

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Jane Wright, Treasurer Pat Knikelbine, Trustee Damien Jarzembowski, Trustee Chris Roerig.

Members absent: None.

Public comments were offered. Having none, public comment ended at 7:01 p.m.

Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval with one addition to the agenda under New Business, *Item C. Christmas Bonuses:*

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. ALLEGAN CO. ROAD COMMISSION through WILKINS HARDWARE
Total to be paid \$108,145.60
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Approval of Minutes
 - i. November 1, 2006 Regular Township Board Meeting

Motion by Wright, seconded by Knikelbine to approve the agenda with additional bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

- A. Patricia and Patrick Mahoney, Complaint regarding Zehner Property. Wester reported the complaint involves the owner not adhering to the ZBA requirements and is requesting enforcement of the terms. He stated he will meet with Zoning Administer Al Ellingsen and follow up with the situation. Board discussion took place and Wester will address.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Update on 126th and 62nd Farm Labor Housing. Wright stated during the last meeting the Board agreed to require the owners adhere to current zoning with regard to proposed farm labor housing. Roerig reminded the motion was to require ZA Ellingsen to notify the owners in writing of such requirement and asked if the correspondence was sent. Knikelbine reported Ellingsen met with them in person but no written correspondence took place. Wester will ensure the letter is sent informing the owners of the Board's intentions.

New Business:

- A. Saugatuck Christian Reformed Church, Volunteer Work Thank You. Wester thanked the congregation for the volunteer work performed at the Tails 'n Trails Dog Park. Pastor David

VanDerWiele was present and described the “40 Days of Community Service” program that inspired the volunteer work. Board thanked Pastor VanDerWiele and asked him to convey the message back to his congregation.

- B. Proposed Flying J Truck Stop, Discussion Only. Wester stated the proposed development is not in our jurisdiction and although he personally feels a truck stop is not in the best interest for our area, it is not for this governmental body to decide. Wright stated she puts faith in Laketown’s Planning Commission, in the same manner she has faith in our own Planning Commission, that they will do what is legally correct. Knikelbine agreed. Roerig stated he feels appropriate quoting a personal opinion, however a governmental body should not make an official proclamation for or against another jurisdiction’s decisions. He added if any Saugatuck Township taxpayer has questions they should feel free to come into the office and get them answered. Jarzembowski stated he certainly is not in favor of a truck stop, but agrees as a Board our hands are tied. He added the entire intersection around exit 41 is getting very congested. General discussion took place as to if a traffic light might be installed at Blue Star and 64th, and Roerig noted that would be a County Road Commission decision.
- C. Christmas Bonuses. Wright stated historically we have paid \$100 for full time and \$50 for part time employees. Wester asked if there is a recommendation to increase for inflation. Knikelbine and Wright both stated the bonus amount is satisfactory at the present level. Wright recited the 4 full time employees and 1 part time employee that would be eligible. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Knikelbine to approve Christmas bonuses in the amount of \$100 for full time and \$50 for part time employees.** Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. Jarzembowski reported on the River’s Edge PUD located off of Old Allegan Road that was tabled. He also reported the proposed gas station at exit 36 was tabled for design and entrance issues. Wester thanked the PC Chair and Members for work to date on the “Denison Project” noting maps are available on the web page.
- B. Road Commission. Roerig reported on two upcoming road work orders, noting they were to have been included in the packets. He stated one is for annual dust control and the other is for resurfacing of Bradley Road. He added the process for Bradley Road is to approve the work order, perform the engineering study, hold a public hearing, and then request construction bids. **Motion by Roerig, seconded by Knikelbine to pre-approve both the annual dust control work order and the Bradley Road resurfacing work order after review and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the same.** Motion carried unanimously. Roerig will attend the annual resurfacing meeting held by the County Road Commission. He also reported receiving numerous compliments on the Old Allegan Road project.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine reported ridership is up 3% and they approved Christmas bonuses. She also reported the new white bus will be used for the shuttle bus and remain white with some blue striping.
- D. Fire Authority. No report.
- E. Website & Newsletter Update. Wright noted under “Breaking News” it now lists the new office hours County Commissioner Terry Burns will be holding on the third Monday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to enable citizens the opportunity to come in and talk with him.

Public comment was offered. County Commissioner Terry Burns stated he will be at Laketown Township Hall on the second Monday of each month. Planning Commission Chair Jim Hanson commended the Board on not making recommendations to another jurisdiction. Gerrit Sturris asked

what differences exist between the Flying J development and the Wolters Realty development that was allowed through the State Supreme Court at M89 and I196. Roerig noted Flying J has to go through the same processes for approval or denial.

Wester stated if there is no further business that is to come before the Board, and having no objection, we stand adjourned. **Motion by Roerig, seconded by Wright to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.**

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date

Bill Wester, Township Supervisor

Date