

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010, 9:30 a.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and noted the reason for the special meeting is to discuss possible settlement with Saugatuck Dunes LLC regarding the tax tribunal litigation.

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

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Assessor Sherry Mason and (arriving at 9:37) Manager Phil Quade.

Wester opened the special meeting to public comment. Hearing none, he closed that portion of the meeting.

Wester asked for discussion from the board. Roerig recognized Attorney Lasher appointed an appraiser in order to meet the court deadline. Wester verified Lasher appointed Michael Tarnow, an appraiser from Northern Michigan Appraisals in Traverse City for approximately \$29,000. He added Tarnow has experience with the tax tribunal courts.

Roerig gave his opinion that if we choose to settle, we should recapture all costs to date for monies spent to uphold the values being contested as well as disallowing all depositions taken from any future litigation.

Hanson suggested a settlement meeting in public to show we are trying to save money and work with Saugatuck LLC in good faith. Roerig asked to hold a special public joint meeting with the Board of Review, Attorney Lasher, and the Township Board to hear the Board of Review member's reasons for previous denials to lower taxable values on the Saugatuck LLC parcels; ask the attorney of his expectations of winning a tax tribunal case regarding the parcels; and attempting to arrive at an agreeable lower value to offer as a settlement, if possible. Wester will arrange the meeting.

Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date