



# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP

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## SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD

Wednesday August 3, 2016, 6:00 p.m.  
Saugatuck Township Hall  
3461 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453

### APPROVED MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., with the pledge of allegiance.

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

**Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Manager Aaron Sheridan.

**Public Comment:** Gerrit Sturrus asked about future of recycling. Sandra Randolph supported joining the Harbor Authority. James Cook supported joining the Harbor Authority contingent on several issues. Cook was disappointed recycling failed due to misinformation in the Local Observer. Cook supported video taping meetings.

**Approval of Agenda:** Wester asked for any additions. Rudich asked to add Recycling discussion and correspondence from Jon Helmrich.

#### Approval of Invoices and Minutes:

- A. Accounts Payable Invoices to be paid.
  - a. Aaron Sheridan through Stripe Rite LLC. Total to be paid \$18,572.46.
- B. A/P check register to be post-audited.
- C. Payroll check register.
- D. Approval of Minutes.
  - a. July 6, 2016 Meeting. McIlwaine asked to change under Police protection discussion, "McIlwaine asked to add a Board member with a Douglas and Saugatuck council member and the Fire Chief", and Fire Board year to date calls were an "increase".

Wester made the motion to approve the Invoices and Minutes, second by McIlwaine. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

#### Correspondence:

- A. Jon Helmrich wrote supporting joining the Harbor Authority.

#### Unfinished Business:

- A. Public Hearing – Harbor Authority Resolution. Wester opened the discussion and stated that the Board had questions that were not answered by the Cities. Jon Helmrich stated that according to the Harbor Authority, the procedure was for the Township to ask to join and then the Cities would consider the Resolution. Wester opened up the Public Hearing. R. J. Peterson stated that the Army Corp had funds

available for Harbor Planning. Peterson stated that grants were looked at favorably if there was cooperation in the municipalities. Garret Sturris was not in favor of joining the Harbor Authority. Patty Birkholz spoke of co-operation and favored joining the Harbor Authority. Jon Helmrich read correspondence and stressed that asking to join was the first step. Helmrich asked the Township to join as a full voting member. Marsha Perry of Laketown Township, spoke on behalf of the Saugatuck Douglas Coastal Alliance. Perry stated that the Alliance supported the Township joining the Authority. Perry supported the communities working together. Dayle Harrison stated his opposition to joining the Harbor Authority. Harrison stated there was not a plan that the Cities agreed upon. Harrison said there were better options. Board member Rudich stated his opposition to joining, citing a lack of a plan, and lack of cooperation from the Cities. Rudich suggested tabling the Resolution until the Cities agree on a plan. Phillips suggested passing the resolution. McIlwaine clarified wording on the Resolution and stated he would like the Township to join in planning for the Harbor. McIlwaine stated there were protections in the Resolution and asked to pass the Resolution. Wester agreed there was no plan. Babinski did not want to go against Township attorney. Wester made the motion to table the Resolution, Rudich supported. No further discussion. Motion passes 3-2.

### **New Business:**

- A. Lakeshore Interceptor Drain. Sheridan explained that Joe Milauckas asked to map a Road Commission drain that run parallel to Lakeshore Dr. Sherdian stated that the drain should be maintained but the Road Commission would not. Larry Brown of the Road Commission stated the drain was put in around 1970 to protect the bluff. Denise Medemar of the Drain Commission spoke that the drain could be petitioned to be taken over by the Drain Commission. This would cost the Township \$5,000 and would lead to possible assessments on the land owners. Milauckas stated he was satisfied that the drain was now being mapped by the County and did not want the drain turned into a county drain. Wester suggested notifying neighboring property owners for input. The Drain Commission would not take over the Drain unless there was an issue with the drain. McIlwaine stated the original purpose the issue was brought to the board has been accomplished, Rudich agreed. Wester made the motion to table indefinitely, Phillips seconded. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
- B. Cemetery Recapture. Sheridan stated that Marcia and Ray Johnson inquired about selling their cemetery plots. Sheridan asked to recapture the four spaces at \$120 each. Rudich made the motion to recapture the spaces, Babinski supported. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
- C. Recycling. Wester stated that the recycling referendum was voted down at the primary election. Wester stated this was the only Township that failed and was due to misinformation in the local newspaper. Rudich agreed the news article had affected voters. Wester called for a special meeting on August 9 at noon to discuss a resolution to put the referendum on the November ballot. Sheridan was instructed to contact the County on possible referendum.

### **Committee Reports:**

- A. Planning Commission. Rudich reported that Singapore Trail condos were approved. Saugatuck Fire Department burn building was presented and would be continued next month.
- B. Road Committee. No Report.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported that customer community surveys were being mailed out and Sunday service was continuing in September and October from 9-4.
- D. Fire Board. McIlwaine reported that the County approved the new 911 radios. Special meeting concerning the increase in accidents and purchased jaws of life and a ram.
- E. Harbor Commission Report. No report.
- F. Open Board Report. McIlwaine voiced his displeasure about the incorrect reporting in the Local Observer. McIlwaine read a letter from Char Stewart who also likes the recycling program. Rudich mentioned the Cemetery millage renewal passed.

**Public Comment:** Garrett Sturru stated he uses the recycling program and would like to see it continue. Wester declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Brad Rudich, Clerk