

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY January 13, 2015 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.

Also Present: 11 guests.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Osborne to approve the agenda with the additions of C. Senior Services Budget, D. VBSS Membership, E. VBSS Damage Reimbursement Request and F. Antwerp Senior Services Lunch Expenditure under New Business. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment: Question on ownership and taxes for VBEMS.

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve December 9, 2014 minutes. Four voted in favor, Derhammer abstained. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations: None

New Business:

A. Texas Township/Antwerp Township Intergovernmental Agreement

Antwerp Township and Texas Township joined into a joint administration back in 2012 for sharing the cost and responsibilities of Building Inspector. The current contract ended on December 31, 2013 and needs to be renewed. With the same terms set forth as in previous contracts, the Antwerp Township Board of Trustees reviewed said contract.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Osborne to approve a two (2) year agreement for building inspection services ending on December 31, 2016. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

B. Kalamazoo Senior Services Temporary Agreement

Dave Carroll and Tauhric Brown made a presentation to the Antwerp Township Senior Services Advisory Board to provide certain programs for Antwerp Township Senior Services. Programs would run on a three (3) month trial in order to diagnose the true need of services within Antwerp Township and to gain a better understanding of how the programs will need to be curtailed for Antwerp Township. These programs along with others developed by the advisory board will continue to be reviewed and introduced as interest is gained. The advisory board made a recommendation for the Board of Trustees to accept a three (3) month trial period with Kalamazoo County Senior Services.

Concerns were raised about how money is being spent on delineating survey results, felt committee could have done that. Advisory board members were present to explain the need to have a professional company stratify results.

Motion by Cutting, second by Mitchell.

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

C. Senior Services Budget

Overview of budget for Antwerp Township Senior Services of revenue and expenses of \$86,600. Working budget gives an idea of beginning stages and will continue to be reviewed. Advisory committee is conscious of highest priorities and needs.

Motion by Cutting, second by Mitchell to adopt budget for Antwerp Township Senior Services.

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

D. VBSS Membership

At the advisory board meeting on December 30, Jennifer Carver was present to review cost of non-participating township residents who continue to use Senior Services of Van Buren County programs. Senior Services of Van Buren County Board voted to enact a membership fee of \$120/year for each individual and \$180/year for a couple. The membership fee will allow access to each facility used by SSVBC, but does not cover additional fees for food or activities. Jennifer mentioned that scholarships are available and that volunteering can also lower your membership fee. The membership fee will be charged for all residents in municipalities who are not sending millage monies directly to their organization.

Antwerp Township Board and Advisory Committee are looking into how help can be offered for those who would still like to attend these programs. At this point, we need to have numbers on how many people are still using SSVBC services. Applications for membership will be collected and reviewed in the coming weeks.

E. VBSS Damage Reimbursement Request

On January 7, Supervisor Ruzick received a letter from Georgia Yurkinas, Office Manager, of Van Buren County Senior Services requesting a reimbursement of \$305.96 for chairs that were damaged in the Antwerp Township Activity Center in January of 2014.

Township Board feels that this is too much time has passed to reimburse these expenses and will send a letter explaining that the reimbursement should have been requested in a more timely manner along with a copy of the request from Antwerp Township to Senior Services to put up a lock gate in order to protect their chairs left in the Activity Center.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Osborne to send a letter back denying the reimbursement based on the fact Township Board asked Senior Services to better protect chairs left in the Activity Center and more than a year has passed since buying new chairs. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

F. Antwerp Township Lunch Expenditure

Current policy of Antwerp Township is that expenditures up to \$500 can be made without prior approval of the Township Board. Supervisor Ruzick is asking the Township Board to allow the Senior Services Advisory Committee the option to expend up to \$1,000 and for approval of providing the kick off lunch on January 21 at no cost to residents over the age of 60.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to allow the advisory committee leeway of up to \$1000 in expenditures without prior approval from Township Board.

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

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to approve the expenditure for the kick off lunch on January 21 from general fund. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Correspondence:

- VBCRC Summary 1-5-15 Godfrey

Announcements:

- Kickoff Luncheon January 21, 2015

Reports:

Ordinance Officer Mark Hamre

A full report of all calls is available at the Township Hall.

Van Buren County Road Commission Al Svilpe

Starting to see budget decrease with snow removal, but still in good shape. Resolution passed by VBCRC on primary millage funds and local millage funds assistance regarding turnaround time and spending of monies.

Treasurer Bonnie Osborne

\$135,176.22 in general fund checking.

Building Activity Heather Mitchell

22 permits for December including Building, Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing in the amount of \$3452.00.

Sunshine Branch Library Bonnie Osborne

Lego Club is meeting on the third Saturday of each month. Kay McAdam received 2014 librarian of the year. New computer programs will be starting, along with jewelry classes.

Lawton Fire Department Bruce Cutting

Short meeting, purchased 4 full and one partial turnout gear, and paid bills.

Mattawan Fire Department Bonnie Osborne

One new member, 160 calls for 2014.

Cemeteries Heather Mitchell

Three (3) burials in December.

Mattawan Quick Response Bonnie Osborne

473 calls for 2014.

Planning Commission Ron Derhammer

Meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. Next meeting is Wednesday, February 4 at 7:00 pm.

Zoning Board of Appeals Heather Mitchell

No meeting in December.

Public Comment: Kickoff luncheon will be January 21 at noon.

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response and Mattawan Fire Department bills in the amount of \$41,357.87.

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

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

Motion by Osborne, second by Mitchell to adjourn.

All voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Mitchell/Clerk