

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM
Tuesday, July 14th, 2020

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

Supervisor Ruzick called the hearing to order to establish a commercial rehabilitation district at 23944 Red Arrow Highway, Mattawan

Public hearing closed at 6:38 p.m.

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: five guests

Motion by Stock, second by Osborne to approve agenda with the additions of item F. Van Buren County Road Commission. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve previous minutes from June 9, 2020 Regular Scheduled Board Meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve previous minutes from June 2, 2020 Budget Hearing. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment:

None

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

- A. Consideration of Special Land Use and Site Plan extension. Charles W. Brandt as Nightmare Realm 23492 Red Arrow Highway (Parcel # 80-02-001-017-02).**

Nightmare Realm is requesting an extension on progress to due the ongoing pandemic. Board has seen progress with cleaning and clearing at the property. At this time, there have been no permits pulled.

Motion by Stock, second by Cutting to grant a six-month extension to Nightmare Realm pending continued progress at the site location. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes. Motion carries.

- B. Mark Boven, West of 29253 62nd Avenue, Lawton, MI 49065 (Parcel # 80-02-021-027-30) tentative preliminary plat**

Mr. Boven presented all documentation needed to grant the tentative preliminary request. Planning Commission recommends approval.

Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to grant approval on the tentative preliminary plat with final approval pending approval from Van Buren County Road Commission, Van Buren County Drain Commission, Van Buren County Health Department, and the State of Michigan. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

C. Mark Boven, West of 29253 62nd Avenue, Lawton, MI 49065 (Parcel # 80-02-021-027-30) Final preliminary plat.

Mr. Boven presented all required approvals to move to the final preliminary phase of the plat.

Motion by Stock, second by Reyna to approve final preliminary plat request. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Old Business:

• **Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal beginning September 2020**

The wage and benefit committee has not met and would like a chance to review the policy before renewing. Renewal has been tabled to next month

• **Township policy on reopening**

Currently the Township office has been closed due to the pandemic. All office personal has been working remotely from home and taking appointments as needed for in person transactions. The Board feels that this way of conducting business has been successful and will recommend continuing to work remotely. This will be discussed again at the August meeting.

New Business:

A. List of Financial Institutions for Antwerp Township

Treasurer Osborne presented a list of financial institutions for the Township. The institutions included on the list were:

- a. Kalamazoo County State Bank
- b. Mercantile Bank of Michigan
- c. Consumers Credit Union
- d. Fifth Third Bank
- e. 1st Source One
- f. Chemical Bank
- g. First National Bank of Michigan

Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to approve the requested list of financial institutions for Antwerp Township. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

B. Resolution Adopting Commercial Rehabilitation District 23944 Red Arrow Highway

Township Board held a hearing to establish a Commercial Rehabilitation District for 23944 Red Arrow Highway. It was resolved by the Antwerp Township Board of Antwerp Township that 23944 Red Arrow Highway is established as a Commercial Rehabilitation District pursuant to the provisions of PA 210 of 2005.

C. Resolution Revoking Commercial Rehabilitation Certificate #C2017-013

Township Board sent paperwork in March 2020 stating the Commercial Rehabilitation certificate would be revoked if no building was to be constructed. To date, there is no building permit obtained therefore, be it resolved by the Township Board of the Township of Antwerp that the Township Board hereby revokes Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate number C2017-013 for Mattawan Commercial LLC for property located at 24401 Red Arrow Highway.

D. Trailway budget and commitment

Wightman and Associates are working to submit the grant application. The current estimate states that the project would cost \$3,855,350.00. The application shows that the Township would contribute \$800,000 with

\$300,000 in MDNR funds. Wightman suggests that MDOT usually likes to see a 30% - 40% match in funds. Currently the Township and MDNR funds calculate to 28.53%.

Motion by Ruzick, second by Stock to leave the application with \$1,000,000 in funds between the Township and MDNR. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes. Motion carries.

E. Antwerp Township BHS insurance proposal July 2020

BHS provided a quote for insurance which included an increase in premium due to the Township office building coverage needing to be increased to cover replacement if necessary. The new quote is in the amount of \$20,791.00 compared to the previous year of \$19,784. Workers compensation coverage went from \$8,232 to \$7,736 resulting in an increase of \$511 for the year. Antwerp Township was previously in a three-year rate lock with BHS which resulted in no increase of premium for the past three years.

Motion by Reyna, second by Osborne to accept the new proposal in the amount of \$28,527. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

F. Van Buren County Road Commission discussion

At the Regular Scheduled Township Board Meeting held June 9, 2020 The Township Board voted to have 60th Ave from County Road 657 to Whitewood Dr. as well as Two Oaks cape sealed as part of a preventative maintenance plan within the Township. The project was submitted to the VBCRC which was immediately denied. The Township currently must

have approval from the VBCRC for all projects done to the roads. Supervisor Ruzick drafted an email asking for explanation as to why the Township was denied the project. The Township Board supports the sending of the email.

Correspondence:

- Van Buren County Road Commission weekly updates

Announcements:

- No July Senior Appreciation Luncheon in the Park

Reports:

Attorney
None

Treasurer- Bonnie Osborne
\$407,930.41 in the general fund

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna

Antwerp:73 permits in the month of June including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$13,519.20

Almena: 22 permits in the month of March including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$3,815.00

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting
Paid bills.

Sunshine Branch Library- Bonnie Osborne
Sunshine library hosted an online activity with 17 people attending.

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting

Short meeting. Paid bills.

Paw Paw Fire Department -Dan Ruzick

Discussion on five-year plan for capital improvements. Implemented new policy of having three signers on all checks written.

Mattawan Fire Department - Bonnie Osborne

Bylaws are being established for the merger of the fire department and the QR. Chief Brooks is working on grant applications to get new equipment that is needed within the department.

Mattawan Quick Response - Bonnie Osborne

Short meeting.

Cemeteries - Chantel Reyna

One burial

Planning Commission - Gary Stock

Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Zoning Board of Appeals - Gary Stock

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 to pay bills in the amount of \$94,761.45

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to adjourn.

All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna