

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, October 10th, 2023

Supervisor Ruzick called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Daniel J. Ruzick-Supervisor, Chantel Reyna-Clerk, Bruce Cutting-Trustee, Phil Tarchala-Trustee

Board Members Absent: Bonnie Osborne-Treasurer

Also Present: Six guests

Motion by Reyna, second by Tarchala to approve the agenda as submitted. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment:

Paul Schincariol – Van Buren County Commissioner

- Parks and Rec committee has been formed at the County.
- Budget and apportionment report approved.
- Holtec is working to license the power plant for future operation.
- Agreements renewed with Domestic Violence Coalition, MSU Extension and the Van Buren County Conservation District.
- There are no property tax rollbacks for 2023.
- Donation received to repair damage at Historical museum in Hartford.
- Veterans services has secured \$5,990,000 in benefits for veterans in the County.
- Van Buren County has pledged ARPA funds for a youth arts center with the Van Buren Intermediate School District.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Reyna to approve previous minutes from Regular Scheduled Township Board Meeting on September 12th, 2023. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

- A. **Paw Paw Seventh Day Adventist Church requests retroactive approval of a digital ground sign at 60409 M-40 Highway, Paw Paw, MI 49079 (Parcel # 80-02-019-006-00). Planning Commission recommends approval.**

Motion by Tarchala, second by Cutting to approve the retroactive approval of a digital sign. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Pending Business

None

New Business:

A. Mattawan Fire pumper purchase

New fire truck was delivered with a price of \$802,625.10. The Township Board approved an amount of \$788,000.00. Mattawan Fire Department had a change order for the truck which resulted in the difference in price. Supervisor Ruzick informed the department that the Board needs to approve changes before they happen. Chief Brooks is aware of the policy for large purchases.

Motion by Cutting, second by Reyna to approve the change order on the new pumper truck for a total of \$802,625.10 without additional equipment needed to make it operational. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

B. Antwerp Township and Van Buren County Road Commission satellite facility

Supervisor Ruzick met with the Road Commission for discussion on the satellite facility. Looking for direction from the Board on whether or not to move forward with getting bids for site preparation. The Township Board would like Supervisor Ruzick to collect bids on items needed to prepare the site for a new facility.

Correspondence:

VBCRC weekly updates
Market Van Buren annual report

Announcements

None.

Reports:

Attorney
None

Treasurer- Chantel Reyna
\$241,263.87 in general fund

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna
Antwerp: 30 permits for September including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$5,590.00.
Almena: 21 permits for September including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$4,367.00.

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting
Issues with Bloomingdale facility

Sunshine Branch Library- Chantel Reyna
Library will participate in October pumpkin festival.
Harry Potter day is Saturday October 28.

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting
Short meeting. Paid bills.

Paw Paw Fire Department -Dan Ruzick
Paid bills. Great attendance at annual dinner.

Mattawan Fire Department – Chief Brooks
69 call for the month of September.
Christmas party will be November 25th at Kalamazoo Country Club.

Cemeteries - Chantel Reyna
Two burials in September

Planning Commission -
Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Zoning Board of Appeals -
Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Public Comment:

Supervisor Ruzick received a letter from Paw Paw Eagles requesting ARPA funds to install and upgrade the high-speed internet at the Club. They have signed a contract with Bloomingdale Communications while the Township is working with Midwest Energy to secure internet to that area. The Township Board has already pledged funds to Midwest.

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$219,660.03.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Cutting to pay the bills in the amount of \$219,660.03. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes; Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Reyna second by Osborne to adjourn.
All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna