

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2009, 6:00 p.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Jane Wright, Treasurer Pat Knikelbine, and Trustee Chris Roerig.

Members absent excused: Trustee Damien Jarzembowski.

Wester opened the regular meeting and asked for public comments. Hearing none, Wester closed that portion of the meeting at 6:03.

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

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. AD BOS through VICKI VANDERLUGT
Total to be paid \$69,690.31
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Approval of Minutes
 - i. December 3, 2008 Regular Board Meeting

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

Correspondence: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- A. Al Ellingsen, 2008 Building Permit Summary. Wester presented the annual report listing 74 permits issued during 2008. Board discussion took place and it was noted the number of permits were down 37% for a total decrease in new building valuation from 2007 of over \$7 million.
- B. Proposed MSP Lease Agreement. Wester presented a draft lease agreement for the Michigan State Police, Saugatuck Detachment Post, where they would lease the office space adjacent to the Township Hall for a period of 5 years at a cost of \$1 per year. Board discussion took place with several modifications suggested by Trustee Roerig. Board agreed on the modifications and there was a **Motion by Roerig, seconded by Wester to approve the amended lease agreement with the MSP for a period of one year at a cost of \$1 and to be reviewed annually for renewal.** Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Saugatuck LLC, Proposed Michigan Tax Tribunal Settlement. Wester stated he and Roerig have been working extensively with the Land Conservancy, City of Saugatuck, and other interested

parties to acquire a purchase agreement for the "South Denison" from Saugatuck LLC. He added they have come to a tentative agreement for \$25 million but it is contingent upon the Township settling the tax tribunal lawsuit out of court. Wester went on to say that Saugatuck LLC is asking the Township to change the land values of all of their holdings so that 70% of the value is placed on the south side and 30% of the value would remain on the rest of their holdings. He suggested holding a separate meeting with the Township Assessor and the Tax Tribunal Attorney. Board discussion took place and there was a **Motion by Wester, seconded by Roerig to table the request to change Saugatuck LLC assessed valuations.** Wester agreed to set up a meeting in Lansing with Attorney Stephen Lasher, Assessor Sherry Mason, Roerig and himself and report back to the Board. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. Board of Review Appointments. Wright explained the terms for current Board of Review members expired on December 31st. She stated the three members are willing to serve an additional term and the Assessor is asking for the Board to appoint an alternate. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Knikelbine to reappoint Don Maeder, Jan Shashaguay, and Randy Jarzembowski as Board of Review Trustees for an additional 2 year term, and to appoint BOR Secretary Lori Babinski as an alternate member for a 2 year term.** Board discussed the current wage and agreed to consider a change during budget talks. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. No report.
- B. Road Commission. Roerig stated he will be attending the area resurfacing program on Thursday the 15th and will have a report for the next meeting. Wester commended the County Road Commission for their quick repairs during the recent road washouts on Clearbrook and 127th. Roerig noted the additional drainage on Lakeshore Drive held up and Lakeshore was undamaged.
- C. Interurban. No report.
- D. Fire Authority. Wright reported the receipt of a \$164,000 grant to be used for a cab and chassis for the heavy rescue truck.
- E. Supervisors Report. Wester stated there is no additional information on Saugatuck LLC but that the Township is in favor of the acquisition of the south portion. He noted the reason to table the tax tribunal settlement was simply to ensure any action is done correctly.
- F. County Commissioner Report. Terry Burns updated Board on several county matters.

Public comment was offered. Jim Hanson stated the Board of Review will be busy due to so many houses being foreclosed and a lot of people will want their values to go down. 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 6:55 p.m.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date

Bill Wester, Township Supervisor

Date