

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2008, 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 noted the special meeting is taking the place of the regular meeting that was to be held on July 2nd, 2008 but cancelled due to extreme inclement weather. He then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Jane Wright, Treasurer Pat Knikelbine.

Members absent: Trustee Chris Roerig (excused), and Trustee Damien Jarzembowski.

Wester opened the meeting and asked for public comments. Fritz Royce voiced concern over a newspaper article that stated Stephen Neumer, attorney for Saugatuck LLC, has continued meeting with township board officials. Each board member stated they have not been meeting with Neumer or any other representative of McClendon. Tracy Shaforth read an attorney opinion stating the board should consider terminating the cooperation agreement with Saugatuck LLC. Jim Hanson, Planning Commission Chair, explained the legal requirements the PC would have to consider when reviewing any PUD project including one from Saugatuck LLC. Hearing no further public comment, Wester closed that portion of the meeting at 7:15.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for any additions, deletions, or removal of items from the consent agenda. Wright presented additional bills received for a total amount to be approved of \$30,719.25. Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. ADVANCED BUILDING through XTREME CLEANING
Total to be paid \$30,719.25
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Approval of Minutes
 - i. June 4, 2008 Regular Board Meeting

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

Correspondence:

- A. Saugatuck Christian Reformed Church, Letter of Appreciation. Wester read the letter Aaron Sheridan, Township Assistant, sent to the Saugatuck Christian Reformed Church which thanked them for work performed at the dog park.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

- A. Wester presented the bid tabulation that was opened and read on June 18th. Wright verified the two authorized road projects are the final course of asphalt for Bradley Rd. and the rebuilding of .25 miles of Riverside Rd. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Wester to approve the low bid from Aggregate Industries for \$71,649.00.** Carried unanimously.
- B. ZBA and Planning Commission Appointments. Wester explained his term on the ZBA expired on 6/30/08 and recommended to the Board to appoint Shawn Powers, currently sitting as an alternate, to the vacated position. Wester added he would then recommend appointing himself to the unexpired alternate term left vacant if the board approves Powers' appointment. **Motion by Wester, seconded by Knikelbine to appoint Shawn Powers to the ZBA for a three year term expiring on 6/30/11 and to appoint Wester to the ZBA as an alternate member assuming the vacated position with term expiring on 6/30/09.** Carried unanimously. Wester then presented a memo from PC Chair Jim Hanson recommending a reappointment of both Steve Darpel and Joe Milauckas for an additional three year term expiring on 6/30/11. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Knikelbine to appoint Steve Darpel and Joe Milauckas for an additional three year term on the Planning Commission.** Wester stated due to the important decisions coming before the commission it is imperative that experience individuals are in place. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Jim Hanson, Completion of Citizen Planner Program. Wester asked Hanson to explain the planner program. Hanson stated it is an on-line continuing educational class with 7 modules to complete which he did back in May after many hours of work. He recommended the class as extremely helpful in planning and zoning matters. Wright congratulated Hanson on the accomplishment stating the classes are a challenge, but so important for the position as PC Chair. She added support for other commissioners to take the classes as well. Board agreed.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. No report.
- B. Road Commission. No report.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine reported ridership was down 12.3%. She added the Board approved the Director to attend the annual trade show in August, and that the City of Saugatuck has come to an agreement to run the parking shuttle with reduced hours.
- D. Fire Authority. No report.
- E. Supervisors Report. Wester stated Stephen Neumer, attorney for Aubrey McClendon, asked to meet with Trustee Chris Roerig and himself, but they declined deciding instead to view the development plans at the same time as every one else.
- F. County Commissioner Report. No report.

Public comment was offered. Gerrit Sturrus asked about the upcoming meeting on Friday regarding the Old Allegan Road street name and house number problem. Wester stated he will be attending along with representatives from the fire department, 911 dispatch, and County Health Department to discuss options for clarifying addresses. Fritz Royce asked what role the township will be playing in regard to the new washout on Lake Shore Drive. Wester stated there is a need to address emergency access and we are looking at different solutions. Jim Hanson stated the Planning Commission has issued an Intent to Plan letter suggesting the creation of a central lakeshore subarea plan with the main point suggesting the reestablishment of direct contact between the SW portion of the Township with the Saugatuck/Douglas area. Open discussion took place and it was agreed that the resident's sentiment would play a vital role in any option. Dayle Harrison requested the Board find out how a house was allowed to be built on Dug Out Road, and any abandonment requests for the road. Harrison then stated

his discontent with the cooperation agreement between the Township and Saugatuck LLC. Tracy Shaforth asked if the Board has a reason to keep the cooperation agreement on the table. Wester will forward her comments to the attorney. Hanson stated language in the agreement would not be a factor that would cause him to change his position. Harrison stated the agreement is between Saugatuck LLC and the Board, not the Planning Commission. Hearing no further comments, public comment was closed.

Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date

Bill Wester, Township Supervisor

Date