

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2013 6:00 p.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Brad Rudich, Treasurer Lori Babinski, Trustee Jonathan Phillips and Trustee Roy McIlwaine.

Members Absent: None.

Public Comment: Wester opened public comment. David Swan of SDCA urged the board to pass a resolution to review the 35% open space requirement and requested the ZBA review road placement and hire a new attorney. Larry Dickie, Old Allegan Rd., commented on standing issue.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda, or changes to the consent agenda. McIlwaine requested action on David Swan resolution requested added. Wester requested under correspondence to add the City of Saugatuck annexation. Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.

- A. Accounts Payable,
 - i. ALLEGAN COUNTY TREASURER through THE KERNS GROUP.
Total to be paid \$10,461.74
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(Check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Bills by Fund
- D. Approval of Minutes, March 6th 2013, Regular Board Meeting.

Motion by McIlwaine was seconded by Phillips to approve the agenda as amended. Carried 5 to 0.

Correspondence:

- A. Kirk Harrier and Bill Hess from the City of Saugatuck presented information on City's proposed annexation of Saugatuck Natural Harbor area, which the City owns. Police Chief Giles also commented on law enforcement. Saugatuck City presented several options on the annexation. Rudich supported the second option, where both the Township and the City would get together to approve an agreement. Rudich and McIlwaine volunteered to serve on committee.
- B. County Commissioner Dean Kappenga dropped off correspondence.
- C. Mark Ludwig, Allegan Conservation District commented on Phragmites control.
- D. Dennis McKey, Consumers Power, commented on new meter installation.
- E. David Swan, SDCA, requested action on ZBA was supported by McIlwaine. No support.

Unfinished Business:

- A. ZBA Legal representation, motion to table made by Wester, second by Babinski. Carried 5-0.

- B. Legal fees billing rate request discussion. Wester suggested \$130 per hour rate up to \$50,000, then anything after that would be billed at \$100 per hour. Wester would bring to attorney.
- C. Township manager and salary for Aaron Sheridan. Motion to go into closed session made by Wester, second by Rudich. Roll call vote, Phillips, Babinski, Rudich, McIlwaine and Wester all vote yes. (As anticipated, board went into closed session to discuss employee). Motion to come out of closed session made by Wester, second by Phillips. Carried 5-0. McIlwaine makes motion to name Aaron Sheridan acting township manager with salary of \$38,000 effective May 1st. After one year his performance will be evaluated. Upon positive evaluation his title could be changed from acting manager to township manager.
- D. Cemetery agreement. Wester commented on proposed cemetery agreement that McIlwaine and Wester negotiated. Board agreed.

New Business:

- A. Road Project, dust control. Phillips explained the contract was for dust control for several roads, in summer. Motion to approve by Phillips, second by Wester. Motion passed 5-0.
- B. Allegan County Road Commission requested supporting of additional road funding by Resolution. Motion to adopt resolution made by Babinski, second by Phillips. Motion passed 5-0.
- C. Newspaper advertising contract. Wester commented on advertising bid. Discussion as to Local Observer verses Commercial Record. Motion to use the Commercial Record made by Wester, second by Phillips. Motion passed 4-1.
- D. Appointment to the ZBA as Alternate, Harbor Authority Liason. Discussion on postponing ZBA pick until more applicants are received. ZBA appointment tabled until April 11th. Wester commented on applicants as the Harbor Authority Liason. McIlwaine supported Jon Helmrich. Motion to appoint Helmrich made by Rudich, second by McIlwaine. Discussion between Helmrich and the board. Motion passed 5-0.
- E. Douglas annexation discussion. Wester suggested becoming a Charter Township to defend against annexation.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. Rudich reported that the planning commission approved two plans.
- B. Road Commission. Phillips stated that the road commission was installing new guardrails on Wiley Rd.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported. Discussion on extended hours in season.
- D. Fire Board. Rudich reported that the Fire board received training as a board. The new Mini-Pumper arrived.
- E. Supervisor's Report. No report.

Public Comment: Wester opened the meeting to public comment. Jane Dickie of Old Allegan Rd. commented on attorney and requested new ZBA counsel. Larry Dickie of Old Allegan Rd. commented on open space and suggested the ZBA clarify the critical dune ordinance for the future. Garret Sturus of Old Allegan Rd. commented on Bow Fishing on the Kalamazoo River, overnight on May 4th. Hearing no further comments, **Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned.** Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.