

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 9th, 2019

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Daniel J. Ruzick-Supervisor, Bonnie Osborne-Treasurer, Chantel Reyna-Clerk, Gary Stock- Trustee

Board Members Absent: Bruce Cutting-Trustee

Also, Present: Eleven guests

Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to approve agenda as submitted. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment:

- Deputy Skinner- *VBC Sheriff*
 1. Deputy Skinner briefly went over his report for the month of March. There were 60 calls in the Township.
 2. Deputy is working on the few blight issues within the Township.

- Emily Hickmott- *Van Buren Conservation District*

Emily is the new recycling coordinator and came to introduce herself and hand out some information about what the program does. The program is focusing in five areas; residents, students, municipalities, agricultural, and businesses. Supervisor Ruzick made mention that we would like to host a tire pick up in Antwerp Township. There are several dates throughout the year for disposal of chemical waste, paint, and tires as well as electronic recycling. Please check Antwerp Townships website for drop off dates and locations.

- Denise Schultz- *Resident*

Denise noticed that the time of the Township Board Meeting is being published incorrectly in the Courier Leader. Supervisor Ruzick is going to see about getting the correct time printed.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to approve the March 12th, 2019 Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

- A. Special Land Use and Site Plan. Cellco Partnership DBA Verizon Wireless 60407 C.R. 652 (Parcel # 80-02-024-016-00)**

Planning Commission is recommending approval with seven conditions. Conditions include:

1. Secure an MDOT Aeronautical Permit or provide written evidence that the project is exempt.
2. Install protective fencing prior to site disturbance.
3. If the cell tower is out of use for reasons other than routine maintenance and repairs for than 180 days, the Township is permitted to notify the owner that it shall be demolished. If the owner fails or refuses to do so, the Township is permitted to enter and remove the cell tower and shall be permitted to charge the costs of the same to the property owner as a lien and shall have a judgement for the costs of removal without the need for a court order.
4. Provide a geotechnical report to the Building Official along with the application for a building permit.
5. Provide a Knox box key on the gate.

6. Secure Van Buren County Drain Commission approval, if applicable.
7. Landscaping, screening, and building material requirements are waived.

Motion by Stock, second by Osborne to accept the Planning Commissions recommendation of approval based on the seven conditions listed above. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

B. Special Land Use and Site Plan. Lynn Transportation 62422 M-40 (Parcel # 80-02-020-022-02)

Planning Commission is recommending approval of plan submitted with four conditions. Conditions include:

1. Increase evergreen screening along the southwest property line between the truck docks and the lot line with 6-8 evergreen trees, in lieu of proposed shrubs.
2. Provide a compliant lighting plan and light fixture specifications.
3. Install protective fencing prior to site disturbance. The limits of disturbance should be tightly bound around the area of construction. Protective fencing must be installed to delineate preserved areas prior to development.
4. Secure outside agency approvals from Fire Department and Van Buren County Drain Commission.

Motion by Stock, second by Reyna to accept the Planning Commissions recommendation of approval base on the four conditions listed above. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Pending Business:

None

New Business:

A. Resolution to Prohibit Recreational Marihuana Establishments in Antwerp Township.

There has been discussion between the Planning Commission and Township Board regarding whether the Township would opt in or opt out of allowing recreational marihuana establishments. After much discussion, it seems that it is best for the Township to opt out until the State has laws in place. Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to prohibit recreational marihuana establishments in Antwerp Township. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Stock-yes. Motion carries.

B. Antwerp Township 2019 Road projects, Long Grove, 56th / 58th Ave, Paser ratings, various driveway culverts and boom mowing.

1. With Long Grove subdivision being repaved this year, and the water that continues to run down from Kalamazoo County, there are culverts that should be upgraded to handle the flow of water and keep the road from continuing to crumble. There are three culverts in the neighborhood that the VBCRC feels would need to be replaced. The Township is in works with the homeowners to get the culverts upgraded. There is one homeowner who has a rock wall around their culvert that would want that replaced as well. The approximate cost of this project would be \$8500. Motion by Stock, second by Osborne to replace culverts and rock wall in Long Grove neighborhood to increase longevity of the new paving. Roll call vote. Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.
2. The Township approved several road projects in 2019 but chose to opt out of 56th / 58th Ave project until the next budget year. The VBCRC contacted the awarded contractor for the project and stated that the Township was rescinding the project. After communication with the contractor, the Township explained that we would still be doing the project but wanted to postpone until the next budget year. The contractor has agreed to keep the same pricing if the Township signed the program sheet. Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to authorize Supervisor Ruzick to sign the contract for the project on 56th / 58th Ave. Roll call vote. Osborne-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.
3. Van Buren County Road Commission presented pricing for Paser rating, driveway culverts, and boom mowing projects. There was discussion on each project and the pricing to do them. Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to allow Supervisor Ruzick to sign the Paser rating project and the various driveway culverts project. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

C. Wage and Benefit Committee update

Supervisor Ruzick asked for an update on retiree insurance and compensation for committee members. Committee Chair Cutting did not attend the meeting, so the conversation has been tabled until next month.

D. Proposal to remove tree stump in front of Township Hall

The Township received two bids for removal of the stump located in front of the Township Hall. The first bid was from VanNiman Tree Services in the amount of \$250.00. The second bid was from K&H Tree Services in the amount of \$450.00. Motion by Stock, second by Osborne to accept VanNiman’s bid for removal. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Stock-yes. Motion carries.

E. Proposal bid drawings for new entrance (eastside) Activity Center

Nick Barnitz, structural engineer submitted a proposal to draw plans to create a new entrance similar to the current entrance on the east side of the building to create more handicap parking spaces for the growing Senior Services program with a cost of \$2950.00 Also included in the proposal would be drawings for creating a beverage service area inside the building for a cost of \$1250.00. Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to move forward with having Nick Barnitz draw the plans for these projects. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

F. Discussion on Hall rental policy.

The policy that was recently adopted states that the hall can be rented in the amount of \$800 security deposit and \$800 rental fee. In order to keep the hall being used, it was discussed that if someone needs a date that has not been rented within two weeks of the date of rental, maybe we offer a discount on the rental and security fee. Motion by Stock, second by Reyna to allow residents of Antwerp to rent the Activity Center for an event at a discounted rate of \$450 for security deposit and \$450 for rental if the event is booked within two weeks of the event taking place. Roll call vote; Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

Correspondence:

- Brief discussion on Paw Paw Township notice of public hearing regarding adoption of Off-Road Vehicles to be used on public roads within the Township.
- Letter from VBCRC to bidding contractors regarding 56th & 58th Ave project as well as 63rd Ave project.
- Letter from Arlen Winther to the Editor regarding Antwerp Township Senior Services growth over the last five years.
- Antwerp Township building department report for new construction
- VBCRC weekly updates

Announcements:

- None

Reports:

Attorney
None

Treasurer- Bonnie Osborne
\$471,070.55 in the general fund

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna
Antwerp: 30 permits for February including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$5,181.
Almena: 16 permits for February including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$3,641.

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting
No report

Sunshine Branch Library- Bonnie Osborne
The library will be hosting a May the 4th be with you promo to kick off summer reading. The library will be attending kindergarten round up and the elementary school to encourage & inform kids.

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting
No report

Paw Paw Fire Department -Dan Ruzick
Short meeting. Air packs have been delivered.

Mattawan Fire Department - Bonnie Osborne
Discussion on merger with QR.

Mattawan Quick Response - Bonnie Osborne
Discussion on the merger with the fire department.

Cemeteries - Chantel Reyna
Two burials in March.

Planning Commission - Gary Stock
Planning Commission had a long meeting and tabled some items until next month.
Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Zoning Board of Appeals - Gary Stock
No meeting.
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 \$373,413.02
Motion by Stock, second by Osborne to accept bills for payment. Roll Call Vote; Osborne-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to adjourn.
All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna