

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 7, 2005**

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Board was held on December 7, 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

None.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Gudith added under *New Business, Item B. Christmas Bonuses, Item C. 2006 Summer Tax Collection, and Item D. Resource Recovery Extension.*

MINUTES

Pertaining to the minutes of 11/2/05, **Motion by Knikelbine/Jarzembowski to accept as presented.** Carried unanimously.

BILLS AND QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REVIEW

Motion by Gudith/Wright to accept total expenditures of \$12,592.09. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Timothy Wood, SPS Request for Financial Commitment. Gudith stated the school is presenting a joint venture to upgrade the community access channel broadcasting system and asked for a level of financial support. Roerig asked how many township residents have cable access. Knikelbine verified most do not have Comcast available and would not benefit from the upgrade. Wright noted the township does not have the money to purchase equipment necessary to broadcast meetings and would not use the system. Board agreed not to financially support the upgrade.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Franchise Assignment Resolution. Wright stated UtiliCorp United, Inc. is purchasing the natural gas utility company Aquila and a new township franchise resolution is required to re-assign the current agreement to UtiliCorp, noting it is a "name only" change. **Resolution to assign franchise agreement to UtiliCorp offered by Roerig and seconded by Knikelbine.** Passed 5 to 0 and resolution was declared adopted.
- B. Christmas Bonuses. Gudith stated historically the township has approved Christmas bonuses of \$100 for full time and \$50 for part time employees. **Motion by Jarzembowski/Knikelbine to approve \$100 each for Al Ellingsen, Lori Babinski, and Aaron Sheridan and \$50 for Carole Baumbach.** Motion carried unanimously.
- C. 2006 Summer Tax Collection. Knikelbine stated Saugatuck Public Schools is again asking for ½ of the school tax to be collected in the summer at the previous rate of \$3.23 per parcel. She noted the postal service will be increasing the first class rate by 2 cents after the first of the year. **Motion by Knikelbine/Gudith to approve the 2006 summer tax collection at the rate of \$3.25 per parcel.** Motion carried unanimously.

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- D. Allegan County Resource Recovery Contract Extension. Wright stated the county is requesting a 1 year extension to the current curbside recycling contract with Allied Waste. They will then coordinate a re-bid process for curbside pickup in conjunction with neighboring municipalities. **Motion by Wright/Roerig to approve a one year extension with Allied Waste for curbside recycling pickup.** Carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Planning Commission. Jarzembowski updated Board with the latest projects. Planning Commission Chair Jim Hansen informed Board of potential development projects in the Indian Point area, citing problems with International Fire Code compliance. Discussion took place and it was agreed to hold a workshop meeting between the Board, PC, and Fire Department Officials before the next meeting on January 4th at 6:00 pm.
- B. Road Commission. Roerig reported on issues with the new stop signs on Clearbrook & 64th when icy road conditions exist.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine noted ridership was up 11% in October, and Christmas bonuses were approved.
- D. Fire Authority. No Report.
- E. Website & Newsletter Updates. No Report.

AUDIENCE

Gudith introduced Saugatuck High School student Billy Bergsma who voiced his personal experience with icy roads at the stop sign on Clearbrook & 64th. Bergsma suggested having a barrel of sand available at the spot.

There being no further business, **Motion by Gudith/Knikelbine to adjourn at 7:35 p.m.** Motion carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, CMC
Township Clerk