

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

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Board was held on November 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, Chris Roerig, and Damien Jarzembowski.
Absent: None.

AUDIENCE

- A. SHS Assistant Principal Dan Wilson presented designs detailing school improvements planned should the bonding proposal pass on the 8th and spoke in support of the millage.
- B. Jim Storey, Chair of the Tulip City Airport Advisory Board, presented a slide show supporting the formation of an airport authority and asked if the township desired to participate, they would require a resolution of intent before the end of the year.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

None.

MINUTES

Pertaining to the minutes of 10/5/05, **Motion by Roerig/Knikelbine to accept as presented.**
Carried unanimously.

BILLS AND QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REVIEW

Motion by Wright/Gudith to accept total expenditures of \$13,647.93. Motion carried unanimously. Wright noted financial reports reflected the fiscal year through September and asked for questions, having none Gudith proceeded to the next agenda item.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Al Ellingsen, request for project review fee. Wright noted the request was brought before the Board in September, but members present desired a full board to address the issue. **Motion by Knikelbine/Wright to approve additional \$300/month for Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector Al Ellingsen as a project review fee.** Jarzembowski stated as a building contractor he is aware of how important the job is. Knikelbine commended the work of Ellingsen. Wright noted the fee would come from the Building Fund and not the General Fund. Additional discussion took place with Gudith calling the question and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Wolters Realty Litigation. Gudith stated the state court of appeals upheld the circuit court's decision to allow Wolters Realty's desired use of constructing a truck stop by exit 34 and the township attorney is present to discuss what options the township is now facing. **Motion by Gudith/Roerig to enter into closed session to discuss ongoing litigation.** Roll call vote: Jarzembowski-yes, Wright-yes, Knikelbine-yes, Roerig-yes, Gudith-yes. Motion carried unanimously and the board entered into closed session at 7:46 and returned to open session at 8:25. Gudith stated no decisions were made but the Board will consider all options available.

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- B. Resolution to Adopt Allegan County NIMS Plan. Wright explained the county has an emergency management group which coordinates area communities for mutual aid under a national emergency situation which requires adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). **Motion by Roerig/Jarzembowski to accept the NIMS resolution as written and submitted.** Carried unanimously.
- C. Reimbursement Policy. Wright stated the township's reimbursement policy is that if somebody needs to purchase something they are required to get prior approval. For employees they need approval from the Township Manager. Elected Officials need approval from the Board as a whole. And Appointed Officials go through their Committee Chair and if the Chair deems it necessary to purchase that particular item, the Chair receives approval from the Clerk. Wright relayed a recent situation where an alternate member of the ZBA took it upon himself to purchase aerial maps for an upcoming meeting without getting prior approval and is now requesting reimbursement for those maps. She added to her knowledge, the policy in place was never adopted as the official "written" policy and asked if the Board desired to adopt the current policy as such. **Motion by Roerig/Gudith to accept this as written policy, ask Mr. Harrison to provide the township with a paid receipt and the aerial maps, and in turn reimburse him for his \$40.** Roerig noted this reimbursement would be a one-time exception as Mr. Harrison was ignorant of the policy and in the future all new committee members should receive a copy of the written policy. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Annual MTA Educational Conference. Wright pointed out the annual conference will be in Grand Rapids and expressed an interest in attending. Jarzembowski also indicated an interest. **Motion by Roerig/Gudith to allow the Clerk & Trustee to attend the annual MTA educational conference.** Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Planning Commission. Jarzembowski updated the board with the latest projects.
- B. Road Commission. Roerig responded to a request to establish a 35 mph speed limit on 130th with a ruling from the Allegan County Road Commission. The report outlines the State of Michigan method of establishing speed limits using the 85 percentile speed which states 100 vehicles are clocked on radar throwing out the top 14 speeds and the next or 85th would be the speed limit. This method is used as studies show that 85% of drivers will drive at a reasonable and comfortable speed for the roadway they are on. The report stated a speed study was conducted for a 24 hour period from 10/27/05 to 10/28/05 resulting in the 85th percentile speed to be at 58 mph. Speeds can only be lowered by the state after an engineering study justifies the lower limit which is not the situation on 130th. Roerig reported secondly on a meeting with residents of the 64th & Clearbrook Drive area where a compromise was reached to increase safety of the intersection. He also reported on meeting with Lake Michigan Shore Association residents asking to build a road from Blue Star Hwy just North of exit 36 to North of the washout. Roerig stated the Township Road Committee does not intend to use road funds to construct a public road in this area, however they would help facilitate a meeting on 1/11/06 with residents to pursue interest in a special assessment district to construct a private road at an approximate cost of \$280,000.
- C. Interurban. No Report.
- D. Fire Authority. No Report.
- E. Website & Newsletter Updates. No Report.

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AUDIENCE

Gudith introduced Saugatuck High School students Kelsey Lefler and Shawintina Phillips. Gerrit Sturris warned against expecting an income tax break as Dan Wilson indicated in promoting the school millage proposal. Andrew Leach asked what motivation the Tulip City Airport Authority has in coming to the township. Roerig responded they are asking the township to buy into the airport expansion with a financial commitment.

There being no further business, **Motion by Wright/Knikelbine to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.** Motion carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, CMC
Township Clerk