

Saugatuck Township Board
Approved **MINUTES**

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD

Wednesday December 3, 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., with the pledge of allegiance.

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

Also Present: Manager Aaron Sheridan.

Public Comment: Wester asked for public comments. There were none.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for changes to the agenda. Wester stated that Chris Roerig asked that be removed from the agenda. Rudich mentioned there was a late board report from Jon Helmrich which would be added to the Harbor Report. Agenda approved.

Consent Agenda: Wester asked for questions regarding the consent agenda. McIlwaine asked about Cemetery winterization. Sheridan stated that was not included in the cemetery maintenance agreement. McIlwaine questioned the purchase of toner. Sheridan stated he wanted to go without a contract until the copier completely quits. McIlwaine noticed a typo that Sheridan was present and not absent. Rudich 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. Truth in Taxation Budget Hearing. Wester asked Sheridan for an explanation of changes. Sheridan stated that the changes were for a \$23,369 increase from fund balance. The largest amendment of \$15,000 was for emergency repairs to the awning on the front of the township hall. Sheridan was going to get bids for repairs as soon as possible. Wester asked what action was needed. McIlwaine asked about an increase for Al Ellingsen, Sheridan stated that was part of Al's previous salary and should have been included in the current year's budget. Rudich stated that after 6 months there was to be an increase in Aaron Sheridan's salary. Wester asked to present a salary proposal for next month's meeting. McIlwaine made the motion to approve the budget changes as presented, with second from Wester. No discussion. Roll call vote: Rudich-yes, Wester-yes, Phillips-yes, Babinski-yes, McIlwaine-yes. Budget amendment passes 5-0.
- B. Township Audit. Wester asked Rudich to explain. Rudich stated that the board should accept the 2013-2014 audit formally. Sheridan explained that the fund balance was healthy enough to cover unexpected liabilities. Phillips asked about the line item about the township remodel. Sheridan explained that the demolition was included in the item. Wester asked Rudich if Siegfried & Crandall had anything to do with MERS funding amounts. Sheridan and Rudich explained that the auditors receive an annual report from MERS. Sheridan explained that future audits will show the MERS liability differently. Wester

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made the motion to approve the township audit for 2013-2014, Phillips seconded. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

- C. Cemetery Maintenance Contract. Sheridan explained that Grounds Management Solutions requested an increase at the new contract time. Sheridan stated, that because of the agreement we have with the cities, the contract should go out for a request for proposal.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and granted a Special Approval Use to Dr. Curtis Day. Dr. Day asked for approval to have an apartment above his Chiropractor office, for use by his employee only Rudich reported that Planning Commission discussed reverting the remaining R-4 district, which is treated as R-3b by a legal consent agreement, back to R-3b and revising the Critical Dunes ordinance to bring it in line with the State of Michigan. Singapore Dunes attorney Jim Bruinsma had no objection to those changes. January and February will have public hearings for those changes. Sheridan stated that he thought that things were handled better for these proposed changes.
- B. Road Commission. Phillips stated there was a letter from Larry Brown of the Road Commission asking to support a road funding increase. Sheridan explained there were some changes to the County's list of projects for the next year, but no projects will change in the township.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported that they formed a committee to review the bylaws.
- D. Fire Board. McIlwaine reported that fire department is still staying under 6 minute response time. Department has initiated an energy savings initiative. Fire department received a clean audit. Water use agreement and hydrant maintenance agreement should be drafted soon. Fire inspection plan review is now part of the township building permit process. Chief Janik was grateful for working with Sheridan and Zoning Administrator Kushion. Ford Expedition was being replaced and an emergency generator is approved for a purchase price of \$40,000.
- E. Ambulance Committee. No update.
- F. Harbor Authority. Jon Helmrich submitted a report that was read by Wester. Helmrich reported that Saugatuck City was discussing the cost of the Edgewater proposal and hoped to have approval soon. Discussion on Dune Ridge LLC, docks that were proposed in the Kalamazoo River. Authority will hold a workshop to discuss a recommendation on this issue. Authority voted to write a letter in support of investigation of the TCE emitting from Haworth brownfield site in Douglas.
- G. Open Board Report. McIlwaine proposed a committee of Rudich, Babinski and Sheridan to review board candidates. Wester agreed a change was needed. Sheridan said McIlwaine asked if Rudich was ok with taking the minutes, Rudich said he was.
- H. County Commissioner. Dean Kapinga reported on bond rating for the County. Police Captain Baker reported to Kapinga that the new jail has seen no increase in inmates, and is functioning much better. Wester asked about energy initiatives at the jail. Kapinga stated that the facility is much larger than the previous jail. Sheridan asked about space sharing in the jail. Kapinga stated that might be possible after figuring out how well the jail is functioning. County had their Truth in Taxation hearing last month, and projecting out 5 years for expenses and capital. West Side County Park was being renovated in 2015.

Public Comments: Wester asked for public comments. There were none.

There being no further business, Wester declared the meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Brad Rudich, Clerk