

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 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 led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Members absent excused: Trustee Damien Jarzembowski.

Wester opened the regular meeting and asked for public comments. Tom Clark, Democratic candidate for State House of Representatives, spoke to the group on his background and platform. Ron Gorsica, 2922 65th St., stated he had read an article in The Local Observer about a group of people interested in consolidating the three municipalities into one city. He stated it would not be a good idea for the township and would be opposed to the consolidation. Board discussion took place with members agreeing current township government is very efficient but additional services may be considered in the future. Gorsica then asked for clarification of the tree protection ordinance and Planning Commission Chair Jim Hanson, who was present in the audience, responded with the details of the ordinance. 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 and offered 3 additions. He requested under New Business to add *Item C. Mechanical Inspector Contract*, *Item D. Banking Issues*, and *Item E. Start Time for Future Meetings*. Wright then submitted additional bills received after the packets were sent out and requested adding them to the consent agenda. Hearing no further requests, Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. A.D. BOS through XTREME CLEANING
Total to be paid \$90,919.41
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Approval of Minutes
 - i. September 3, 2008 Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Wright, seconded by Roerig to approve the agenda as amended. Carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

None.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Ad Hoc Kalamazoo Harbor Master Plan Committee Appointments. Board noted additional individuals have expressed an interest and there is now a long list. Wester suggested advertising the opportunity in the Commercial Record and holding a special meeting to interview all. Discussion took place and it was agreed to hold a special meeting on October 29th at 6:00 p.m.

New Business:

- A. Request to Increase Inspector's Fees and Permit Fees. Wright explained the memo from the Township Administrative Assistant, Lori Babinski, which asked to increase the fees paid to the township inspectors from \$37 to \$40 per inspection and the permit fees collected for inspections from \$42 to \$45 starting November 1st. Board discussion took place and it was agreed due to increased fuel prices the request is reasonable. **Motion by Wright, seconded by Wester to increase the fees paid to the electrical, plumbing, and mechanical inspectors to \$40 per inspection, and increase the permit fees for those inspections to \$45 starting November 1, 2008.** Carried unanimously.
- B. Jim Hanson, Planning Commission Annual Report. Planning Commission Chair Jim Hanson read excerpts from the annual report citing 18 meetings held, the approvals given, and recommendations for the future. Board discussion took place regarding the preparation of a capital improvements program and agreed to address it further at the next meeting. Board congratulated Hanson and the commission as a whole on a very good job.
- C. Mechanical Inspector. Wester read a memo from Lori Babinski explaining the municipality group that jointly utilizes inspectors and their desire to terminate the mechanical inspector and replace him with a new one. Board discussion took place with Knikelbine and Roerig questioning the reasons behind the termination request. Roerig stated unless the individuals asking for the termination come to a meeting and explain their request he will not accept it. Knikelbine agreed and felt the request was an unfair one. **Motion by Wester, seconded by Roerig to table the request to terminate the Mechanical Inspector's agreement to next month's meeting and have individuals present to explain the request.** Board discussion took place and the motion carried unanimously.
- D. Banking Issues. Wester reported the Township is now diversifying funds into different banking institutions to ensure FDIC coverage for all municipal monies.
- E. Start Time for Future Meetings. Wester suggested trying a 6:00 pm start time for board meetings during the winter months. Board discussion took place and there was a **Motion by Roerig, seconded by Wester to move the start time of Township Board meetings to 6:00 for the winter months for a trial period starting December 1st and reviewing again May 1st.** Carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. No report.
- B. Road Commission. Roerig reported on a meeting with Lakeshore residents where it was identified federal money is earmarked to repair the road. He stated they are hopeful to have it corrected by spring. Roerig also reported the sub-area plan desires to re-connect the North and South sides due to emergency response times to the South side. Board discussion took place.
- C. Interurban. Knikelbine stated they recently approved a 4% wage increase with an additional 5¢ per hour for each year of employment over 5. She added she was the lone no vote as it amounted to quite a bit. Board discussion took place.
- D. Fire Authority. Wright reported the fall open house at the fire department would be this Sunday.
- E. Supervisors Report. Wester stated they are continuing talks with the Land Conservancy in an effort to purchase the South Denison.
- F. County Commissioner Report. Terry Burns updated Board on various County issues.

Public comment was offered. Hearing none, public comment was closed.

Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date

Bill Wester, Township Supervisor

Date