

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP
BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JUNE 18, 2003**

A public hearing on the proposed 2003/2004 annual budget and regular board meeting of the Saugatuck Township Board was held on June 18, 2003 at the Township Hall. Supervisor Gudith declared the public hearing open, and led in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ANNUAL BUDGET

Township Manager Phil Quade presented the 2003/2004 annual township budget and highlighted several points indicating it is a balanced budget with no draw from fund balance, and a reduction in property tax millage. Gudith asked for public comments. Having none, Gudith declared the public hearing closed at 7:25 p.m.

The regular board meeting was called to order.

Present: Gudith, Wright, Knikelbine, Roerig, and Shanahan.

Absent: None.

AUDIENCE

None.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Roerig asked to add *Unfinished Business, Item A. Insurance Benefit Policy*. Shanahan asked to include his name under *Correspondence, Item A. Chris Roerig Letter*. Gudith asked to add *New Business, Item C. Ravines Phase III Street Light District*. And *Item D. Adopt Zoning Ordinance*. Shanahan asked to add *Unfinished Business, Item B. VOD Road Fund Agreement Update*.

MINUTES

Pertaining to the minutes of 6/4/03. **Motion by Gudith/Roerig to accept as presented**. Carried unanimously.

BILLS

Motion by Gudith/Knikelbine to accept general fund, and cemetery fund bills in the amount of \$12,108.48. Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Roerig read a letter to the Board stating he and Shanahan have decided to allow the reduction of their meeting compensation for 2003/2004 to 50% of current compensation, or \$35.00 per meeting.
- B. Gudith read a letter from Hopkins Township suggesting a county wide purchase of development rights ordinance. Manager Quade offered his opinion supporting the concept of purchasing development rights. Board asked Quade to follow up on the impact such an ordinance would have.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Insurance Benefit Policy. Roerig presented an insurance benefit policy limiting township expense for retired employees. Gudith asked to get a legal opinion on the proposed policy. Wright stated she would prefer to have it addressed through a new

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employee policy. Roerig suggested receiving a draft of an employee policy that would limit retiree insurance benefits. **Motion by Roerig/Shanahan to adopt the insurance benefit policy as submitted.** Gudith again asked for a legal opinion. Board discussed moving forward with an employee policy that would cover the subject. **Shanahan withdrew the second, Roerig withdrew the motion.**

- B. VOD Road Agreement Update. Quade stated he drew up some changes but has not gotten a chance to review the revisions as returned from the Village. He added he needs to include an additional paragraph stating all returned funds need to be used strictly for road purposes. Quade surmised a final agreement should be ready for action at the next meeting. Roerig verified that if the August special election road millage renewal passes and the Village becomes a City, they would then assume the millage.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2003/2004 Annual Budget. Shanahan stated he appreciated the staff, but is not in favor of the proposed 4% salary increase. Gudith asked if a 3% salary increase would be acceptable. Additional board discussion ensued with the non-salary line items being acceptable, but a salary increase could not be agreed upon. **Resolution to adopt 2003/2004 annual salaries with a 3% increase, exclusive of the supervisor; offered by Gudith and supported by Knikelbine.** Roll call vote: Roerig-no, Wright-yes, Shanahan-no, Knikelbine-yes, Gudith-yes. Resolution declared adopted. **Motion by Gudith/Wright to adopt the 2003/2004 annual budget.** Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Asphalt Resurfacing Work Order. Roerig explained due to lower prices for asphalt there is an opportunity to resurface several more roads and presented a work order for 134th Ave from Blue Star to end, 126th Ave from 60th to 63rd, and all roads in Pepperbrooke. **Motion by Roerig/Gudith to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk sign the work order for road resurfacing as presented.** Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Ravines Phase III Street Light District. Wright stated Ravines has requested the formation of a new street light district. **Motion by Wright/Knikelbine to approve the formation of Ravines phase III street light district as requested.** Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Adopt New Zoning Ordinance, Previously Adopted. Wright explained the County did not act on the zoning ordinance in a timely fashion and therefore the need to formally adopt the zoning portion of the previously adopted newly recodified township ordinances as a whole. **Motion by Roerig/Wright to adopt the zoning ordinance within the previously adopted code of ordinances as presented.** Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Planning Commission. No report.
- B. Road Commission. Roerig reported the 127th Ave project has started, other paving projects will be started this summer, he will be sending letters to homeowners affected by the projects. Roerig added he received a petition from Indian Point

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- homeowners requesting repairs to 62nd St, 131st Ave, and Silver Acres Dr. He will be scheduling public hearings with the County and residents to hear all concerns before assigning any priorities.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine reported the summer shuttle service has started.
 - D. Fire Authority. Wright reported the public hearing for the annual budget will be held Monday, June 23rd at 7:30 at the fire barn. Wright added the old fire boat has been sold, state police investigation is still ongoing, and the department has purchased 2 new defibrillators.
 - E. Web Site Update. No report.

AUDIENCE

Dan Shanahan, Sr. stated his support for the new water testing ordinance. Board agreed they will hold a public hearing before adopting the ordinance and discussed future water monitoring.

Having no further business, **Motion by Shanahan/Gudith to adjourn at 9:03 p.m.** Motion carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, CMC
Township Clerk