

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 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, and Treasurer Pat Knikelbine.

Members absent excused: Trustee Chris Roerig, and Trustee Damien Jarzembowski.

Wester opened the regular meeting and asked for public comments. Hearing none, Wester closed that portion of the meeting at 6:02.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for any additions, deletions, or removal of items from the consent agenda. Wright presented additional bills in the amount of \$3,034.31. Hearing no further changes, Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. A.D. BOS through TYLER TECHNOLOGIES
Total to be paid \$108,255.19
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Approval of Minutes
 - i. February 4, 2009 Regular Board Meeting

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

Correspondence: None.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Reggie Smith Rezoning Request. Wester stated the request was postponed from the December 3, 2008 meeting. Wright reminded the Board the request is for a parcel located off of Bradley Road, is a residential use, and a portion of the parcel is zoned C-2. The then owner of the property submitted a request to rezone the entire parcel to R-1. Jim Hanson, Planning Commission Chair, was present in the audience and stated the request is consistent with other Planning Commission actions and in line with the Tri-Community Master Plan. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Wester to approve the rezoning of parcel #03-20-010-066-10 to all R-1.** Roll call vote, Wester-yes, Knikelbine-yes, Wright-yes. Motion carried 3 to 0 and rezoning request was granted.

New Business:

- A. Fire Board Representative Eric Beckman, annual fire department report. Beckman stated the annual audit was performed by Siegfried Crandall and revealed the financial status is healthy. He highlighted several points and the amount of assets held. He stated there were 558 calls made in 2008 compared with 559 calls in 2007 with an average response time of 5.7 minutes. A new

pumper was put into service in June 2008 which replaced a 20 year old truck. Department received a grant for a fire inspection computer and printer and is in line for a grant in 2009 for a heavy rescue truck cab & chassis. Beckman stated purchasing the new equipment keeps the ISO rating were it needs to be and insurance rates down. He added they are holding a new recruit fire school and have 5 new firefighters. Board thanked Beckman for the report and noted the upcoming budget.

- B. RJ Peterson, request to waive ZBA fee. Wester noted Peterson or a representative was not present and commented he would not be inclined to waive the fees. Wright stated the costs involved to hold a ZBA hearing and the reason for the \$350 fee. She added in this case Peterson hired an attorney to dispute the ordinance interpretation which caused the Township to in turn hire a lawyer to discuss the dispute with his lawyer at a cost of \$871. She commented taxpayers should not have to pay for Peterson's variance request. **Motion by Knikelbine, seconded by Wester to deny the ZBA fee waiver request.** Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Saugatuck Public Schools, request to collect summer taxes. Knikelbine stated each year SPS requests to have the Township collect half of their taxes in the summer at a price of \$3.25 per parcel. She stated this May the postal service will be increasing postage by 2¢ and suggesting changing the agreement to reflect the postage increase. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Knikelbine to approve the Memorandum of Agreement Fee For Collection of 2009 Summer Taxes with Saugatuck Public Schools at a rate of \$3.27 per parcel.** Carried unanimously.
- D. County LIS Aerial Imagery Project, request to participate. Wright stated the total amount to fly over the County and take digital pictures of the land within the County is \$55,000 and our portion would be \$1,832. She stated they are expecting to take the aerial imagery sometime in early spring and it will be a color digital imagery. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Wester to approve \$1,832 to be expended for the 2009 Allegan County aerial imagery project.** Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. No report.
- B. Road Commission. No report.
- C. Interurban. No report.
- D. Fire Authority. No report.
- E. Supervisors Report. Wester stated a power point presentation on the affect to local, county, and school revenues should the SDLLC tax tribunal prevail over the Township is now on the website under "Breaking News".
- F. County Commissioner Report. Terry Burns distributed surveys for the County transportation system and will collect completed surveys as needed. He commented on the proposed Laketown Township DDA, that passing it would be a good thing for our area.

Public comment was offered. Hearing none, public comment was closed.

Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date