

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, February 14, 2017 6:30 PM
approved

Supervisor Ruzick called the Township Board meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Board Members Absent:

Also Present: 27 guests.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Osborne to approve agenda with addition of **D. Secant Technology Proposal** under **New Business**. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment: Residents from Silver Oaks and Brownstone Subdivisions were present to deliver a petition and express concerns relative to safety on the proposed site condominium by Powell Custom Homes. Various residents voiced concerns over the extension of Silver Oaks Blvd and Vargas Ln. Specific concerns were towards the length of Silver Oaks Blvd, once new plat is finished, which would reach one mile from point A to point B. This lends itself to speeding issues and is a major concern for people living along the street, especially those with young children. Residents would rather see the connection be achieved through a trail or pathway instead of a road expansion. Other concerns were regarding property values decreasing, current road not being wide enough to support expansion, and whether or not greenbelts being preserved. Residents expressed that in no way are they against the new development, they simply would like to have their concerns heard and taken into account before the plans are finalized. Supervisor Ruzick explained the process of approval for subdivisions and site condominiums; encouraged residents to engage the Van Buren County Road Commission regarding the extension of roads. Next meeting for the VBCRC is Thursday, February 16.

Motion by Cutting, second by Derhammer to approve the January 11, 2017 with two changes. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

A. Site Condominium Plan Review: Powell Custom Homes, Single Family residential development on CR 652/48th Avenue (Parcel #80-02-002-002-01). Planning Commission recommends approval with conditions set forth by planner memo dated January 19, 2017.

Tom Stephenson, Engineer, gave an overview of the proposed development; explained the approval process through local municipality, road commission, health department, and drain commission office. All plans at this point are tentative and awaiting approvals. The road extension are approved by the Van Buren County Road Commission and Powell Custom Homes have designed and plan to build new roads according the VBCRC specifications asking VBCRC to take road over as public roads.

Again, Township Board, encouraged residents with concerns over road expansion to voice them to the Van Buren County Road Commission as well. Our approval is relative to zoning and within scope of approval cannot ask developer or road commission to change specifications relative to roads and placement thereof.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to approve site condominium plan review from Powell Custom Homes with conditions as set forth in a January 19, 2017 memo from Williams & Works. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Board took short recess. Reconvened at 7:38 pm.

New Business:

A. Response letter to Larry Hummel and Van Buren County Road Commission

Supervisor Ruzick drafted a letter asking for support from the remaining Board of Trustees by affixing their signature urging the Van Buren County Road Commission to review their current policy of millage money distribution regarding primary roads. In addition, the Township is asking for authorization to bid our own local road projects rather than utilizing the VBCRC for that step within repair and maintenance work. In reviewing past years, the Township believes we would have cost savings by performing this step on our own. Currently, the Road Commission does not believe this is within the scope of abilities of the Township.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Osborne to approve the letter and once signed by all Board members to send the letter to Larry Hummel. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

B. Mattawan Mechanical Bid

The Activity Center currently houses three (3) furnaces. Within the last month, one of the furnaces was beyond repair and needed replacement. In efforts for energy efficiency and cost savings, Township pursued bid of replacing all three (3) furnaces at the same time. Mattawan Mechanical did come in at low bid with price of parts, installation and labor at \$8286.50.

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve bid by Mattawan Mechanical at \$8,286.50 for three furnaces. Roll Call Vote: Cutting-yes; Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes; Derhammer-yes; Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

C. Website Maintenance

Clerk Mitchell gave a brief overview of need to have website in ADA compliance by January of 2018. Recent conference call from Site Improv provided details on identifying problems within website, along with overall general health and maintenance. Cost is an annual subscription of \$3,000. Board is asking Clerk Mitchell to continue researching information and other vendor who might provide this same service.

D. Secant Technology Proposal

Supervisor Ruzick and Clerk Mitchell recently met with Jerry Minich from Secant Technologies to review current contract for BusinessCloud and adding an addendum for desktop care. The cost is \$1253.75/monthly for the BusinessCloud and \$712 annual fee including a \$40 set up which will drop off after the first year for the managed care for desktops.

Motion by Cutting, second by Derhammer to approve Secant Technology contract, including addendum for DeskTop Care 2.0.

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

Correspondence: VBCRC January 13, 2017 letter

Announcements: Antwerp Township Senior Services presented an update to County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, February 14.

Reports:

Van Buren County Road Commissioner Al Svilpe

Concentrating on potholes and tree trimming with warmer weather. Discussion on relationship between VBCRC and Antwerp Township. Township had requested, some time ago, that the VBCRC review its' fund distribution

for primary roads. As of now, VBCRC has remained firm in its position that the funding will not change. Related frustrations to our representative. Board feels that we are being ignored.

Ordinance Officer Marcus Hamre
Reviewed blight report and calls within Antwerp Township.

Treasurer Bonnie Osborne
\$161,333.21 in general fund checking. Working with attorney in placing lien against Formula K in efforts to capture tax monies owed from IFTs.

Building Activity Heather Mitchell
Six (6) permits for January including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$865.00.

Sunshine Branch Library Bonnie Osborne
VBDL is looking to place a new sign on building and out front for Antwerp Sunshine Library. A tree will be removed to make room for the sign. Teenage creative writing starting up, infant to 18 month reading program started.

Lawton Fire Department Bruce Cutting
Reviewed preliminary budget.

Mattawan Fire Department Bonnie Osborne
Hazmat will now be routed through Kalamazoo instead of Benton Harbor.

Cemeteries Heather Mitchell
One (1) burial in January.

Mattawan Quick Response Bonnie Osborne
Purchasing new chassis for truck at \$49,000.

Planning Commission Ron Derhammer
Mark Boven; PCH reviewed. Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Zoning Board of Appeals Heather Mitchell
Set new officers and meeting schedule for 2017. Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Public Comment: None

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$95,950.20.

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

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

Motion by Osborne, second by Mitchell to adjourn.

All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Mitchell/Clerk