

Saugatuck Township Board
Approved **MINUTES**

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD

Wednesday October 1, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
Saugatuck Township Hall
3461 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453

MINUTES

Supervisor Bill Wester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Bill Wester, Lori Babinski, Brad Rudich, Roy McIlwaine.

Members Absent: Jonathon Phillips.

Public Comment: Phyllis Yff, Interurban Director stated she would be happy to take questions regarding the Interurban appointment.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for changes to the agenda. Rudich mentioned there was a late e-mail from the Township attorney regarding the Kleinmuntz Plat vacation and asked that be added to new business. There was also additional information from Rich Beebe regarding his appointment, and information on the audio update to be added. Agenda approved.

Consent Agenda: Wester asked for questions regarding bills to be paid. McIlwaine questioned the cemetery electricity bills. Rudich will add more information to invoices. McIlwaine questioned check to Macatawa Bank, which was for Sewer Bonds. McIlwaine questioned the door repair, Sheridan stated it happened on election day. Wester questioned check for refund of deposit on room rental. Wester made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Rudich seconded. Consent Agenda passes 4-0.

Correspondence: No correspondence.

Unfinished Business:

- A. ZBA Alternate and Interurban Board Appointments. Wester stated Rich Beebe and Doug Lane asked to be appointed. Rudich stated Lane would serve on any board where needed. Wester made the motion to appoint Doug Lane as ZBA Alternate, Rudich seconded. No discussion. Motion passes 4-0.
- B. Rudich asked for discussion on reappointing Phil Quade. Babinski stated that opinions from the attorneys state that Quade only had to live in one of the three Municipalities, and that Quade qualified. Babinski stated Quade was a founder and had a long background with the Interurban. Wester stated that Judith Schneider and Dawn Phillips also applied. Judith Schneider spoke on her behalf. Schneider stated that she used the Interurban frequently and was familiar with the system and drivers. Wester stated he would like a change on the board. McIlwaine thought there might be a conflict with appointing Dawn Phillips. Rudich stated he was on the fence about Quade, stating that Quade had valuable experience with the Interurban, but would like to see a township resident in the position. Babinski thought Quade could represent the township. McIlwaine thought change might be good. Rudich mentioned that Doug Lane also applied for the Interurban Board. McIlwaine asked Interurban Director Phyllis Yff for comment. Yff stated she appreciated the history and knowledge that Quade has. Wester and McIlwaine asked if Quade could consult in the future. Wester made the motion to appoint Judith Schneider to Interurban Board, second by Rudich. No discussion. Motion carries 3-1.

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- C. Audio Visual Update. Sheridan presented quotes for new audio system. Low bid was from Van Noords. Wester made the motion to allow Sheridan to hire Van Noords Entertainment to install. Support from Rudich. Motion passes 4-0.

New Business:

- A. Edgewater Presentation. Greg Wykamp from Edgewater Engineering gave a powerpoint presentation on proposed Saugatuck Harbor plans. Discussion on costs to pay for dredging. Resident Gerrit Sturuss asked how far the Harbor plan would go east. Wykamp said Silver Lake was not included in the plan currently. The proposal would be for a low cost and low maintenance dredging solution.
- B. Karaus Property. Wester asked Sheridan to update the board. Al Ellingsen sent a notice of dangerous building to the owner. This is the beginning of the process to clean up the property.
- C. Kleinmuntz Plat Vacation. Sheridan explained this was an outdated paper plat that the township was being sued to vacate. Township attorney Bultje had no objection to vacating the plat. Wester questioned acting on the vacation, as it was not noticed for the current meeting. Item was tabled to be discussed at a special meeting on Friday October 3rd.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. Rudich stated that Planning Commission held a public hearing on changes to the SAU (Special Approval Use) table, regarding Wells, gas/oil, in all zoning districts. All the districts were changed to SAU.
- B. Road Commission. No report.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported the board approved a two percent pay increase for all employees. Ridership is at the second highest level ever. The day before and after Thanksgiving had low ridership. The board will look at extending Valentine's day hours. Next project is to review the Interurban bylaws.
- D. Fire Board. McIlwaine reported contributions paid for the LUCAS CPR device and the Fire Department thanks the community. The fire alarm is almost fixed. A snow plow was authorized for purchase. Chief Janik will be looking for an assistant. New part time firefighters are beginning training.
- E. Ambulance Committee. Wester stated the bylaws are being reviewed.
- F. Harbor Authority. Jon Helmrich reported that discussion was on buoy removal. R.J. Peterson will remove the buoys. On September 11th Saugatuck and Douglas Mayors and Managers visited South Haven for a presentation on a public marina and revenue possibilities. Saugatuck will pay for half of the Edgewater presentation.
- G. Open Board Report. McIlwaine attended a meeting regarding the Mclendon Property, to look into State grants to purchase the property. He stated there was material available for individuals to ask the State to support the initial \$500,000 grant. Rudich asked to postpone the joint board meeting until after the planning commission reviews the R-4 and Critical Dune ordinances to bring them in line with legal judgements. There was no objection to the change.

Public Comments: State Senator Tonya Schuitmaker explained the Senate district had been redrawn to include Allegan County. Senator Schuitmaker spoke to ask for support for her re-election. Resident Gerrit Sturuss asked about tax increases on pensions. Schuitmaker explained several tax breaks were taken away for higher incomes. Resident Dana Migita took issue with Prosecutor Fred Anderson who not take up a theft charge regarding her peacocks.

There being no further business, Wester declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Brad Rudich, Clerk