

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 10th, 2019

Supervisor Ruzick called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 pm.

- Mattawan Fire Department: 1.4 mills for an estimated \$354,820.89 for 2019 tax year.
- Lawton Fire Department: 1.4 mills for an estimated \$126,570.85 for the 2019 tax year.
- Paw Paw Fire Department: 1.4 mills for an estimated \$70,232.37 for the 2019 tax year.
- Mattawan Quick Response: .1184 mills for an estimated \$29,993.92 for the 2019 tax year.

Public Hearing closed at 6:27 pm.

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, Bruce Cutting-Trustee

Board Members Absent:

Also Present: six guests

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

Public Comment:

- Resident- expressed concerns regarding man riding bicycle around the Township with all his personal belongings. Supervisor Ruzick explained that he had contacted the man that day regarding his plans. The man stated that he was just traveling through town.

Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to approve previous minutes from August 14th, 2019 Regular Township Board Meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Presentation by Zachary Morris Executive Director, Market Van Buren

Director Zach Morris gave a brief presentation of the new company that he is bringing to the county. He is requesting participation from the Township in funding the new economic development group.

Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to agree to a three-year commitment with a start date to be determined and each year's contribution based off the formula created by Market Van Buren. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

- A. Special Land Use and Site Plan – Group Day Care Home. Ariana Fulton, 59799 Whitewood Drive, Mattawan, MI 49071 (Parcel # 80-02-125-036-10).**

Planning Commission recommends approval contingent on four conditions.

1. Parent parking shall be limited to the formal concrete driveway area.
2. A future sign shall be reviewed and permitted by the Township.
3. State permits shall be secured prior to operating a 7-12 child facility.
4. The applicant shall demonstrate that the Whitewood subdivision covenants and restrictions allow for group day care homes.

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve special land use and site plan with four conditions listed above. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

B. Special Land Use and Site Plan – Ground Mounted Solar Energy Collector. Mark Boven, 27772 C.R. 358, Lawton, MI 49065 (Parcel # 80-02-034-007-21).

Planning Commission recommends approval of the ground -mounted solar energy system with the condition that the entire system will be reviewed and approved by the Building Official before construction.

Motion by Stock, second by Osborne to approve special land use and site plan for ground mounted solar energy system. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

New Business:

A. Request to Rescind Qualified Agriculture PA 260 by Mark Boven

Mark Boven is requesting to rescind the PA 260 agreement he currently has on a piece of his property. He is willing to pay the recapture tax that would be due in doing so. Mr. Boven has completed the necessary paperwork to rescind the agreement and Assessor, Ben Brousseau, has completed his portion of the paperwork.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to approve the request to rescind the PA 260 agreements. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

B. Consumers Energy Company Franchise Ordinance

Attorney Seeber provided an ordinance that is more modern. The previous ordinance was for thirty years with the new ordinance being ten years.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to accept and sign the ordinance that was presented by Attorney Seeber. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

C. Silver Oaks Condominiums agreement with VBCRC

Antwerp Township and Almena Township will sign an agreement with the VBCRC for the final paving in the new phase of Silver Oaks. After discussion, the Township Board would like to see item 12 added to the agreement requiring the balance due for final paving to be placed in escrow.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to accept the agreement with the addition on item 12. Roll call vote; Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

D. Mattawan Fire Special Assessment

Public Hearing held at 6:00 pm. Assessment is for 1.4000 mills for the 2019 tax year for an estimated \$354,820.89 in tax revenue. The assessment will be levied on real property only.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to approve 1.4000 mills for the Mattawan Fire Special Assessment. Roll call vote; Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

E. Lawton Fire Special Assessment

Public Hearing held at 6:00 pm. Assessment is for 1.4000 mills for the 2019 tax year for an estimated \$126,570.85 in tax revenue. The assessment will be levied on real property only.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to approve 1.4000 mills for the Lawton Fire Special Assessment. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes. Motion carries.

F. Paw Paw Fire Special Assessment

Public Hearing held at 6:00 pm. Assessment is for 1.4000 mills for the 2019 tax year for an estimated \$70,232.37 in tax revenue. The assessment will be levied on real property only.

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve 1.4000 mills for Paw Paw Fire Special Assessment. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

G. Quick Response Special Assessment

Public Hearing held at 6:00 pm. Assessment is for .1184 mills for the 2019 tax year for an estimated \$29,993.92 in tax revenue. The assessment will be levied on real property only.

Motion by Stock, second by Osborne to approve .1184 mills for the Quick Response Special Assessment. Roll call vote; Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

H. Long Grove subdivision inter-county drain

It has been brought to the attention of the Board that we would have to establish an inter-county drain with Kalamazoo County in order to get the retention pond in Long Grove subdivision fixed to eliminate water issues within Antwerp Township. The Van Buren County Drain Commission has provided the application to establish the inter-county drain and a resolution to authorize the application.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to sign the resolution to authorize the application for laying out and designating an intercounty drainage district. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Cutting, second by Reyna to submit the application for laying out and designating and intercounty drainage district. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

I. Harwick Cemetery tree transplanting proposal

Peters Construction was recently awarded a bid to expand Harwick cemetery. In their bid was the cost of tree removal in the amount of \$2995 per tree. After inspection of the cemetery, Peters submitted an amendment to the contract. The amendment includes the transplanting of twelve trees in the amount of \$4,590.00. Motion by Stock, second by Cutting to accept the amendment of the contract for the transplanting of twelve trees. Roll call vote; Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes. Motion carries.

J. Laura Stiffler – Accountemps part time position

Laura Stiffler has been working through Accountemps for the Township since May 2019. Clerk Reyna is asking for the wage and benefit committee to consider hiring Laura as a part time employee of the Township. There is a buy out fee from Robert Half (Accountemps) to make her an employee with a max of 30 hours per week. The wage and benefit committee were in attendance of the Township Board Meeting and voted to hire Laura.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to hire Laura Stiffler as a part time employee with a max of 30 hours per week at a rate of \$18.00 per hour. Roll call vote; Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

Correspondence:

- VBCRC weekly updates

Announcements:

- None

Reports:

Attorney

None

Treasurer- Bonnie Osborne

\$185,060.01 in the general fund

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna

Antwerp: 55permits for August including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$10,209.00.

Almena: 34 permits for July including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$6,408.00.

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting

There was not a quorum at the last scheduled meeting.

Sunshine Branch Library- Bonnie Osborne

The library had 13 programs with 515 attendees.

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting

Short meeting. Paid the bills.

Paw Paw Fire Department -Dan Ruzick
No report

Mattawan Fire Department - Bonnie Osborne
Discussion regarding merger with QR

Mattawan Quick Response - Bonnie Osborne
Paid bills

Cemeteries - Chantel Reyna
Three burials in August.

Planning Commission - Gary Stock
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:

Mark Boven is requesting a portion of his application fee to be refunded. His application did not require a full site plan review. Trustee Stock will have a discussion with the Planning Commission regarding this and report back to the Township Board.

Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to allow Trustee Stock to have conversations between the Planning Commission and the Township Board regarding this refund. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$60,172.52.

Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to accept bills for payment. Roll Call Vote; Osborne-yes, Cutting-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 8:59pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna