update the Board on the new Coast Guard boat the department has acquired. Wright verified the boat will be used for open water rescue and reported the current ISO ratings for areas of the township as well as average response times.

AUDIENCE

Gerrit Sturris asked if there had been any word from the State yet with regard to air boat noise. Gudith stated he could call an assistant attorney general to see if there has been any action.

Tim Glinski asked for comments from the Board as to the intent of the Township's resolution of support for the Library to purchase the building from the Village. Board discussed the resolution, and Glinski informed the Board the library currently holds a lease of \$1 per year for another 30 years.

There being no further business, **Motion by Gudith/Roerig to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.**
Carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, Clerk