

**SAUGTUCK TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 3, 2005**

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Board was held on August 3, 2005 at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gudith, and led in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Henry Gudith, Pat Knikelbine, Chris Roerig and Damien Jarzembowski.

Absent, Excused: Jane Wright

AUDIENCE

Dotti Lyon, President of the The Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society introduced Ron Hirsch, a member of the Historical Society. Hirsch asked that the Saugatuck Township Board of Trustees support a project to purchase, preserve, and revitalize the Old School House for the benefit it will bring to the entire community. **Motion by Gudith/Roerig to support the Society's plan to purchase the Old School House.** Carried unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Roerig/Knikelbine to approve minutes of 7/6/05 as presented. Carried unanimously.

BILLS

Deputy Clerk, Lori Babinski presented additional bills received after packets went out.

Motion by Roerig/Knikelbine to accept total expenditures of \$16,980.47. Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Evergreen Commons, Programs Offered. Gudith read a flyer from Abby Reeg, Marketing Director, presenting enrichment and fitness programs offered to people 55+ in Allegan and Ottawa counties.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Mid Decade Census Complete. Phil Quade explained it is not official until it has been submitted to the Secretary of State office for approval, but results indicate township population is 2,996, which is a 26% increase from 5 years ago. Quade is hoping to see \$100,000 to \$200,000 in extra revenue sharing starting in 2007. Cost to perform the census was around \$4,000.
- B. General Fund Millage. Gudith read Quade's memo which states the current millage is 0.4900. Gudith said at some point in time there should be a discussion to increase the millage because of township growth, adding 10 years ago we were levying 1.07 mills. He explained due to the Headlee rollback each year it has been reduced to the 0.4900 mills. Wright had put information together in response to questions from the previous meeting. Roerig stated that just because Saugatuck

- has the lowest millage in Allegan County, he said we need to make sure it's defined what it's going for. Gudith stated if we want to increase our millage it needs to be approved tonight to be on the November ballot. He added as the township grows, we eventually will have to renew our millage to keep up the services we offer. **Motion by Knikelbine/Gudith to place a proposal to renew the General Fund operating millage on the November ballot.** Additional discussion ensued and the motion passed 3 to 1 with Roerig casting the no vote.
- C. Land Use Study For Parks Purposes. Quade presented aerial drawings of the area the township owns on 134th Ave., where the dog park is located. Prein & Newhof worked on a land use plan for that property. RJM Design also helped in the design and the layout of the Park. Quade talked about what kind of activities would be available at the park. It was presented to the Parks Commission and they unanimously liked the idea. Being a preliminary plan, it will have to be finalized than applied for a DEQ permit for the lake. Knikelbine asked Quade if there was grant money and Quade said not a whole lot.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Assignment Of Annual Audit. Knikelbine mentioned that they've been with Siegfried Crandall for 5 years and support their quote for the annual audit not to exceed \$7000.00. **Motion by Roerig/Gudith to accept the quote not to exceed the \$7000.00 for the annual audit.** Carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Planning Commission. Jarzembowski reported on projects brought before the commission. General discussion ensued. Jarzembowski stated that they voted for new officers, Jim Hanson-Chairman, Dan Marczuk-Vice-Chairman, Sandra Rausch-Secretary.
- B. Road Commission. No Report.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine reported that they approved their L-4029, which is the amount of millage you can levy. The millage rate for tax year 2005 will be .4601. Bus #16 was sold for one dollar.
- D. Fire Authority. No Report, but the minutes for the 6/13 & 6/27 were in the packet.
- E. Web Site and Newsletter Updates. No Report.

AUDIENCE

Joe Milauckas stated that the millage generates about \$91,000 for the township. The Headlee override would double that to \$187,732. He is concerned on how much the township needs. Gudith replied that they would make a complete list of things and make sure the residents of Saugatuck Township receive it.

There being no further business, **Motion by Gudith/Jarzembowski to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.** Motion carried unanimously.

Lori Babinski
Recording Secretary