

Approved MINUTES

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD

Wednesday March 4, 2015, 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, Jonathon Phillips.

Absent: Roy McIlwaine.

Also Present: Manager Aaron Sheridan.

Public Comment: Wester asked for public comments. No public comment.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for changes to the agenda. Rudich stated that he had no changes. Agenda approved.

Consent Agenda: Wester asked for questions regarding the consent agenda. No comments. Phillips made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Wester seconded. Consent Agenda passes 4-0.

Correspondence: Michigan State Senator Tonya Schuitmaker wrote to the Township thanking the Township Board for the input in opposition to the Michigan Religious Freedom Act.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Emergency Services Committee Draft Request for Proposal. Wester stated that Sheridan agreed with that the wording needs to be rewritten on the RFP. Wester explained that he and Sheridan agreed that the RFP was not an open bid and should not be approved. Phillips made the motion to table the approval of the RFP, Rudich seconded. No discussion. Motion passes 4-0.

New Business:

- A. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application Resolution. Jeanne Van Zoeren explained that Saugatuck Township was the legal applicant for the MDNR trust fund for the Blue Star Trail project. Preliminary plans are finished, and right of way certification has been completed. There won't be any easements required. This is the only West Michigan application to the MDNR. Van Zoeren gave an update on the project. Sklar Suydam of Saugatuck Township, asked to work with the engineers on the project in front of his home. Larry Brown, Managing Director of the Allegan County Road Commission commented on right of way work. Rudich made the motion to approve the grant application for Saugatuck Township for the MDNR Trust Fund, Wester supported. Resolution to Roll call vote: Rudich, yes; Wester, yes; Phillips, yes; Babinski, yes. Resolution passes 4-0.
- B. Mechanical Inspector Request for Increase in Inspection Fee. Wester commented that he had no issue with the increase in inspector cost to \$50, and asked for discussion. Rudich stated that he and Sheridan recommended to increase the amount the Township takes in for administration to \$10, per inspection to make the total cost \$60 per inspection. Sheridan explained that the administration fee hasn't changed in over 10 years. Wester made the motion to table the increase until a resolution could be drafted to amend the fee schedule, Babinski supported. Rudich asked to approve the increase in inspector cost

Approved **MINUTES**

immediately. Board agreed to wait until the next meeting until the fee resolution was reviewed. Motion passes 4-0.

- C. ZBA Meeting Per Diem Increase. Rudich explained that current per diem was \$25 dollars per meeting and requested an increase to \$35 per meeting. Wester made the motion to increase the ZBA per diem to \$35 dollars per meeting, Rudich seconded. No discussion. Motion passes 4-0.
- D. R-4 Zoning Ordinance Zoning, Map, and Critical Dunes Overlay Amendment. Wester asked if Singapore Dunes attorney Jim Bruinsma was comfortable with the changes. Bruinsma said he was fine with the proposed changes. Rudich stated that there were public comments asking to keep the R-4. Rudich stated that the Planning Commission could add a new zone again in the future, after discussing specific uses for a new a zone. Rudich stated there was no reason to keep a “ghost zone” in the ordinances, and he was in favor of eliminating the R-4 zone. Rudich made the motion to amend Chapter 40 in the Ordinances to eliminate the R-4 District, amend the Critical Dune Regulation, and amend the zoning map to eliminate R-4. Wester supported. Wester asked for discussion, there was none. Roll call vote: Babinski, yes; Phillips, yes; Wester, yes; Rudich, yes. Ordinance passes 4-0.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. No additional report.
- B. Road Commission. No report. Wester asked if County Road Director Larry Brown if he had any comments. Brown reported on the upcoming May 5, election proposal to increase the Michigan sales tax to 7%. The increase would increase the state, county and local road budgets to pay for road repairs. Discussion on road funding sources and costs. Brown asked to support the proposed sales tax increase. Sheridan suggested Brown write letters to the local paper editors.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported that she gave the Township a copy of the Interurban’s Audit.
- D. Fire Board. Wester read McIlwaine’s report. Grace of Douglas priority 3 discussion, and Elementary latch discussion and Hydrant clearing concerns. Fire Chairperson Verplank was working on a report for future plans for the fire department, and Janet Schmidt gave an update on the appreciation dinner and future LED sign at the fire house. Wester asked why another inspector was needed at the fire department. Sheridan stated that Chief Janik was very busy.
- E. Ambulance Committee. No update other than bylaws and RFP. Next meeting on May 12th.
- F. Harbor Authority. Jon Helmrich was not present.
- G. Open Board Report. Rudich again mentioned the May election.
- H. County Commissioner. No Report.

Public Comments: Wester asked for public comments. No Comments

There being no further business, Wester declared the meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Brad Rudich, Clerk