

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014 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 Brad Rudich, Treasurer Lori Babinski, Trustee Jonathan Phillips and Trustee Roy McIlwaine.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Public Comment:** Wester opened public comment. None.

**Approval of Agenda:** Wester asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda, or changes to the consent agenda. Wester requested moving the Harbor Committee to the first item under New Business. There were several corrections to December 4<sup>th</sup> minutes. Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.

- A. Accounts Payable,
  - i. Al Ellingsen through VS Flowers.  
Total to be paid \$6,125.44
  - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited  
(Check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Bills by Fund
- D. Approval of Minutes, December 4<sup>th</sup> 2013, Regular Board Meeting.

**Motion by Rudich was seconded by Phillips to approve the agenda as amended.** Carried 5 to 0.

**Correspondence:**

Greg Janik, STFD Chief. Requesting sprinkler systems in new homes in developments over 30 units with only one access road. Wester suggested a plan for clearing snow off fire hydrants in deep snow. McIlwaine asked if Rudich was bringing Janik's request to the Planning Commission. Board agreed it was a planning issue.

**Unfinished Business:**

- A. Al Ellingsen Job Transition. Sheridan discussed changes to Ellingsen's retirement agreement which would start July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Sheridan would arrange a new hire. Phillips made the motion to accept Al Ellingsen's retirement agreement and was supported from Babinski. Motion passes 5-0.
- B. Private Roads and Driveways Ordinance. Wester stated the Township Board sent the ordinance back to the Planning Commission because of the lengthy listing of all tree species in the Township. Wester questioned if the listing would be too restrictive on land owners and developers. The Planning Commission sent the ordinance back to the Township with no changes. Rudich supported the ordinance as it is. Al Ellingsen submitted a memo explaining the language in the ordinance. McIlwaine explained there was language included to protect land owners and developers and well as protect the property from being clear cut. The language has been in the ordinance for 10 years. McIlwaine made the motion to

with support by Rudich. Roll call vote: McIlwaine-yes, Phillips-no, Babinski-yes, Wester-no, Rudich-yes. Ordinance passes 3-2.

**New Business:**

- A. Bob Sapita, Harbor Committee Chairman gave the board a slide show update on the Harbor dredging project and costs associated with dredging. Project will require Township easement through River Bluff Park to move dredging material to K.L.S.W.A.
- B. Jeanne Van Zoeren, Friends of the Blue Star Trail. Van Zoeren gave an update on the Blue Star Trail and cost and the grants that would fund the Trail. Saugatuck Township would act as the legal applicant for the grant. The Township would create an escrow account where expenses would be paid from. Allegan Community Foundation would reimburse the escrow when it is depleted. The Township would become the owner of its portion on the Trail. McIlwaine made the motion to send the agreement between the parties to the Township attorney for review, with a second from Phillips. Motion passes 5-0.
- C. Utility Easement KLSWA. Easement through River Bluff Park. Motion made by Wester to approve the easement after review from the Township attorney, second by Rudich. Motion passes 5-0.
- D. Single Family Home Rental Permits. Fire inspections would be required for vacation rentals. Permit would cost \$50 for 3 year permit. Wester makes the motion to accept the Residential Rental Fire Permit Ordinance outline and that it be sent to the Township attorney for review, before being passed as an Ordinance. Babinski supports the motion. Motion passes 5-0.
- E. Fracking Moratorium Resolution. Previous 6 month moratorium has elapsed. Continued work by Fracking Committee has shown progress but Township would need to continue moratorium until Fracking protection is enacted. Rudich made the motion to continue moratorium on Fracking in the Township for additional 6 months, second by McIlwaine. Roll call vote: Wester-yes, Babinski-yes, Phillips-yes, McIlwaine-yes, Rudich-yes. Resolution passes 5-0.
- F. Saugatuck Township Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Wester made the motion to appoint Andrew Prietz as Alternate, second by Rudich. Motion passes 5-0.
- G. Township Interurban Representative. Discussion on timing of replacing Phil Quade as interurban representative. Quade's term is up in September. Board will take action at that time.
- H. School Tax Collection Agreement 2014. No change from 2013. Motion made by McIlwaine to accept School Tax Collection Agreement for 2014, support by Wester. Roll call vote: Phillips-yes, McIlwaine-yes, Rudich-yes, Wester-yes, Babinski-yes. Motion passes 5-0.

**Committee Reports:**

- A. Planning Commission. Rudich reported that the planning commission discussed the Road Ordinance and possible fracking ordinances.
- B. Road Commission. No report.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported that November had highest number of riders ever. Open House for Sherri Giller on January 23rd.
- D. Fire Board. New washing machine installed. Fire Dept. sold a fire truck to Chile, and snowmobiles to Fennville. Fire Dept. just completed ISO rating. Fire Dept. is looking for a new ladder truck.
- E. Harbor Authority Liaison. Jon Helmrich had no report. Helmrich thanked the board for listening to the Harbor presentation.
- F. Supervisor's Report. No report. Supervisor was looking into free internet for the Township.

**Public Comment:** Wester opened the meeting to public comment. Shawn Powers showed support for Andrew Prietz.

**Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned.** Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

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Brad Rudich, Clerk

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Date