

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, December 4th, 2013, 6:00p.m.
3461 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck, MI 49453

MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Brad Rudich, Treasure Lori Babinski, Trustee Jonathan Phillips and Trustee Roy Mcllwaine

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Acting Township Manager Aaron Sheridan

Public Comment: Wester opened to public comment.

Fritz Royce, Douglas, MI ~ Supports Kat Cook for Planning Commission

Patty Birkholz, Saugatuck Township ~ Supports Kat Cook for Planning Commission, also mentioned Kat had taken the Citizen Planning Course. Birkholz recommends other board & commission members take this course.

Jon Helmrich, Saugatuck Township ~ Supports Kat Cook for planning commission, commented on what a great job she has done as a ZBA alternate.

Larry Dickie ~ Supports Kat Cook for Planning Commission. He also stated she is educated and attentive to fracking issues.

Ed Kelley ~ Supports Kat Cook for Planning Commission

Approval of Agenda:

Wester asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda, or changes to the consent agenda.

Rudich added 8F –Bid Results on Low Bidder for Refinancing Sewer Bond

Mcllwaine had question on eye doctor expense. Sheridan explained as opposed to paying premium on dental and vision insurance for staff, instead each member is given a fund to spend in those areas. The Township does this because each year whatever money is not used goes back into the fund, where in premiums the dollars would just be lost.

Phillips motioned to accept consent agenda as amended, Mcllwaine second. Motion passes 5-0.

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. Al Ellingsen through Scholten & Fant
Total to be paid \$194,535.81
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Bills by Fund – see Invoice Register
- C. Payroll (Check register attached)
- D. Approval of Minutes –
 - i. November 6, 2013 Regular Meeting
 - ii. November 6, 2013 Special Meeting
 - iii. November 12, 2013 Special Meeting
 - iv. November 19, 2013 Special Meeting

Correspondence

None

Unfinished Business

A. Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Commission to 5 members.

There will be no change in the number of members on either board

B. Al Ellingsen Job Transition

Ellingsen's retirement date for all zoning and planning is set for July 1st. He will remain as zoning deputy administrator and building inspector after that date. Sheridan is drawing up a new memo to clarify changes for the board and it will be presented at next meeting.

Unfinished Business (continued)

C. Appointment to Planning Commission

Applicants Andrew Prietz and Kathleen Miller-Cook were present at the meeting and were given time to speak about why they would be the right person to become the newest Planning Commission Member. Rudich motioned to appoint Kat Cook, Mcllwaine second. Discussion-Phillips wants to know if Cook could still serve as ZBA Alternate if chosen, and that answer was no. Motion passed 4-1. The board recommended to Candidate Andrew Prietz that he apply when the ZBA Alternate when that position is posted.

New Business

A. Township Sewer Ordinance & Rate Resolution

~Wester motioned to approve the Township Sewer Ordinance, Phillips second.

Roll Call Vote on Township Sewer Ordinance:

Rudich – yes Wester – yes Mcllwaine – yes Babinski – yes Phillips – yes

~Wester motioned to approve the Rate Resolution, Phillips second.

Roll Call Vote on Rate Resolution:

Mcllwaine – yes Babinski – yes Phillips – yes Wester – yes Rudich – yes

B. Signs, Billboards & Visual Attraction Devices Ordinance

Wester motioned to approve the updated signs, billboards, and visual attraction devices ordinance. Rudich seconded.

Roll Call Vote on Signs Ordinance

Wester – yes Phillips – yes Mcllwaine – yes Babinski – yes Rudich – yes

C. Private Roads and Driveways Ordinance

Both Wester & Phillips were not comfortable approving this ordinance as presented due to the section on preservation and the detailed listing of tree's that fall under this. Wester stated he felt this was too restrictive on land owners. Wester motioned to send this ordinance back to the Planning Commission for review of the listing of trees. Phillips second. Motion passes 4-1.

D. Resolution on Objection to Ownership – Deep Harbor

No Discussion.

Mcllwaine moved to adapt as prepared, Rudich second.

Roll Call Vote on Resolution:

Phillips – yes Mcllwaine – yes Babinski – yes Rudich – yes Wester – yes

E. Township Hall Rental Agreement

A document has been put together for all fees and rules for renting Township Hall. The discussion at this meeting was at the rental fee/deposit amount that should be charged. The main concern of the board was how any damage made to the building during these events would be paid for. Mcllwaine motioned to place a \$100 rental fee, plus a \$200 refundable deposit to rent the hall. Wester Second. Motion passes 5-1.

New Business (continued)

New Business

F. Bid Results on Low Bidder for Refinancing Sewer Bond

Sheridan worked with banks in the area to refinance the current sewer bond; in doing this he saved the special assessment district tax payers \$69,483.73. Phillips motioned to approve the low bid on the sewer debt reduction. Wester second.

Roll Call Vote on Sewer Bond:

Wester – yes Phillips – yes Mcllwaine – yes Babinski – yes Rudich – yes

Committee Reports

A. Planning Commission. – Held a public hearing on the 2 ordinances presented in today's meeting. The fracking committee is also working on a few ordinances to be presented at the next Planning Commission meeting focusing on Wetland Protection, Truck Routes and updating the Fire Emergency responding ordinance

B. Road Commission. No update. Wester stated his concern with the gully's that are not protected with guard rails at the intersections of 127th & 63rd. Mcllwaine wanted to know if Maple Street still required a retaining wall after reconstruction. Wester is addressing his issues with road commission and Sheridan let Mcllwaine know that the Maple Street has been taken care of without the need to put in a wall.

C. Interurban. Phyllis Yff has been named the new executive director; looking for a new Part Time Position. Phil Quade who represents the township on this board no longer lives or works in the township, Wester suggested that a replacement be found to represent the Township because of this.

D. Fire Board. Recycled 2,567 pounds of electronic waste and didn't cost the Fire Dept Anything. Kawasaki has given the department a 3-month use (at no cost) of the mule for beach rescue. The Dept is also purchasing a new washing machine to wash gear after a fire that meets the EPA Standards.

E. Harbor Authority Liaison – DEQ has issued two permits, one for harbor-wide dredging which is good for five years and the other is to approve a pipeline to move dredged sediments and waste to KLSWA. The Authority is working on a draft revocable easement to present to the board in January. At the workshop it was discussing having Saugatuck township join the Authority as a full member next year.

F. Supervisors Report. December 12th there will be an open house from 3-5pm for residents to view the renovated hall. Wester is also continuing to look into how to get wireless internet throughout the township.

G. County Commissioner Dean Kapinga. There is still a shortage in revenue for recycling services, the county need to find a way to reduce the shortfall so we can continue to have this service. There is a new radio tower going up in at the Felt mansion to fix the problem of the fire department's radios not being able to communicate in certain areas in the dunes. If the Felt Mansion doesn't fix the problem, another transmitter will also be placed at Baldhead. Kapinga also reviewed where the senior & vets millage dollars have been spent over the last 3 months.

Public Comment. Wester opened the meeting to public comment.

Fritz Royce – wanted to know if the township has any idea of the cost of providing Wi-Fi and if any quotes have been given. Wester said not at this time, after the first of the year more information should be available.

Garret Sterns – Has an issue with the harbor dredging materials be placed at KLSWA, feels it will put additional costs on the township. Also does not want his property under jurisdiction of the Harbor

Authority and feels the Township should not be a part of the Harbor Authority. Finally – he has problems hearing the meeting, wants to know when hearing impaired devices will be set up.

Larry Dickie – mentioned he knows someone who can install hearing impaired equipment, will present some information to the township board when he gets it.

Adjourn Wester stated after having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35p.

Holley, Recording Secretary

Elizabeth "Birdie"

Brad Rudich, Township Clerk