

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, March 5th, 2014, 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 Comments

Wester opened to public comment.

There were no comments from the public at this time.

Approval of Agenda

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

Mcllwaine wanted to add a new business item as "G-Fracking". Rudich motions to approve consent agenda as amended, Phillips second. Mcllwaine had a few questions on check register. Motion passes 5-0

A. Accounts Payable

- i. Al Ellingsen through West Michigan Laser

Total to be paid \$11,991.41

- 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. February 5, 2014 Regular Meeting

Correspondence

- A. None

Unfinished Business

- A. None

New Business

A. Resolution to Amend Saugatuck Township Consolidated Fee Resolution/Zoning Permit Fee's

This makes the fee as much as all other fee's, nothing is increased, just noted the fee in the resolution. Wester would like a copy of current fee's to go to the local paper. This is also posted online.

Mcllwaine moves to approve the resolution to amend the approve the Saugatuck Township Consolidated Fee/Zoning Permit Fee's as stated, Wester supports.

Role Call Vote. Phillips-yes, Mcllwaine-yes, Rudich-yes, Babinski-yes, Wester-yes

B. Resolution to Amend Saugatuck Township Consolidated Fee Resolution Admin. Fees

We've always had these fee's, they just have never been listed, so it's been added to the Fee Resolution (schedule).

Rudich moved to amend the Saugatuck Township consolidated Fee Resolution Admin Fee's, Wester supports.

Role Call Vote. Babinski-yes, Wester-yes, Phillips-yes, Mcllwaine-yes, Rudich-yes

C. AMR Contract Proposal

No action was taken, still in discovery period. This has not been bid out for over 30 years. (3) Proposals have been presented to the Township board, AMR (American Medical Response), who our current service provider, Pride Care and Life EMS. Wester has asked the three service providers to re-create their proposals without using their header/name in the proposal. Wester has also asked the Fennville Fire Chief as well as the Township Fire Chief to give their input on

each proposal. While it is the Township Boards final decision, Wester feels the Fire Chiefs input is important. Sheridan and Wester will attend next week's (March 13) ambulance board meeting in Fennville to discuss further with surrounding areas.

D. Holland Street Name

A resolution has been created to eliminate Washington Ave, which is most often referred to Holland Street (and causes confusion among residents and first responders). Sheridan recommends it be changed and spoke to road commission and John Johnson at Health Department to change and they are all for it. Mcllwaine asked about property deeds – Sheridan said the identification will change but nothing else should be affected. Wester motions to give Sheridan approval to start the process of changing the street name, Phillips second. Motion passes 5-0.

E. Township Library Representative Appointment

Rudich motioned to re-appointed Joyce Horath to the library board. Babinski supports. Motion passes 5-0

F. Emergency Services for the Fennville Area 911 District, Committee Representative Appointment

Need to appoint a member of the board to this committee. Wester will be more than happy to do this. Rudich motions to appoint Wester as the representative for the Emergency Services Committee for Saugatuck Township. Phillips second. Mcllwaine wanted to know term length. Sheridan is unsure but will find out; it is listed in the bylaws of the committee.

Roll Call Vote. Mcllwaine-yes, Rudich-yes, Babinski-yes, Phillips-yes....Wester abstained from vote.

G. Fracking

Just informational.....Mcllwaine wants to remind residents when the "land man" comes to your door and presents an oil/gas mineral rights lease and then tells you that is the standard lease and it's what you have to sign, know you as the land owner do not have to sign it and it can be amended. Mcllwaine, with help of Larry Dickey, have some information and web links available if residents are interested in being educated and learning more about this. Rudich will also help. Wester thinks it's a great idea and told them to move forward. This will be posted & available on the township website in the future.

Committee Reports

A. Planning Commission. Did not meet in February, no report.

B. Road Commission. No report.

C. Interurban. A new bus was purchased to replace an older bus (#21), which is now currently for sale.

D. Fire Board. 3 MCT (Mobile Computer Terminal) were purchased and almost installed. Police cars have had these, now 3 of the fire trucks have them. Inspections of hotels/motels/churches are underway. Spartan 102 foot truck still has not been tested before purchase of the fire dept due to weather. Board OK'd \$160 to do annual physicals for current roster. Still working on better service at the Lakeshore. OSHA was invited into the fire house by Janik to address and fix any potential issues.

Mcllwaine thinks a plan should be put in action for next winter as how to handle snow covered hydrants. Wester asked if there are GPS services for fire hydrants. Janik said they are considering mapping themselves because timelines for GPS is 3 years and he doesn't want to wait that long. We have 600 hydrants in this area and we don't know where they are all located. Mcllwaine wants to know whose responsibility it is to unbury these hydrants. Sheridan said he is meeting with Daryl from Kal-Lake about maintenance of hydrants – Township has purchased flags for all hydrants, and water department has agreed to install on all hydrants. Action plan for maintenance and snow removal needs to be made for future winters. Board has authorized Sheridan to discuss with Water Dept.

E. Harbor Authority Liaison

Meeting was low key, waiting on Saugatuck city council to approve half the fund for the hedgewater study. Some discussion of Ship & Shore boat rafting and special events requests. Hedgewater is producing a map of new buoy locations. RJ Peterson claims to begin dredging for 45 waterfront owners separate from any harbor wide plan.

F. Supervisors Report. No Report

G. County Commissioner Dean Kapinga. No report

Public Comments

Wester opened the meeting to public comment.

Steve Schrottenboer works w/AMR– wanted to state that pre-hospital care is a not only service, but a relationship that was built over 30 years ago. The partnership has grown and has become very strong, but we as AMR feels it's a team effort by all, and not just with Saugatuck Township, but all first responders they work with.

Sarah Bushee-Zawila , City of Fennville Fire Chief, wanted to thank the board for how they are approaching this decision in regards to involving the fire chiefs. While she understands why the board wants to take names off of proposals, she does not feel emergency services should be based on lowest dollar, but reputation. Sarah will be calling each service to find out how they operate, hire, etc, as well as research each services reputation. She has requested the board to leave the service names on the proposals so we can also compare reputation.

Terry Shippa –Agrees that bids should not be based on dollar, because it’s a matter of life and death. Shippa says unless there are many complaints in their 30 years of service, things shouldn’t change. She asked if board has been proactive in checking service of AMR, and had there been any complaints. Shippa requested the board not make their decision solely on money.

Sheridan stated he has a complaint in a large file on AMR and also heard complaints regarding AMR’s service and feels it warrants a legitimate bid.

Greg Janik –he has no vested interested in this, and is OK with Life & Pride, but can give dozens of reasons to select AMR. He has developed relationships with AMR, they know our citizens, our area, and have good communication with the Fire Dept. Janik is not so easy to dismiss that loyalty (not that the board is). He sees AMR make calls and not get paid a dime for their time. They (AMR) take care of his personnel, and the history he has (as well as the Fire Dept) with AMR he does not take for granted. Janik knows the board will not look just at dollars, but from the Chiefs prospective AMR has been very helpful to this community and the Fire dept.

Adjourn

Wester stated after having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 6:52p.

Elizabeth “Birdie” Holley, Recording Secretary