

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, April 8th, 2025

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

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Board Members Absent: Bruce Cutting, Trustee

Also, Present: 8 guests

Motion by Reyna, second by Osborne to approve the agenda as submitted with the addition of item H. Justice Fence proposal, item I. Rose Creek SAD and item J. Transfer Station safety railing proposal. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment:

Deputy Zach Hathaway – Van Buren County Sheriff Department
168 calls in Antwerp Township for the month of March.

Chief Scott Brooks – Mattawan Fire Chief

- 92 calls for the month of March
- Presented quotes for new doors
- Looking at updates to kitchen
- Wants discussion with wage and benefit committee on future of department

Motion by Osborne, second by Tarchala to approve previous minutes from Regular Scheduled Township Board Meeting on March 11th, 2025. All voted in favor. Tarchala abstained. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

- A. Paw Paw Seventh Day Adventist Church, 60490 M-40, Paw Paw, MI 49079. Special land use and site plan amendment for a church building addition and parking lot expansion.** Planning Commission recommends approval of the building architectural waivers/deviations and the special land use and site plan amendment with the following conditions:

1. Comply with the front yard planting requirements in Section 12.1.G.1.a.
2. Provide compliant photometric plan and light fixture details for the parking area in accordance with Section 12.2.
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 site development.
4. Secure the following approvals prior to site development and building permitting:
 - a. Drain Commission (stormwater plan)
 - b. Health Department (well and septic)
 - c. Fire Department (access and maneuverability)

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to approval the Special land use and site plan amendment for a church building addition and parking lot expansion with the conditions listed above. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

B. Milmar Buildings, 58365 Derhammer Parkway, Paw Paw, MI 49079. Site plan review for a new industrial building. Planning Commission recommends approval of the site plan with the following conditions:

1. Install protective fencing prior to site disturbance. The limits of disturbance should be tightly bound around the area of construction. Protective fenced must be installed to delineate preserved areas prior to site development.
2. Provide dumpster screening details (Section 12.1 K).
3. Provide a compliant lighting plan in accordance with Section 12.2.
 - a. Reduce the color temperature to 3,000k maximum (Section 12.2.E.2.a.iv)
 - b. Indicate average parking space lighting of t least 2.4fc. (Table 12-10)
 - c. Indicate average/minimum lighting uniformity ratio 4:1 maximum (Table 12-10)
4. Indicate a minimum sign setback of 15 feet (Table 12-14).
5. Secure the following approvals prior to site development and building permitting:
 - a. Drain Commission (SESC permit, if applicable, and stormwater plan)
 - b. Road Commission (driveway permit)
 - c. Health Department (well and septic)
 - d. Fire Department (access and maneuverability)

Motion by Tarchala, second by Reyna to approve the site plan review for a new industrial building. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. Van Buren County Conservation agreement for year-round tire collection with proposals

Supervisor Ruzick met with the Conservation District to determine what needed to be done to prepare the transfer station for the year-round collection. Proposals were received in the amount of \$3500.00 and \$2000.00 to remove trees and stumps, excess dirt strip and fill with gravel, redress bank with top dirt, seed and straw machine the area.

Motion by Reyna, second by Osborne to approve the two bids in the amount of \$5500.00 to prepare the site for year-round tire collection. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

B. Higley's Orchard Downs special assessment proposal

There were no residents in opposition of the special assessment proposal. Residents would like the special assessment adopted for the 2025 year.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to adopt a Resolution for a special assessment roll for Higley's Orchard Downs in the amount of \$4600.00 including legal and publication costs. Roll call vote: Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

C. Make-A-Wish Bicycle tour resolution

Van Buren County Road Commission presented an application for a special event for the Make A Wish foundation.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to submit letter of support for the Make A Wish special event. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

D. Antwerp Township Activity Center proposal for wall by entrance

Supervisor Ruzick received two bids in the amount of \$11,500.00 and \$7,824.00 for the construction of a wall in the entrance area of the Activity Center.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to approve the bid in the amount of \$7,824.00 as long as it includes the cost of a heat run and vent. Supervisor Ruzick will verify. Roll call vote: Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

E. Farmland PA116 open space preservation program Drozd Family Grain

Applications for PA116 were submitted to the Township for approval for parcel # 80-02-005-010-36, parcel # 80-02-005-009-15 and parcel # 80-02-005-003-00.

Motion by Reyna, second by Tarchala to approve the applications for the parcels listed above to participate in PA116. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

F. Transfer Station 40-yard container sale

Supervisor Ruzick provided a price to Decatur Township for the purchase of our 40-yard container. To date, the Board has not heard whether or not the plan to purchase the container.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne if after April 30th, 2025, Decatur does not purchase the container, the Township will give it to Mattawan Fire Department for training purposes. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

G. Antwerp Township road projects 2025 and mowing

Van Buren County Road Commission presented the bids for four roads projects for 2025. The bids came in lower than proposed.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to authorize Supervisor Ruzick to sign the bid sheets and discuss additional projects that could potentially be done in 2025. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

H. Justice Fence proposal

Justice Fence provided a quote in the amount of \$1500.00 to repair damaged fencing from the most recent storm at the Transfer Station.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to approve the bid in the amount of \$1500.00 to repair the fencing at the Transfer Station. Roll call vote; Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

I. Rose Creek Special Assessment District

Rose Creek Resolution of intent to establish special assessment district for street lighting. Public hearing will be held on May 13th, 2025.

Motion by Osborne, second by Tarchala to adopt a Resolution of intent to establish a special assessment district for street lighting in the Rose Creek Estate subdivision. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

J. Transfer Station safety railing

Supervisor Ruzick provided a bid in the amount of \$2540.00 and \$3685.00 to create a wall along the recyclable bins as well as a safety rail.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to accept the two bids received. Roll call vote; Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

Announcements:

Correspondence: VBCRC updates

Reports:

Attorney

None

Treasurer- Bonnie Osborne

\$327,835.05 in general fund

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna

Antwerp: 44 permits for March including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$9,954.00

Almena: 23 permits for March including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$5,649.00.

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting

No report

Sunshine Branch Library- Bonnie Osborne

Big Furry Friends attended last week. 6 bikes were repaired. April 22nd the library will be closed. April 25th and April 26th will be the book sale.

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting

No report

*Paw Paw Fire Department -*Daniel Ruzick

Paid bills. Contract is signed by all parties

Mattawan Fire Department – Bonnie Osborne

Paid bills.

Cemeteries – Chantel Reyna

One burial

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:

None

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$388,512.43.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to pay the bills in the amount of \$388,512.43. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to adjourn.

04/08/2025

All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna