

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, November 10th, 2020

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: Two guests

Motion by Reyna, second by Cutting to approve the agenda with the addition of item G. Bids for clean up at 34541 30th St. and item H. wage and benefit committee. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment:

- Paul Schincariol – Van Buren County Commissioner
 1. Drain assessments and tax rolls have been accepted and approved.
 2. Van Buren County will have a new domain name soon. Vanburencounty.org
 3. There is a new court administrator. With the new prosecuting attorney elected, this position was created to help get her up to speed before she takes office.
 4. Van Buren County accepted an emergency grant in the amount of \$36906.00.
 5. MSU extension has renewed its contract with the County.
 6. Greg Kinney was reappointed to the Van Buren County Road Commission.
 7. Grants have been approved and received for the community corrections department as well as community courts.
 8. Steve Smith was reappointed as the farm inspector. There are currently 36 sites in Van Buren County.
 9. There were 21,600 absentee ballots requested for the general election. The county had a 64.98% voter turnout.

Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to approve previous minutes from September 8th, 2020 Regular Township Board Meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carries

Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to approve previous minutes from October 13th, 2020 Regular Township Board Meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

- A. **Single -Family Residential (R-2) to General Commercial (GC). MJ&M Holdings, LLC Michael Hiestand for a parcel located on 56th Ave. Paw Paw, MI 49079 (northern portion of parcel 80-02-007-035-30). Adopt Resolution to amend Zoning Map**

Planning Commission recommends approval.

Motion by Stock, second by Reyna to approve request for rezoning for the northern portion on parcel 80-02-007-035-30 from R-2 to GC as well as adopt resolution to amend the zoning ordinance and map. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

New Business:

A. Antwerp Trailway project submittal

Sam Leatch from Wightman and Associates provided an updated estimate after surveys were complete. There was discussion about the project and the need for support from local businesses or neighboring jurisdictions. Sam is preparing the grant application to be submitted.

B. Antwerp Township federal poverty guidelines for 2021

Assessor Ben Brousseau presented the 2021 hardship guidelines with three items needing approval.

Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to approve the poverty guideline level with a 20% increase based off the chart provided. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes.

Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to approve the hardship exemption application as presented. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Stock to set the asset level requirement at \$15,000. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

C. Mattawan Air Park base coating with VBCRC.

After discussion, the Board will implement a policy that if there are more than twelve (12) lots in a development, the base coat will be put down with the final to follow after 75% of the development complete. If there are less than twelve (12) lots in the development, the entire project will get done at once.

Motion by Stock, second by Cutting to implement the new policy for developments. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

D. Best-Way Disposal Transfer Station proposal adding Almena and Porter Townships.

Best-Way submitted a new contract with the addition of Porter and Almena Township as jurisdiction able to utilize the transfer station. There has been interest from both Townships regarding the use.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to allow Supervisor Ruzick to sign the contract once all parties have agreed to the terms. If not, all parties agree, Antwerp would continue with the current contract in place with Best-Way. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

E. Resolution to oppose Village of Mattawan request to build Wastewater Treatment Center and discharging in road right of way in Antwerp Township and Almena Township to Hayden Creek.

The Board was unaware of proposed project until recently. After discussion from residents as well as the Board, it was agreed that Antwerp Township is not in agreeance with this facility. Supervisor Ruzick will draft a letter to be sent to the Village.

F. Clean up 29697 64th Ave. Lawton, MI 49065 (parcel # 80-02-375-005-00).

At the October Township Board Meeting the homeowners were asked to present a written description of when clean up would be complete to satisfy all violations at property. To date, the Board has not received anything from the homeowners. The Board has decided to place the project back out for bid.

G. Clean up 64541 30th St. Lawton, MI 49065

Two bids were received for the project. Clerk Reyna opened the bids. Aleksich Excavating submitted a bid for demolish and removal of condemned mobile, clear debris from property, backfill, level and seed building site

in the amount of \$6500.00. The second bid was from Southwest Transport which includes demolish and dispose of structures and debris and restore property in the amount of \$7450.00.

Motion by Stock, second by Cutting to award the bid to Aleksich Excavating in the amount of \$6500.00. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

H. Wage and Benefit Committee

The committee met regarding health insurance benefits pertaining to Clerk Reyna. Currently Clerk Reyna is not on the Township policy but will receive reimbursement from her current company to switch to the Township policy. The committee is suggesting reimbursement to match what current company is offering to keep Clerk Reyna on her current policy.

Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to reimburse Clerk Reyna \$500 per quarter for health insurance not taken from the Township policy. This reimbursement will be valid for one year. This will give the committee time to incorporate this policy into the employee handbook. Roll call vote; Cutting-yes, Stock-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

Correspondence:

- Kalamazoo County Household hazardous waste 3rd Quarter
- VBCRC weekly updates
- Market Van Buren Annual Report
- Dan Hoff President of Long Grove Association to Joe Parman
- VBC Board of Commissioners monthly report

Announcements:

- None

Reports:

Attorney
None

Treasurer- Bonnie Osborne
\$233,832.91 in the general fund

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna
Antwerp: 45 permits for October including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$9,307.00
Almena: 22 permits for October including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$3,650.00

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting
No Report

Sunshine Branch Library- Bonnie Osborne
No Report

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting
Short meeting. Paid the bills.

Paw Paw Fire Department -Dan Ruzick
Short Meeting

Mattawan Fire Department - Bonnie Osborne
Board approved \$30,000 for a filling station as well as \$7000 for kitchen upgrades.

Mattawan Quick Response - Bonnie Osborne
No Report

Cemeteries - Chantel Reyna
Three burials in October.

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:

None

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$135,452.88.

Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to accept bills for payment. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Stock-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to adjourn.

All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna