

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Jane Wright, Treasurer Pat Knikelbine.

Members absent: Trustee Chris Roerig, Trustee Damien Jarzembowski.

Wester opened the regular meeting and asked for public comments.

- A. Spencer Moore, Candidate for State House spoke regarding his platform for State Representative until 7:05.
- B. Shelly Edgerton, Candidate for State House spoke regarding her platform for State Representative until 7:10.
- C. Jill Winston, 2975 Lakeshore Drive, spoke against the tax tribunal lawsuit brought on by Saugatuck LLC and asked to place the McClendon land in a land conservancy.
- D. Tracy Shaffroth, 1015 Park Street, stated she has been working with many conservation groups who have agreed the tactics used by McClendon are unfair to the township and asked to close the door to the proposed settlement agreement.

Hearing no further public comment, Wester closed that portion of the meeting at 7:15.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for any additions, deletions, or removal of items from the consent agenda. Hearing none, he brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. ALLEGAN CO EQUALIZATION through XTREME CLEANING
Total to be paid \$28,123.82
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Approval of Minutes
 - i. January 28, 2008 Special Joint Meeting
 - ii. February 6, 2008 Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Wright, seconded by Knikelbine to approve the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

- A. Dick Waskin, Request for Kalamazoo Harbor Commission Appointment. Wright stated Waskin has indicated interest in an appointment to the commission once it is formed. She added there are other individuals also interested but until it is formed we will not know how many positions will be available or the role the commission will take. Board discussion took place and it was agreed to post the position when it becomes available.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Discussion on Escrow Accounts for Complex PUDs. Wright stated we want to clearly identify how the township will handle the escrow account for the review of complex Planned Unit Developments (PUDs). Jim Hanson, Planning Commission Chair, was present in the audience and stated he has reviewed the consolidated fee schedule and agrees that escrow accounts are allowed for, but stated it is not clear as to how the account will be managed. Wright suggested requiring a 25% down payment of the budgeted cost for a 12 month review. Then as money is used to pay the professional individuals hired, require incremental draws of 25% of the estimated 12 month budget. She added the amount held in escrow would earn interest and a complete accounting would be kept with unused monies being refunded at project end. Board discussion took place and it was agreed to direct the Zoning Administrator to utilize the suggested practice.

New Business:

- A. Meadow Woods, Request for Sewer System Maintenance. Wester noted the request is for the Township to pass a resolution assuming responsibility for operating and maintaining the community drain field in the event Meadow Woods Development becomes insolvent. Board discussed and agreed they have denied such requests in the past and it is not in the Township's best interest to assume the financial responsibility. **Motion by Wester, seconded by Wright to deny the resolution request for financial responsibility of the Meadow Woods community drain field.** Carried unanimously.
- B. Road Work Order, Annual Dust Control. Wright stated this is an annual work order that is required each year. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Wester to approve the annual work order for dust control as presented.** Carried unanimously.
- C. Formal Policy for Public Comment. Wester stated the township has never adopted a formal policy controlling the way public comment is taken. He added the Michigan Township Association suggests limiting the time each person speaks to 3-5 minutes and indicated a desire to do the same. Board discussion took place with members offering possible scenarios and a consensus could not be reached. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Wester to table the agenda item for the next meeting when a full board can address the issue.** Carried unanimously.
- D. Kronemeyer Request for Lot Division within a Subdivision. Wright presented the request to the Board and explained how the division would be made. **Motion by Knikelbine, seconded by Wester to approve Kronemeyer's request for this lot division on the condition that the triangular portion of lot 7 of the Hilaire subdivision be forever combined with the existing metes and bounds lot to the south of it.** Carried unanimously.
- E. Community Survey for Parks & Recreation Plan. Wester asked township employee Aaron Sheridan who was present in the audience to explain the survey. Sheridan presented the survey and stated Saugatuck Public Schools, the City of Saugatuck, the City of the Village of Douglas, and Saugatuck Township are working together to update the community's 2002 Parks & Recreation Plan. He added the survey will be used to gather the community's thoughts regarding different facilities and programs which will be incorporated into the updated plan.

Committee Reports:

- A. Joint Planning Committee. Jim Hanson reported the JPC voted to recommend the three governing bodies support the formation of a permanent joint harbor body, adopt a resolution supporting the efforts of the JPC, consider the sharing of a Zoning Administrator, review their current ordinances and note those not in conformity with the joint master plan, and share key documents with the other Planning Commissions.
- B. Interurban. No report.
- C. Fire Authority. Wright reported the department has sold the 1970 MAC Pumper to the Fennville Fire Department for \$2,000 and the right to use Fennville City's water hydrants when needed.

She also stated a new policy regarding fire code and site plan reviews has been put in place where those reviews will be done one day a week on Tuesdays only. She went on to report a problem with snow plows covering fire hydrants and with no DPW department to shovel them out responsibility for clearing hydrants has become an issue. Board discussion took place with several possible solutions offered. She concluded by reporting the department will be replacing a First Responder Unit with a used 1989 Ford Rescue Unit with 3,640 miles purchased through the Federal Surplus/State of Michigan purchase program for \$13,500.00 with money taken from the donation/memorial fund.

- D. Supervisors Report. Wester stated there has been no communication from Saugatuck LLC since the previous months report.
- E. County Commissioner Report. Terry Burns updated board with the committees he sits on, progress with the jail project, and the fact he will be running for re-election in August.

Public comment was offered. Jim Hanson mentioned Partnerships for Change, a grant program designed to support cooperation between cities, villages and townships. He stated he has been talking with the Chairs of the two City Planning Commissions and it would seem that asking for money to start a Joint Harbor Commission would be a reasonable use of the program. Board supported the effort and thanked Hanson. Hearing no further comments, public comment was closed.

Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date

Bill Wester, Township Supervisor

Date