

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, August 12th, 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, Bruce Cutting-Trustee

Board Members Absent:

Also, Present: 6 guests

Public Hearing: Antwerp Township Ackley Lake Eradication – Renewal

Supervisor Ruzick called the hearing to order at 6:3pm.

- Dave Sons, president of association was present.
- Supervisor Ruzick stated that the amount to be levied would be \$196.86.

Supervisor Ruzick closed the public hearing at 6:32pm.

Public Comment:

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

Ryan Moyle – Mattawan Fire
83 calls for the month of July

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

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to approve previous minutes from Township Board Meeting held on July 8th, 2025. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. Resolution on Ackley Lake

There were no residents against the Ackley Lake Eradication SAD.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to adopt a Resolution for Ackley Lake Eradication Renewal. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

B. Proposal for Senior Service kitchen oven closet

Supervisor Ruzick contacted three contractors and only received a bid from Hall Builders in the amount of \$10,584.00.

Motion by Cutting, second by Tarchala to accept the bid in the amount of \$10,854.00 from Hall Builders. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

C. Discussion on 1.4 or 1.5 mills Mattawan Fire Assessments

Antwerp Township residents have previously paid 1.4 mills to Mattawan Fire Department. There was discussion as to whether Antwerp Township would match Almena Township at 1.5 mills. After calculating 1.4 vs 1.5 the fire department would stay within budget and still have funds to put into their sinking fund.

Motion by Cutting, second by Tarchala to set the Special Assessment millage rate for Antwerp Township at 1.4 mills. Roll call vote; Osborne-no, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-no. Motion carries.

D. Proposals for signage at Transfer Station

Supervisor Ruzick received two bids for additional signage at transfer station.

Motion by Reyna, second by Osborne to accept the bid from Signcrafters in the amount of \$1050.00 for signage at the Transfer Station. Roll call vote; Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

E. Update proposal for employee handbook

Clerk Reyna submitted a draft addendum to the employee handbook dated August 18, 2018. The updated section is section 2. Paid Time Off. This update is to comply with the new ESTA act as well as bring other areas up to date.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Cutting to accept the addendum updating the employee handbook dated August 14, 2018. Roll call vote; Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes. Motion carries.

F. Justice Fence proposal maintenance agreement for gate system transfer station

Justice Fence provided a maintenance agreement for fencing at the transfer station. The preventative maintenance would take place quarterly.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne to authorize Supervisor Ruzick to sign the preventative maintenance agreement with Justice Fence. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

Announcements: September Meeting will begin at 6:15 pm for Special Assessments

Correspondence: 2nd Quarter 2025 Hazardous Household Waste

Reports:

Attorney

Deputy working on citation to issue to Welch's

Treasurer- Bonnie Osborne

\$196,105.48 in general fund

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna

Antwerp: 68 permits for July including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$15,264.00

Almena: 41 permits for July including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$8,893.00

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting

VB District Library is placing a millage request on the November ballot.

Sunshine Branch Library- Bonnie Osborne

As of August 2nd, there were 611 participants signed up for the summer reading program. August 23rd will be the back-to-school bash.

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting
Paid bills.

Paw Paw Fire Department -Daniel Ruzick
Paid bills. Audit came back clean.

Mattawan Fire Department – Bonnie Osborne
No quorum. New windows are being installed. Replacement truck is roughly \$80,000.

Cemeteries – Chantel Reyna
Zero 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: None

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$182,970.13.

Motion by Cutting, second by Tarchala to pay the bills in the amount of \$182,970.13. Roll call vote; Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to adjourn.
All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna