

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY February 11, 2014 7:00 PM
approved

Supervisor Ruzick called the Township Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Daniel J. Ruzick-Supervisor, Bonnie Osborne-Treasurer; Heather Mitchell-Clerk,
Bruce Cutting – Trustee.

Board Members Absent: Ron Derhammer – Trustee.

Also Present: Thirteen guests.

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve the agenda as presented. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to approve minutes from January 14, 2014 as mailed. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment: None.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

A. Outdoor Donation Collection Facilities

An amendment to the Antwerp Township Zoning Ordinance including definitions and use regulations for Outdoor Donation Collection Facilities. Public hearing was held on February 5, 2014. A permit shall be obtained before an outdoor donation collection facility is placed within the Township. All facilities must be permitted by the Zoning Administrator with a fee of \$200. Planning commission recommends approval.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Osborne to approve amendment including definitions and use regulations for Outdoor Donation Collection facilities to the Antwerp Township Zoning Ordinance.

Roll Call Vote: Ruzick-yes; Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes. Motion carries.

B. Farm Micro-Breweries

An amendment to the Antwerp Township Zoning Ordinance adding definitions and amending use requirements. Public hearing was held on February 5, 2014. Planning Commission recommends approval.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to approve amendment regarding Farm Micro Breweries to the Antwerp Township Zoning Ordinance.

Roll Call Vote: Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes; Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

Pending Business: None.

New Business:

A. Resolution: County Trail System

Van Buren County Road Commission is asking for support in efforts to connect trail ways across the county, including snowmobiles trails from Paw Paw to Hartford. Resolution includes support of

acquiring the West Michigan Railroad Co rail line from Hartford to Paw Paw for public use for non-motorized connections.

Motion by Cutting, second by Mitchell to approve resolution in support of a county wide trail system. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Correspondence: 4th Qtr. 2013 Household Hazardous Waste Center; Senior Service Financial Report; Mattawan Fire Department letters purchase of new vehicle and increased wages for employee.

Announcements:

Reports:

Ordinance Officer Mark Hamre

Monitoring blight, one small issue on 32nd St. The sheriff's department took 41 calls in January. A full report of all calls is available at the Township Hall.

Road Commission Al Svilpe

Maintenance of roads for winter has taken up almost 50% of budget within first five (5) weeks. Winter has wreaked havoc on roads, as weather permits and temperatures get above freezing potholes will be filled. Crews are working on pushing back snow for increased visibility. Damages to mailboxes should be addressed at the VBCRC.

Attorney Harold Schuitmaker

No report.

Treasurer Bonnie Osborne

\$123,223.62 in general fund checking. Winter taxes are due by Friday, February 28, 2014. Antwerp Township treasurer's office will be open from 7 am - 5pm.

Building Activity Heather Mitchell

Eleven (11) permits for January, including building, electrical, mechanical and plumbing.

Sunshine Branch Library Bonnie Osborne

Junior Friends of Library will have a lock in on February 21.

Lawton Fire Department Bruce Cutting

End of fiscal year, looking at equipment purchases needed for next year.

Mattawan Fire Department Bonnie Osborne

Fire Board approved up to \$60,000 for a new support vehicle and an increase of \$1.00/hour for employee effective March 1, 2014. Policies and procedures have been adopted for equipment use and background checks will be performed on all drivers. Total membership is 40 active members and 12 active cadets. Cadet program has been very successful.

Cemeteries Heather Mitchell

One (1) burial in January.

Mattawan Quick Response Bonnie Osborne

Paid bills; one new member.

Planning Commission Ron Derhammer

February meeting included public hearings for outdoor donation collection facilities, farm micro-breweries and keeping of animals amendments to the Antwerp Township Zoning Ordinance. Keeping of

Animals amendment has been sent to MDARD for their review. PC looking into survey for farmer's market. Meeting minutes are available in the Township hall or online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Zoning Board of Appeals Heather Mitchell

No meeting in January.

Public Comment: None

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response and Mattawan Fire Department bills in the amount of \$48,653.71.

Motion by Cutting, second by Mitchell to accept bills for payment.

Roll Call Vote: Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes; Ruzick-yes; Mitchell-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Mitchell to adjourn.

All voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Mitchell/Clerk