



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP

WWW.SAUGATUCKTOWNSHIP.ORG

3461 BLUE STAR HIGHWAY
P.O. BOX 100
SAUGATUCK, MI 49453

PHONE (269) 857-7721
FAX (269) 857-4542

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD

Wednesday December 2, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
Saugatuck Township Hall
3461 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453

APPROVED MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., with the pledge of allegiance.

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Manager Aaron Sheridan.

Public Comment: County Commissioner Dean Kappinga gave a report on Community Corrections Advisory Board , 847 inmates had participated in this program. Circuit Court Judge Baker adopted the program “70 times 7” and has successfully matched former felons with jobs. West Side County park improvements attracted many residents in 2015. Community Action had funds available thanks to a mild November. In regards to the new 911 radio system, all options were being explored. David Gernant introduced himself as candidate for Michigan House 80th district.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for changes to the agenda. Rudich asked to add Harbor Report to Reports..

Consent Agenda: Wester asked for questions regarding the consent agenda. McIlwaine asked about BS & A Software renewal fee. Rudich answered that the fee was an annual fee and support for the year. BS & A is widely used by the Municipalities in Michigan, including Allegan County. Phillips made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, support from Wester. No discussion. Consent Agenda passes 5-0.

Correspondence: Allegan Conservation District Request. Justin Burchett of the Conservation District made a formal request for funds from the Township. Board agreed that funding was not permissible. Wester made the motion to instruct Sheridan to decline the request, Rudich seconded. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Tri-Community Master Plan agreement. Sheridan explained that there was a schedule of items to be completed from the consultants to help finish the Master Plan. Township has completed several steps and is waiting on review period from neighboring municipalities. No action taken.

New Business:

- A. Allegan County Objection to Transfer of Ownership. Wester asked Sheridan to explain. Sheridan explained that parcels that Allegan County could not sell would transfer to the Township unless an

objection was written. Wester made the motion to object to transfer, support from Rudich. Roll call vote: Rudich, Wester, Babinski, Phillips, McIlwaine all vote yes. Resolution passes 5-0.

- B. Saugatuck Cemetery Services Agreement. Wester stated he was in favor of approving new agreement. McIlwaine was concerned that other direct costs were not included in the new agreement, specifically electricity for both cemeteries. Rudich stated the Township has a cemetery millage, the cities do not. Wester made the motion to approve the Cemetery Services Agreement, support from Phillips. Discussion on contract for services 4-1.
- C. Saugatuck School 2016 Tax Collection Agreement. Babinski reported that the Township charges \$3.28 per parcel to collect taxes for the schools. Wester asked if there was any action needed. Rudich stated that approval was needed. Rudich made the motion to collect \$3.28 per parcel from Saugatuck Schools for the 2016 tax year, supported by Wester. No discussion. Motion passes 5-0.
- D. Blue Star Trail Construction and Maintenance Resolution. Sheridan stated that the Allegan County Road Commission wanted a resolution that pledged the Township would maintain the Blue Star Trail and that the Township was the applicant for the Grant. McIlwaine made the motion to approve the Resolution to Pledge Full Faith and Credit Toward Securing Grant Funds and Perpetual Maintenance of Blue Star Trail. Wester supported. No Discussion. Roll call vote: McIlwaine, Phillips, Babinski, Wester, Rudich all vote yes. Resolution passes 5-0.
- E. Fracking Discussion. McIlwaine requested an update from Rudich on the possibility of Fracking Ordinances. Rudich stated that two Ordinances that were considered were Wellhead Protection and Wetland Protection, along with a Truck Route Ordinance. After speaking with Zoning Administrator Kushion, it was believed to be too much of a burden on the Township to oversee these potential Ordinances. Wellhead Protection was already enforced by K.L.S.W.A. and the State of Michigan and Allegan County oversee the Wetlands. The State of Michigan has the final say in Oil and Gas drilling, which is hard to overcome. The Township had also received pro-bono legal help from Law Professor Sherry Batzer at Cooley Law School, and Batzer was no longer with Cooley. Rudich stated that the Table of Uses for Oil and Gas well drilling had been changed to require an SAU in all zoning districts, and Batzer helped with the non-substantive corrections of all of the Townships Ordinances. By requiring Oil and Gas wells to be brought to the Planning Commission, the Township could work with plans on potential Fracking operations.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. No meeting.
- B. Road Committee. No report.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported that the employee handbook was submitted to the attorney for final review.
- D. Fire Board. McIlwaine stated that the response time was at 5.5 minutes. Cost recovery efforts had brought in \$14,000. The LUCAS system for CPR was successfully used. The School was made aware that the Fire Department would charge for standby at football games. Discussion on critical hydrants cleared of snow. New roofing will be done by the end of the year.
- E. Open Board Report. Sheridan reported the costs on the Southgate project would be approximately \$10,188 and the utilities were found to be in good shape.
- F. Harbor Report. John Helmrich reported that the Harbor Authority had met and discussed bouy issues, and the Edgewater plans. The Michigan DNR reached out to the Authority to consult on potential conversion of a marina to public municipal marina. The Edgewater presentation was a three prong proposal, with a possible 30 million cost. This included changes to the Swingbridge area and the Petersen dredged material pile near St. Peters Church. Dredged material could be used as sound berms along I-196.

Public Comment: None. There being no further business, Wester declared the meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Brad Rudich, Clerk