MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, September 8th, 2026

Special Assessment Public Hearings:
Mattawan Fire/Quick Response
Lawton Fire
Paw Paw Fire
Public hearings closed at 6:28pm.

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, Bruce Cutting-Trustee

Board Members Absent: None

Additions to Agenda:
F. Zoning Ordinance Amendment

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

Public Comment:

Zach – Van Buren County Sherriff Department
205 calls for service.
Speed trailer moved to C.R. 653 north of Red Arrow.

Captain Martz - Mattawan Fire Department
80 calls.
65 EMS calls.
Training prop is coming along.

Consideration of previous minutes from the Township Board meeting August 11, 2026
Motion by Tarchala, second by Cutting, to approve the August 11, 2026 meeting minutes. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

A. Special Use and Site Plan Review-Amendment – Nightmare Realm, 23492 Red Arrow Hwy, Mattawan, MI 49071

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne, to approve the special use and site plan amendment to permanently continue on-site parking and seasonal parking lot lighting. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

B. Special Land Use and Site Plan Amendment – SecurStor, 25590 Red Arrow Hwy, Mattawan, MI 49071
Supervisor Ruzick recused himself from the matter. Residents asked questions. The applicant stated he is willing to comply with ordinances. Residents requested to see a site plan.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Reyna, to allow construction of the outbuilding. Roll call vote; Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.
Supervisor Ruzick returned at 7:02pm.

Old Business:

Van Buren District Library
A letter was received stating the $25,000 payment will be made after the branch agreement is reinstated and the addendum is signed. Utility payments have not been made because the Township has not billed the VBDL for utilities. The letter also states that the Township may reduce the portion of the building assigned to VBDL if the Township chooses. Before a decision is made, the Township would like to host an information meeting and gather feedback from residents. A library meeting is scheduled for October 13 at 5:30pm.

New Business:

A. Lawton Fire Special Assessment
Public hearing was held discussing 1.5000 mills to be levied in the 2026 tax year. The levy will generate roughly $198,960.79 in tax revenue. This is to be levied on real property only.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne, to approve the Lawton Fire Special Assessment. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

B. Paw Paw Fire Special Assessment
Public hearing was held discussing 1.5000 mills to be levied in the 2026 tax year. The levy will generate roughly $113,641.55 in tax revenue. This is to be levied on real property only.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Cutting, to approve the Paw Paw Fire Special Assessment. Roll call vote; Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes. Motion carries.

C. Mattawan Fire/Quick Response Assessment
Public hearing was held discussing 1.5000 mills to be levied in the 2026 tax year. The levy will generate roughly $578,883.42 in tax revenue. This is to be levied on real property only.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne, to approve the Mattawan Fire/Quick Response Assessment. Roll call vote; Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

D. Antwerp Senior Service Cooler Proposal
Discussion took place regarding the pending third bid and lowest price.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Osborne, to authorize Supervisor Ruzick to make a decision on the lowest bid once the third bid is received. Roll call vote; Tarchala-yes, Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes. Motion carries.

E. Planning Commission Membership and Application
Motion by Tarchala, second by Reyna, to table the Planning Commission membership and application until the October meeting. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

F. Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Solar
Township Board passed the solar ordinance last month at its regular scheduled Township Board meeting. The publications did not get published in a timely manner; therefore, it needed to be reapproved by the Township Board.

Motion by Tarchala, second by Cutting, to approve the zoning ordinance amendment regarding solar. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

Correspondence: None

VBCRC weekly updates

Announcements:

Reports:

Attorney
None
Treasurer- Bonnie Osborne
Treasurer's report noted an estimated balance of $140,000.00 in General fund.

Building Activity- Chantel Reyna
Antwerp: 73 permits with fees noted: $14,000.00.
Almena: 44 permits with fees noted: $7,532.00.

Van Buren District Library- Bruce Cutting
Discussion took place under Old Business.

Lawton Fire Department- Bruce Cutting
Paid bills.

Paw Paw Fire Department -Daniel Ruzick
New truck. Kirk Richardson brought the new truck to tonight's meeting.

Mattawan Fire Department – Bonnie Osborne
Paid bills.

Cemeteries – Chantel Reyna
1 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:

Committee for Bills
Motion by Cutting, second by Tarchala, to pay the bills. Roll call vote; Ruzick-yes, Reyna-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Tarchala-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to adjourn.
All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Chantel Reyna