

Saugatuck Township Board
Special Meeting
January 14, 2022
Approved Minutes

Supervisor Osman Called the meeting to order at 1:30pm

Roll Call: All present

Approval of Agenda: *Helmrich moved to approve the agenda as presented. Supported by Aldrich. Approved 5-0.*

Public Comment: None.

Tap Grant- Board discussed with Parks Commission Chair, Jim Searing the idea of running the bike trail through Amalanchier Park. Searing indicated that he and the other commissioners have discussed this in the past and they believe that this would be an enhancement to the park - not a detriment. *Aldrich moved to authorize the Township supervisor to prepare and sign a letter stating that the Township is supportive of routing the bike trail through Amalanchier Park as proposed, and that the Township feels that the trail would be an enhancement to the park rather than a detriment. Supported by Marcy. Approved 5-0.*

Transition Planning- Board discussed the need for additional staff in the office due to the vacant Manager position. Daniel Defranco had made it known to several of the Board members that he is potentially interested in a position with the Township. Bigford- Defranco has served the Township for a number of years in several different roles. He has worked elections, is on the Planning Commission, is the Chair for the Rural Character and Development special committee, and is on the Tri-Community Recycling committee. I have experienced first hand Daniel's professionalism, work ethic, intelligence and fantastic interpersonal skills. I have only ever heard comments and feedback consistent with this. We are lucky to have someone of this caliber to step in to help. *Bigford moved to hire Daniel Defranco, pending his acceptance to the month to month position of Operations Coordinator. Yearly salary not to exceed \$49,000 and to authorize the Supervisor and Treasurer to negotiate benefits package with Mr. Defranco. Approved 5-0.*

Public Comment: Ken Butler, Jim Searing

Aldrich moved to adjourn at 2:30pm. Supported by Marcy. Approved 5-0.

Prepared by:
Abby Bigford
Township Clerk