

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2011, 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, Trustee Chris Roerig, and Trustee Jim Hanson.

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Attorney Ron Bultje.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda, or changes to the consent agenda. Hanson asked to add under *New Business, Item D. Law Enforcement Report*. Hearing no further changes to the agenda, Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. ALLEGAN CO SHERIFF through MARK SISSON
Total to be paid \$19,370.44
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Approval of Minutes
 - i. September 7, 2011 Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Wright seconded by Knikelbine to approve the agenda as amended. Carried 5 - 0.

Correspondence:

- A. Wester presented a late arriving email from Diane Ruhl expressing concern over potential crimes in connection with medical marijuana dispensaries whether in residential or commercial areas.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Proposed Ordinance 2011-03 – Medical Marijuana as a Home Occupation. Wester called on attorney Bultje to answer questions from the board. Discussion took place at great length with some members voicing concern over allowing the use of medical marijuana as a home occupation. Hanson reiterated we are not voting on the legality of medical marijuana, only putting in place the zoning to allow the legal use of it. Wright questioned involving the township at all suggesting the County could be responsible for enforcement. Additional discussion took place and there was a **Motion by Wester, seconded by Wright to take no action on the Planning Commission's recommendation to adopt the ordinance at this time.** Motion carried 4 to 1 with Hanson voting against the motion.
- B. Charter Township Status. Wester reported a town hall style of meeting is set for this Saturday, October 8th at 10:00 a.m. Roerig verified the meeting will be held at the township hall and we will be discussing the pros and cons of General Law Townships vs. Charter Townships.

New Business:

- A. Fee Schedule for Statutory Permits & Reviews. Hanson stated he has seen a great deal of township resources used to complete some Planned Unit Developments and Site Condos and wanted to ensure proper fees were in place. He presented a fee comparison chart prepared by the Zoning Administrator and a recommendation to make some minor increases to the ZBA fee, Land Division fee, and a separate zoning fee in the building permit fee. **Motion by Hanson, seconded by Wester to adopt the fee schedule modifications as recommended by the Zoning Administrator.** Motion carried 4 to 1 with Wright voting against the motion.
- B. 2012 Road Projects Work Order. Roerig presented the two road resurfacing projects slated for 2012 as 64th Street, from 128th Avenue to M-89; and 126th Avenue, from Blue Star Hwy to 64th St. **Motion by Roerig, seconded by Wester to approve the work order as presented and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute it.** Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Library Board Expiration and Recommended Re-Appointment. Wright stated Donna Nowak is the Township Representative on the Library Board and her term is expiring on 9/30/11. She added the Director is recommending a re-appointment to serve another four year term. Hanson stated Nowak is a vital and hard-working member of the Board. **Motion by Knikelbine, seconded by Hanson to re-appoint Donna Nowak to the Library Board.** Carried unanimously.
- D. Law Enforcement Report. Hanson reported his recent attendance at a County Sheriff/Local Officials meeting where it was noted due to reduced revenues the County has been forced to reduce the number of road patrols which in turn effects response times. He voiced his concern over these cutbacks and discussion took place regarding police protection and coverage.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. Hanson stated they have given conditional approval for storage units at Kingfisher cove.
- B. Road Commission. No report.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine reported receiving a new bus which holds 11 passengers and 2 wheelchairs. She added the need for wheelchair service has increased dramatically. Discussion took place regarding the valued service the buses provide.
- D. Fire Authority. Wright stated the annual open house was held last Sunday where residents were able to meet and greet the new Chief.
- E. Supervisor's Report. Wester stated there has been no decision rendered by the Judge in the settlement with SDLLC as of yet.
- F. County Commissioner's Report. Burns discussed county law enforcement and judges.

Wester opened the meeting to public comment. Open discussion took place regarding funding for the County Sheriff road patrol. **Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned.** Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Jane Wright, CMC; Township Clerk

Date