

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 14th, 2026

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Daniel Ruzick-Supervisor, Chantel Reyna-Clerk, Bonnie Osborne-Treasurer, Phil Tarchala-Trustee

Board Members Absent: Bruce Cutting-Trustee

Also, Present: 23 guests

Public Comment:

Zach Hathaway – Van Buren County Sheriff Department

- 204 total calls for service in Antwerp Township in March

Scott Brooks – Mattawan Fire Chief

- 74 calls for service in March
- Department will be budgeting for new air packs
- Administrative assistant position will be posted April 20th

Supervisor Ruzick – Antwerp Township Supervisor

Ruzick presented all guests with the correspondence relating to the current contract between Antwerp Township and Van Buren District Library. Supervisor Ruzick opened the floor for discussion

- Resident – Is the capital improvement plan for the entire building or the library side only?
Ruzick – Library only
- Resident – Will the Township place the capital improvement projects out for bid?
Ruzick – Yes, the projects will go out for bid before a contractor is hired.
- Resident – Why are we getting high end bids?
Ruzick – The cost of projects presented were actual bids from contractors. When the project needs to be done, it will go out for bid and cost will be considered when awarding the bid.
- Resident – Will the Township consider other options when it comes to the term of a new contract?
Ruzick – Yes, the Township has presented other options for terms to the VBDL.
- Resident – Can the library decide to close the Sunshine branch?
Ruzick – If they wanted to, however, we do not believe that is the intent of either party.
- Resident – Does the Township have to approved millage requests from VBDL?
Ruzick – No, Township board may choose to support the millage requests or not.
- Resident – Can all branches mediate together?
Ruzick – Yes, it would be cost effective for all branches to mediate together.
- Resident – How much money is the Webster branch receiving?
Ruzick – That is something that should be asked at the next VBDL meeting which is April 28th at 4:30 pm

Supervisor Ruzick requested a short recess at 7:24 pm.

Supervisor Ruzick called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm

Motion by Tarchala, second by Reyna, to approve the agenda as submitted. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Tarchala, to approve previous minutes from Township Board Meeting held on March 10th, 2026. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to approve previous minutes from Special Township Board Meeting held on March 24th, 2026. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission: None

Old Business: Van Buren County District Library addendum

Motion by Tarchala, second by Reyna to reject the proposed addendum and send letter requesting mediation. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

New Business:

A. FEMA Flood Plan Resolution

Resolution presented to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to adopt the ordinance to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

B. Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks

Clerk Reyna is requested to attend the 2026 MAMC conference.

Motion by Osborne, second by Tarchala, to authorize Clerk Reyna to attend the 2026 MAMC conference. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

C. Van Buren Conservation District memorandum of understanding tire collection

Van Buren Conservation District presented a memorandum of understanding to be signed.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to authorize Supervisor Ruzick to sign the memorandum of understanding with the Van Buren Conservation District. Roll call vote; Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

D. Van Buren County Road Commission boom mowing proposal

VBCRC submitted a bid in the amount of \$14,170 for boom mowing for the 2026 season.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Reyna, to accept the bid from VBCRC for boom mowing for 2026. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

E. Transfer station proposals to fix dumpster by retaining wall

Supervisor Ruzick received a bid in the amount of \$3658.00 to install a pressure treated flip down flap to keep recycling from falling on the ground.

Motion by Reyna, second by Osborne to accept the bid to install the flap at the transfer station. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

F. Cummins Sales and Service Activity Center maintenance proposal.

Cummins submitted a proposal for maintenance of the generator. The proposal includes 3 services throughout the year in the amount of \$1638.63.

Motion by Reyna, second by Osborne to accept the proposal for maintenance of the generator. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

Announcements: None

Correspondence: Van Buren District Library addendum

Reports:

Attorney

None

Treasurer- Bonnie Osborne

\$182,243.72 in general fund

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna

Antwerp: 43 permits for March including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$10,050.00.

Almena: 25 permits for March including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$4,095.00

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting

No report

Sunshine Branch Library- Bonnie Osborne

- Book sale April 17-19

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting

No report

*Paw Paw Fire Department -*Daniel Ruzick

Paid bills. New truck should be delivered in the fall

Mattawan Fire Department - Bonnie Osborne

No report

Cemeteries - Chantel Reyna

No burials

Planning Commission -

Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownshipmi.gov

Zoning Board of Appeals -

Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownshipmi.gov

Public Comment:

Resident would like to know where the VBCRC is on its study of two intersections within the Township. It was suggested that a letter get circulated and submitted to the VBCRC to make these intersections safer.

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$217,449.08.

04/14/2026

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to pay the bills in the amount of \$217,449.08 Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to adjourn.
All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna