

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP  
BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2005**

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Board was held on March 2, 2005 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: Henry Gudith, Jane Wright, Pat Knikelbine and Chris Roerig

Absent: Damien Jarzembowski.

**AUDIENCE**

- A. Gudith introduced and welcomed Fennville High School students Kristina Wilkinson & Derrick Andry.
- B. Marty Raebel, being unable to attend meeting, sent an e-mail recommending to the Board they approve the appointment of Lance Winchester for the open at-large position on the Fire Board. **Motion by Gudith/Wright to approve Lance Winchester's appointment on the Saugatuck Township Fire District Board.** Carried unanimously. A second e-mail from Raebel stated he was submitting his resignation on the Fire Board because of personal matters. **Motion by Knikelbine/Wright to accept Raebel's resignation as the township representative on the Fire Board.** Board discussed possible candidates for the position. Gudith will ask Raebel to serve through March so the Board can address the issue at the next township meeting.
- C. Gordon Gallagher, Saugatuck City Manager stated how much Saugatuck appreciates the working relationship with the Township and looks forward to continuing that relationship.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None

**MINUTES**

Pertaining to the minutes of 2/2/05, **Motion by Knikelbine/Gudith to accept as presented.** Carried unanimously.

**BILLS**

Wright presented the board with 5 additional bills received after packets were sent out. **Motion by Wright/Roerig to accept total expenditures of \$5,463.96.** Carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Wolters Realty request to rezone parcel to C-3. **Resolution 2005-06 offered by Roerig and seconded by Gudith to deny the request to rezone the entire parcel to C-3.** Board discussed the Planning Commission denied the rezoning request during its December 15, 2004 meeting and recommends to the Board to adopt resolution 2005-06. Roll call vote; Knikelbine-yes, Roerig-yes, Wright-yes, Gudith-yes. Resolution declared adopted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Community Recreation request for resolution of support to change to a school program. **Resolution 2005-07 Support for Community Recreation to change to a school program, offered by Roerig and supported by Knikelbine.** Wright mentioned that due to Laketown's withdrawal from Community Recreation, the fund can no longer be supported through the previous means of a millage in the township and City of Saugatuck general fund contribution. She added to restructure the fund through a Saugatuck Public School millage would allow a close comparison of revenue. Motion

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP  
BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2005**

carried unanimously.

- B. I.R.S. mileage reimbursement rate for 2005. Wright explained that every year the IRS updates the mileage rate they authorize for tax purposes. She suggested that instead of every year adopting the current rate, to simply adhere to the IRS rate structure. **Motion by Wright/Roerig to annually adhere to current IRS standards for mileage reimbursement rates.** Knikelbine verified the increase from 37.5 cents per mile to 40.5 cents per mile is the current IRS rate. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Planning Commission recommendations. Gudith stated the Planning Commission has asked for a moratorium on tree cutting and the issuance of building permits in commercial zones until they can enact ordinances controlling tree preservation and building/landscaping design standards. Board discussion ensued and it was agreed to direct the Planning Commission back to the commercial district along the Blue Star Hwy corridor and not every lot in the township. **Motion by Wright/Knikelbine to deny all 3 recommendations from the Planning Commission.** Roerig suggested opening the discussion to the community; including builders, developers, real estate people and landowners. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Planning Commission. None
- B. Road Commission. Roerig discussed a meeting recently held regarding traffic on Lakeshore Drive. A representative of the Douglas Lakeshore Association asked if there would be a possibility of constructing a connecting road to lighten the traffic on Lakeshore Drive. The committee stated the only way it could be done would be with the consent of the property owners along any proposed route, since they would be levied a special assessment (at \$350,000 per mile) for construction of a new road. The committee suggested new roads would be the responsibility of a developer desiring it, and if constructed to county specifications could be assumed by the county for maintenance purposes.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine reported ridership down 10.2%, and planning is underway for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May.
- D. Fire Authority. Wright noted Lance Winchester is now the new at-large member that will take over for the late Morg Edgcomb and fill his remaining term, as the other municipalities previously approved his appointment. She added the Chief is back from vacation, and the new fire inspector Greg Janik has been working since the 31<sup>st</sup> of January. She reported the Fire Board is adding a monthly agenda item until progress can be made toward an emergency access to the south side of the washout on Lakeshore Drive, adding if they could get a private fire lane on people's property they could cut 10 minutes off from their response time.
- E. Website & Newsletter Updates. Roerig noted staff member Aaron Sheridan wrote the newsletter this month and it will be available on the website to view.

**AUDIENCE**

None

There being no further business, **Motion by Gudith/Wright to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.** Motion carried unanimously.

Lori Babinski  
Township Deputy Clerk