

Saugatuck Township Board
Approved **MINUTES**

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD

Wednesday November 5, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
Saugatuck Township Hall
3461 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453

MINUTES

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

Members Present: Bill Wester, Lori Babinski, Brad Rudich, Roy McIlwaine, Jonathon Phillips.

Also Present: Manager Aaron Sheridan.

Public Comment: Dana Burd asked for consideration for the Parks Commission, Judith Jeltema also asked to be considered for the Parks Commission.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for changes to the agenda. Rudich mentioned there was a late board application from Judith Jeltema for consideration for the Parks Commission. Agenda approved.

Consent Agenda: Wester asked for questions regarding the consent agenda. McIlwaine questioned a typo in the October 1st minutes, item C. Audio Visual Update, motion made was approved 4-0. McIlwaine commented on cemetery billing. Sheridan stated the sprinkling was now off at the cemetery and electric was on par with last year. Rudich will add more information to invoices. Questioned check to Macatawa Bank, which was for Sewer Bonds. McIlwaine questioned the door repair, Sheridan stated it happened on election day. Wester questioned check for refund of deposit on room rental. McIlwaine made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Phillips seconded. Consent Agenda passes 5-0.

Correspondence: No correspondence.

Unfinished Business:

A. None.

New Business:

- A. Wolverine Pipeline Presentation. Kathrine Becsey from Wolverine introduced Edwin Peters and Dean Skaggs who gave a 15 minute audio visual presentation on pipeline safety concerning their pipeline that runs through the south east corner of the Township. Resident Jon Helmrich asked what products were being transported by pipeline, Mr. Peters explained that it transports several different petroleum products.
- B. Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Wester asked Rudich to update the board. Rudich explained the first Ordinance changes were non-substantive changes concerning grammar and cleaning up references that were out of date. The second Ordinance change was related to a "Table of Uses" regarding Gas and Oil Wells. All Zones would require a Special Approval Use. Wester asked if the attorney had reviewed the changes, and Rudich said that they had. Rudich moved to adopt the Ordinance changes, second by Wester. Roll call vote, Rudich-yes, Wester-yes, Babinski-yes, McIlwaine-yes, Phillips-yes. Ordinance changes adopted.
- C. Parks Commission Appointment. Rudich mentioned that the two candidates were both very qualified for the position. Rudich made the motion to appoint Dana Burd to the parks commission, Phillips seconded. Wester asked for discussion. Rudich stated that Judith Jeltema had also applied for several

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other boards and hoped that in the near future Jeltema could be appointed elsewhere. Wester agreed that Burd would be a good choice and also hoped Jeltema could be appointed soon. Motion to appoint Burd passes 5-0.

- D. Poverty Guidelines. Sheridan stated every 12 months the assessor asks that the Township Board adopt the new federal guideline for poverty exemptions. Wester made the motion to Adopt the 2014-2015 poverty guidelines Resolution, Phillips supported. Roll call vote, Babinski-yes, McIlwaine-yes, Phillips-yes, Rudich-yes, Wester-yes. Resolution passes 5-0.
- E. Proposed December Budget Guidelines. Sheridan explained that December would have a Truth in Taxation Hearing to make some inter-department changes and an increase related to MERS retirement benefits. McIlwaine asked about the MERS increase. Rudich explained that the administrator for the account asked the Township to increase their overall funding level of the plan. Sheridan explained it would reduce the overall liability. Sheridan asked the board to consider purchasing a new copier which at the same time would decrease monthly service fees, by \$2,300.00 yearly, and the Township would recoup the cost of the copier in 3 years. Wester asked about upgrading the outdoor lighting.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. Rudich stated that Planning Commission discussion about the commercial and industrial zones, and Landscaper services being defined. Discussion about reverting the R-4 ghost zone back to R-3B, and the Critical Dunes Ordinance as determined by previous judgements. McIlwaine asked if Singapore Dunes asked to leave it alone. Rudich stated the Township Attorney advised to not touch the Zoning unless the owner asked for it.
- B. Road Commission. No report.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported that the City of Saugatuck is looking for a Rep to the Board.
- D. Fire Board. McIlwaine reported that call volume continues to increase. Open house had low turnout this year, board was looking at ways to increase turnout. Chief Janik has been made President of the Allegan County Fire Chiefs Association. Janik is still looking for an assistant. New emergency generator being sought.
- E. Ambulance Committee. Wester stated the bylaws are still being reviewed.
- F. Harbor Authority. Jon Helmrich reported that the Harbor Authority passed a resolution to support the DNR grant for the Mclendon property. Bob Sapita was updating the harbor information of the Tri-community plan. Budget to be made for buoys. Signage planned at the boat launches.
- G. Open Board Report. Sheridan stated that Zoning Administrator Steve Kushion has a report for the Township Board. McIlwaine asked Sheridan about Karaus property update. Rudich stated that 1351 residents voted in the election, which is 55% turnout.
- H. County Commissioner. Dean Kapinga reported on bond rating for the county. Bob Wakeman facilities manager passed away. County Budget Hearing will be held next week. County is looking at 5 year operational plan.

Public Comments: Jon Helmrich updated the Board on the DNR Grant application to expand the State Park, and presented an economic impact report. Dana Burd thanked the Board for his appointment. Janet Rund stated that a campground would nice to have in the Township.

There being no further business, Wester declared the meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

Brad Rudich, Clerk